

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

Scholarships from Beyond Sunday help students enjoy the Catholic school experience.

As summer comes to a close, students throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis prepare to return to Catholic elementary and high schools. More than 1,100 students will be receiving financial assistance to attend Catholic schools, thanks to the generosity of those who have supported *Beyond Sunday*.

Scholarships totaling \$1.8 million have been awarded to students throughout the archdiocese, ensuring that students can continue receiving a high-quality Catholic education in the 2016-2017 academic year.

The *Beyond Sunday* campaign has raised more than \$59 million of the \$100 million needed to support Catholic education in our archdiocese. Parents are grateful for the additional support, as it helps their families grow in faith.

“I wanted to send a note of gratitude for the scholarships,” wrote one parent of a student at St. Vincent Elementary School in Perryville. “Without [the scholarships], we would not be able to send both of my children to a Catholic school, only one. Thank you for not making us choose.”

Providing affordable access to Catholic schools not only helps families, it also strengthens parishes and helps cultivate vocations for the future. Nearly 95% of our clergy in this archdiocese are the product of Catholic schools. To date, members of the clergy have pledged more than \$1 million to *Beyond Sunday*, a witness to their commitment to the future of our network of schools.

Support remains strong as we complete appeals in Block 2 parishes and begin Block 3 launch sessions. In July, over 300 priests, parishioners, students and families, representing over 80 different parishes, joined to kick off Block 3 of *Beyond Sunday* and prepare to pledge their support.

As the campaign continues to grow, please prayerfully consider making a sacrificial gift.

To learn more, please visit: rcfstl.org/beyond-sunday



Beyond Sunday

Education | Faith | Community

A campaign led by the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri

Living a Stewardship Life:

Gloria Schraut

A gift that keeps on giving.

Gloria Schraut attended St. Joseph Parish Elementary School, then located in Kimmsick, Missouri, in the late 1920s and early 1930s. While her own family was not Catholic, Gloria's mother wanted her daughter to have both the solid education and ethical foundation instilled by the parochial school. Inspired by the kindness of the sisters who taught her, Gloria eventually became Catholic, and is still an active member of St. Joseph Parish in Imperial, Missouri, today.

Recently, Gloria's attorney contacted the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri to explore ways Gloria could help to ensure the future success of students at St. Joseph Parish. She established an endowed fund which will be created through her estate, after her lifetime. The fund will provide tuition assistance to students from families registered at St. Joseph's Parish in Imperial who wish to attend St. Pius X High School, located in Festus, Missouri.

She notes that in today's world, it is important to have a strong moral base, and a Catholic education provides that base. The teachings and moral formation which are started at St. Joseph are continued in the high school years. Through the good work of the teachers and staff at St. Pius X, students will become productive and engaged members of society. Studies reveal that graduates of Catholic educational institutions are more likely to complete college, earn a higher salary, participate in political activities and support their community than their public school counterparts. Statistics also reveal that graduation rates for students in Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis are at 99%, with 96% continuing to post-secondary education.

While Gloria never had children of her own, she realizes that it can be a burden for families to provide a Catholic education for their children, especially when they have children in both grade school and high school. Gloria also understands that it is just as important to assist students whose families are struggling financially as it is to reward those students who excel in their studies. Therefore, the fund Gloria will establish after her lifetime will provide funds



to assist both those students whose families have a financial need, as well as students who have earned exceptional grades.

Acting locally was also important to Gloria. Through the Roman Catholic Foundation and St. Pius X High School, the benefits of her gift will support families and Catholic education within her home of Jefferson County.

For more information on creating a legacy like Gloria's, to ensure the future of a parish, school or ministry that is close to your heart, please contact Michael Weisbrod, Gift Planning Officer at the Foundation, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org.

"To be saints is not the privilege for the few, but a vocation for everyone."

Pope Francis



Turning Hope Into Reality: Sharing Our Stories

Sharing our stories of success is important, not only to our donors and stakeholders, but also to the corporate and foundation communities.

On June 30, 2016, the Roman Catholic Foundation reached another milestone: we published our first annual report! Created as a report to the community, it highlighted the successes, stories and finances of our first full fiscal year. If you haven't had a chance to view this publication, please [read it online](#).

In the annual report you'll find messages from the Foundation leadership team and learn more about our long-term vision for supporting the parishes, schools and ministries of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. If you are considering a planned gift, please review the profiles of endowed scholarship funds, the overview of donor-advised funds, and the story of our featured donor, Robert Gau, who established a scholarship endowment fund in memory of his late wife, Kathleen.

An ongoing project featured in *Catholic St. Louis* magazine also has a Foundation connection: the Friends of the Cathedral have a project underway to restore the leaded-glass windows in the dome of the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica. This \$155,750 project will be funded by the Friends of the Cathedral, and take 18 months to complete. Recently, the Friends funded a multi-year replacement of the pews, and have undertaken many similar projects to help the Cathedral Basilica remain a destination for Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

Through the generosity of Brian Abel Ragen, just a year ago (August 2015), the Friends of the Cathedral Basilica Endowment Fund was established at the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri. Gifts to this endowed fund will continue supporting ongoing repair and restoration projects that are essential to a building of this historic caliber.

Archbishop Carlson was also featured in an interview with KTVI Fox 2 News on June 10, 2016. Celebrating his sixth anniversary in St. Louis, he spoke about the future of the Church in St. Louis, the impact of Catholic education and the upcoming meeting of the USCCB in St. Louis.

From publications produced by the Foundation (including this eNewsletter!), to the message of success in the wider Catholic community, to positive coverage from independent news outlets and organizations, we are proud to share our story.



Intentional Stewardship: Life Insurance and the Future

If you are looking for a simple way to support your parish, school or the ministries of the archdiocese in the future, consider designating the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy. This type of planned gift typically has little to no impact on an individual's current standard of living.

As the owner of the policy, you will still have access to the policy's cash value during your lifetime. Creating a gift to benefit an endowment for a parish, school or particular ministry at the Foundation will help ensure that these programs will be supported for years beyond your lifetime.

While this type of charitable gift does not provide a current tax deduction, the death benefit value of the life insurance policy will be included in your estate. The total proceeds payable to the benefiting charity can be deducted from your gross estate.

For more information, please contact Michael Weisbrod, Gift Planning Officer at the Foundation, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org.



A Generous Response

Dear Friends,

Through the summer, we are in the liturgical season of "Ordinary Time" – although this summer is anything but ordinary!

The Foundation published our first annual *Report to the Community*, celebrating the generosity and dedication of so many people. You can [read it online](#).

The capital campaign, *Beyond Sunday*, is entering its third and final block of parishes, and people are responding with open and prayerful hearts. Due to the tremendous generosity of our early *Beyond Sunday* campaign donors, we will be able to provide an immediate impact of more than \$7 million invested in our parishes and schools. More than \$5 million will be returned to the parishes to reinvest in their local needs in 2016; \$1.8 million is transforming Catholic education through tuition assistance to more than 1,100 students in 97 grade schools and all 27 Catholic high schools throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the 2016-2017 school year; and up to \$750,000 will be awarded for Innovation Grants to parish grade schools and archdiocesan high schools for the 2017-18 school year.

And how about the remarkable Gloria Schraut! Through her generosity, future students at St. Joseph Catholic Parish in Imperial will be able to continue to experience the excellent instruction and richness of a Catholic school education at St. Pius X High School – a gift for generations yet to come.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Foundation and our outreach efforts which are transforming and enriching the lives of Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Best Regards,



Mark J. Guyol

President & CEO

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