PARISH ENDOWMENTS

As the center of Catholic philanthropy in southeast Michigan, the Catholic Foundation simplifies giving and provides the tools and expertise to help you discern where your gifts will make the greatest impact.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

A parish endowment is a charitable fund designated to provide stable, ongoing financial support to your parish and/or parish school forever. The principal is legally protected and grows through prudent investing. A portion of the fund’s value is granted (distributed) annually forever.

Your parish, or a parishioner, or a group can establish an endowment fund with the Catholic Foundation. If you have a special purpose for starting an endowment, a fund can be tailored to fit your parish’s greatest areas of need.

Once your fund is established, our team will partner with you to help educate your pastor, parish staff, and church community, as well as provide the tools to market your fund.

BENEFITS OF CREATING AN ENDOWMENT

SIMPLICITY AND EASE
The Catholic Foundation prudently manages all administrative aspects of the fund, including donor stewardship and recognition letters.

VISIBILITY AND MARKETING
The Catholic Foundation will market and promote your fund through various digital and print channels.

INTEGRITY OF CATHOLIC VALUES
Funds are managed and invested in accordance with the USCCB’s guidelines for Socially Responsible Investments.

PEACE OF MIND
Funds created by the Catholic Foundation provide asset protection from potential liabilities.

How A Parish Endowment Works
A gift is made and forms the principal of the fund. The principal is legally protected, invested, and grows. A portion of the fund’s value is granted annually forever.
SET STEPS TO SET UP AN ENDOWMENT

1. **Define a Purpose**
   Discern and state a clear purpose for which the earnings will be used into the future. Some examples are: mission and operations, capital improvements, outreach ministry, etc.

2. **Complete an Application**
   Work with the Catholic Foundation and your leadership to identify 1-2 fund ambassadors for your parish and complete an Endowment fund application.

3. **Secure and/or Make an Opening Contribution**
   It only takes a gift of $10,000 to open your parish endowment fund. Distributions take place in the following year of gift after at least one year of investment.

4. **Create a Marketing Plan**
   Using your brand and identity, we’ll work with your team to create a custom marketing plan and identify and cultivate donors in new ways through both print and digital media.

5. **Celebrate!**
   Share with donors and the parish community that your parish has successfully opened a fund that will benefit your mission for years to come!

50+ PARISH & SCHOOL FUNDS

PARISH PARTNERS
- Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament
- Corpus Christi Parish
- Most Holy Trinity National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica
- Our Lady of Hope
- St. Aidan Parish
- St. Albert the Great
- St. Fabian Parish
- St. Joseph, Lake Orion
- St. Kieran Parish
- St. Paul on the Lake
- Ss. Peter and Paul
- St. Regis Parish
- Ste. Anne de Detroit

ABOUT US


The Catholic Foundation of Michigan serves at the center of Catholic philanthropy; connecting generous donors to the greatest needs in our community, supporting Catholic ministries, and making our community stronger today and forever.

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