

T U R N I N G H O P E I N T O R E A L I T Y



Roman Catholic Foundation
of
EASTERN MISSOURI



Building Relationships

Campaign Exceeds Goal!

The *Beyond Sunday* campaign has now raised \$103 million, with more than 24,000 Catholic households throughout the archdiocese participating! We continue to hear inspiring stories of hope, faith and generosity, both from families who are making sacrificial gifts to the campaign as well as families who are grateful for their *Beyond Sunday* scholarship award.

- At Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Arnold, the Macke family was drawn deeper into their faith life after daughter Elleanor made her first communion – and mom, Amanda, joined the Church through the RCIA program. Today, Amanda serves on the *Beyond Sunday* campaign committee for her parish.
- St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church has completed a renovation, turning the convent building into a parish center with a food pantry, library and chapel. Such a terrific use of God's gifts, which are now benefiting the local community!
- Ascension Catholic Church in Chesterfield has established a long-term fund of more than \$200,000 to provide scholarships and operating support for the parish.
- A second-grade student at St. Mary Magdalen in Brentwood has pledged his prayers in support of *Beyond Sunday*.



Beyond Sunday Fellows at the Fellow's Mass and Brunch, April 2017

We recently heard from one of our *Beyond Sunday* Fellows, who wanted to share what *Beyond Sunday* has meant to her and her family:

My name is Sarah Hisler and I am a senior at Trinity Catholic high. I have had four awesome years at Trinity and they have prepared me greatly to move on to college. My educational goal is to acquire a bachelor's degree and become a registered nurse. The Beyond Sunday Scholarship is very important to our family. By receiving this scholarship it has allowed me to be able to continue my Catholic education in high school. My Catholic faith has helped me to become the person that I am. I treat everyone with respect, stand up for others and always see the good in all people. I am very honored to be a Beyond Sunday Fellow. It is wonderful to be able to share my faith and volunteer with other students who share the same values as me. My greatest passion is helping others. By volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul church and DePaul hospital it shows me that I am headed down the right path that God wants me to be on. Attending a faith based school has had a positive effect on me. It has shown me that, by loving God and others, having a positive attitude, working hard, setting goals, being prepared, working as a team and being the very best person I can be is how I am going to make a difference in the world. Thank you so much for the scholarship, it has made a difference in my life and we are extremely grateful.

Through scholarships, shared faith experiences and service activities, the *Beyond Sunday* Fellows program supports students like Sarah as they journey toward becoming effective and faith-filled leaders of our Catholic community. The future looks bright!

Turning Hope Into Reality

First Endowment Fund Distributions



At the end of July, six parishes, schools and ministries received the first distributions from endowment funds held at the Foundation for their benefit!

They include:

- **Annual Catholic Appeal** from the Annual Catholic Appeal Endowment Fund
- **Bishop DuBourg High School** from the Kathleen Ann Gau Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
- **Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis** from the Friends of the Cathedral Basilica Endowment Fund
- **Cor Jesu Academy** from the Monsignor James E. Pieper Scholarship Endowment Fund at St. Clement of Rome School
- **St. Mary's High School** from the Christopher J. Grimaud Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
- **St. Matthias Parish (St. Vincent de Paul Conference)** from the St. Vincent de Paul Knights of Columbus Endowment Fund

To see the full list of all the Funds, please click here: <https://rcfstl.org/funds/>

**Whenever we encounter another person in love,
we learn something new about God.**

Pope Francis

Living A Life of Stewardship

Funds Created to Honor Loved Ones

Paul VI Catechetical Institute

For many educators in the Archdiocese of St Louis, fall means the beginning of two school years: the ones they teach, and the ones that they attend. Catholic teachers, PSR program instructors, and adults seeking to deepen their understanding of our Catholic faith all attend classes at the Paul VI Catechetical Institute. Through the generosity of the **Virginia Celeste Piontek Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund**, qualified students this fall will be eligible for scholarship assistance.

Dr. John Gresham, director of Pontifical Paul VI Institute of Catechetical and Pastoral Studies, notes that this ongoing tuition assistance is needed to help sustain the Institute and the future of the faith.

“It’s so important for people to be able to understand their faith. Classes and programs through Paul VI help educators and other adults learn how to teach, evangelize, and articulate what they believe and what the Church teaches.”

Rosati-Kain High School

Education has always been a priority for Rosati-Kain High School alumna Kathleen McCann Palumbo. She met her husband, Peter, at St. Louis University when they were both students. Earlier this year, Kathy established the **Kathleen McCann And Peter J. Palumbo Scholarship Fund** to benefit students at Rosati-Kain High School.

“There can be a perception that because R-K is an archdiocesan high school, that they don’t need as much additional support,” Kathy notes. “But they work to ensure that all qualified young women seeking a college-preparatory education are able to have this opportunity.”

Both Peter and Kathy built careers in the finance and investment world, so it was especially important that the funds allocated to the scholarship were invested carefully and distributed according to their wishes. By establishing the Fund through the Roman Catholic Foundation, they were confident that their gift to future generations of R-K students will continue well into the future.

St. Dominic High School

Jim Welby, President of St. Dominic High School in O’Fallon, is grateful for the support of alumni and friends and notes that gifts of any amount are appreciated towards the **St. Dominic High School Scholarship Endowment Fund**. “Having scholarships available to our families helps qualified students be able to experience a Catholic education. Additionally, as a long-term solution, it helps keep tuition affordable to families of many income levels.”

Building a sustainable future is important to the St. Dominic leadership team. Ongoing contributions help build the endowment at a steady pace. “It doesn’t need to be a six-figure gift to have a real impact,” Jim states. “As people increase this base of support, and grow the endowment, the funds are earmarked for the benefit of future generations of St. Dominic students, ensuring that the Gospel message will continue to be shared.”

To read about all of the funds at the Roman Catholic Foundation, please click here:
<https://rcfstl.org/funds/>



**Top Three Reasons to
Create a Planned Gift**

If you are like so many of your friends and neighbors, you care deeply for your parish, your high school and one or more Catholic ministries in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. You value the work they are providing to you, your family and your community and endorse this with your financial support and possibly your volunteer time.

Why not ensure your appreciation for these organizations continues after your lifetime? You can make arrangements now, while you are living, to continue your support by creating a planned or estate gift.

There are three simple reasons why this is a great idea, and all of them center around YOU!

Lasting Legacy

You can create a lasting legacy by creating an endowment fund in your name or the name of a loved one. Many donors tell us they are the last remaining person in their family, and their family name may fade out of existence when they pass on. They are thrilled to learn that they can perpetuate their name by creating an endowment fund with the Roman Catholic Foundation. By creating your fund, not only will this fund reflect your name, but it provides your friends with a gifting opportunity to celebrate your birthday or other special events.

Purpose of the Gift

You designate how the distributions from your fund will be used in perpetuity. It is always a good idea to have a discussion with the beneficiary organization to confirm your wishes are in line with their mission. Since we will work with you to structure the documentation, your wishes will be clear, so there are no questions in future years.

Possible Tax Benefits

Depending on when you create your fund, you may be eligible for tax deductions during your lifetime. If the endowment is funded through your estate plan, insurance or IRA, there may be tax benefits to your estate after your lifetime.

Regardless of when you actually fund your gift, you can be confident that your favorite organizations will cherish your gift and remember you in a special way for years to come!

For more information on ways you can create a planned gift, please contact Michael Weisbrod, Gift Planning Officer, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org.



A Generous Response

Dear Friends,

Summer is drawing to a close, and I hope you and your loved ones enjoyed some restful and relaxing time together. Principals, teachers and parents are preparing for students to return to school. For many families, Catholic school tuition is a worthy sacrifice for their children's future.

Through the generosity of so many throughout the archdiocese, *Beyond Sunday* scholarships are making a real difference in the lives of many people. Recently, a family wrote a heartfelt thank you to the Foundation and those who have supported the campaign:

We've had children continuously enrolled at a Catholic school for more than 16 years. There were times we considered leaving, but with prayer and more effort, we continued... We were so grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Beyond Sunday program, but more than anything, pleased that such scholarships are in place for families like ours!

Providing active, ongoing support for middle-income families that strive to keep their children in Catholic school is key to the *Beyond Sunday* Education Fund. Through your generosity, more than 1,230 students will be returning to a Catholic school this fall with *Beyond Sunday* assistance. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best Regards,

President and CEO

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