

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: *Beyond Sunday* Campaign

Gifts Helping Parishes and Students

Enthusiasm for the *Beyond Sunday* campaign remains strong as we begin 2017! Currently, recorded gifts and pledges total more than \$92 million, with more than 20 parishes at or exceeding their financial goals. Gifts to the campaign are already benefiting middle-class families seeking a Catholic education for their children, and are helping strengthen parishes throughout the region.

For the current school year, \$1.8 million in *Beyond Sunday* Scholarships were awarded to more than 1,100 students from middle-income families to attend 97 Catholic elementary schools and all 27 Catholic high schools. Applications for 2017-2018 *Beyond Sunday* Scholarships will be accepted until February 28th. To view the online application, please [click here](#).



Beyond Sunday

Education | Faith | Community

A campaign led by the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri

We are excited to announce the launch of the *Beyond Sunday* Fellows program. More than just a scholarship, *Beyond Sunday* Fellows gives high school students a chance to develop their identities as future Catholic leaders and form lifelong bonds with other students throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis who share their values.

To be accepted in the program, high school students must submit a brief essay describing why they would like to become a *Beyond Sunday* Fellow, and agree to participate in annual Fellows events, including a service activity and a faith experience. On February 4th, at the first of our four service activities, 35 Fellows prepared food for the St. Vincent de Paul Parish sandwich window. On April 1st, the *Beyond Sunday* Fellows will gather at the Cathedral Basilica for Mass and breakfast with Archbishop Carlson.



Beyond Sunday Fellows assisting at the St. Vincent de Paul Parish sandwich window.

Meanwhile, parish and archdiocesan schools have submitted 54 applications in competition for \$750,000 in *STREAM* (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) curricula and innovation grants for the 2017-2018 school year. Grantees will be announced on March 15th.

Beyond Sunday returns 40 percent of the funds raised directly back to the respective parishes, for their own local needs. For example, at St. Clare of Assisi Parish in Ellisville, the parish share was used to help fund a renovation of Dollard Hall and Gymnasium. Because of the success of *Beyond*

Sunday, parishioners and families can now share faith and fellowship through CYC games, sports practices, fish fries, parish socials, and parish support meetings in the new space.

Pope Francis writes that the parish is a “family of families” (*The Joy of Love*, 153). This is what *Beyond Sunday* is all about. **As of the end of March, more than \$10,745,000** in parish distributions will have been returned to the parishes. The *Beyond Sunday* campaign is strengthening communities and allowing families to continue to grow in their faith.



Intentional Stewardship

Planned Gifts to Continue Your Giving Interest

Many people in our community have made planned gifts to support Catholic parishes and schools and other charitable organizations throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Their generosity helps to maintain and restore institutions, brings hope to people in need and ensures that our faith is shared with the next generation.

Have you considered the kind of legacy you would like to leave?

Establishing a planned gift through the Roman Catholic Foundation helps to secure the future of the school, parish or ministry of your choice for the next generation. You can be sure that your money will support causes that you believe in, and will be invested according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ guidelines for Catholic giving. Gifts to qualified charitable organizations are excluded from estate tax.

There are many benefits to a planned gift:

- Your assets remain in your control during your lifetime.
- You can modify your bequest if your circumstances change.
- You can direct your bequest to a particular purpose.
- There is no upper limit on the estate tax deductions that can be taken for charitable bequests.
- You can have satisfaction in knowing that in the future, your bequest will support a parish, school or ministry in the way you intended.

Interested in establishing a planned gift to ensure a legacy of generosity beyond your lifetime? To learn more about planned gifting options, please contact Michael Weisbrod, Gift Planning Officer, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org.

Turning Hope Into Reality

The Foundation is Your Legacy Planning Resource!

The Foundation is continuing to grow and support donors, pastors, executive directors, presidents, and development directors in their philanthropic endeavors. More than \$16.5 million in assets are currently held at the Foundation, with 36 individual funds, including Donor-Advised Funds, named Scholarship Funds, Unendowed Funds and Endowment Funds.

The Foundation staff is committed to helping individual organizations grow their donor base and coordinate planned giving efforts.

For more information about ways to create or add to a fund at the Foundation, please contact Michael Weisbrod, Gift Planning Officer, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org.



Living a Stewardship Life

An anonymous donor has created an Endowment Fund to support the mission of the Washington University Catholic Student Center.

The Catholic Student Center (CSC) at Washington University is a vibrant hub of community, service and hospitality for students of all faiths. This year, an anonymous donor established an Endowment Fund through the Foundation to help ensure that the programs provided by the CSC will be available to future generations of students.

Linda Domeyer, Director of Advancement for the CSC, notes that this past year, the Foundation made fulfilling the donor's wishes easy. "They brought the tools and expertise necessary to establish the Endowment Fund smoothly," Linda says. The impact of this gift will continue beyond the donor's lifetime, and any individuals can add gifts of any amount to the fund at any time.

For many students, the university years are a time of transition into adulthood; they are learning how to resolve conflicts, communicate well, process grief and loss, and explore the responsibilities that accompany newfound independence.

The CSC is committed to welcoming all students at Washington University to help them through this transition. Through weekly sacraments and activities, including Mass, faith formation, social events and prayer groups, students connect to one another and to their Catholic faith. Intercultural service opportunities with reflections on these service projects help students see the presence of Christ in their work.

A growing ministry on the Washington University Medical Campus helps provide spiritual support, mentorships and fellowship for students. Through this ministry, medical students have the opportunity to develop and strengthen the moral and ethical framework necessary for a career in healthcare.

“We are grateful for the sustainable support the new Endowment Fund provides,” says Fr. Gary Braun, Director of the CSC. “Students are energized by their faith and go on to become the future leaders of our Church and our communities. We want to instill in them the desire to lead, and the resolve to do so with strength and integrity, formed in the wisdom of the Catholic faith.”

The establishment of this Endowment Fund enables donors to support the future of the CSC and its faith-centered programs for students. For further information about the CSC, please contact Linda Domeyer at domeyer@washucsc.org or at 314.935.9191, extension 202.

To learn how to add to this fund or to create an Endowment Fund for your organization through the Roman Catholic Foundation, please contact Michael Weisbrod, Gift Planning Officer, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org



A Generous Response

Reflections on the Beyond Sunday Campaign

and Our Personal Sacrifices

Dear Friends,

Lent and Easter are on the horizon. In the language of the Catholic Church, we are in Ordinary Time. What better time to appreciate the ordinary blessings of everyday life – family, friendships and our faith. I wouldn't suggest these are not extraordinary gifts - they are! Ordinary Time reminds us that in the quiet days and reflective moments, we find the deep gratitude for God's gifts to us.

So often we view the big events as what we live for. Sometimes we hope for great success in our lives to give them substance or meaning. As a Foundation, we salute the large or lifetime gifts that can be transformational.

But we must remember that it is the sacrificial gift – the widow’s mite – the ordinary gift of any amount – that God recognizes as extraordinary.

As we make our final push to complete the *Beyond Sunday* campaign during the first quarter of 2017, please remember that there are many ordinary and everyday ways to support your philanthropic interests and causes through the Foundation.

On behalf of the Roman Catholic Foundation, thank you to all who have supported and continue to support the *Beyond Sunday* campaign and the mission of the Foundation.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark J. Guyol', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mark J. Guyol

President and CEO

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