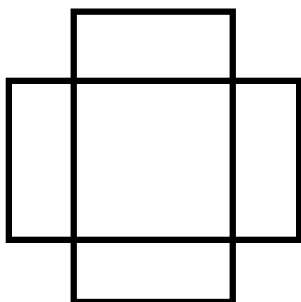

Designations

Planned gifts can be made to the Diocese of Marquette for general purposes or designated for:

- Your Parish
- Endowment Foundation for the Diocese of Marquette (Legacy of Faith)
- Catholic Schools
- Catholic Social Services of the Upper Peninsula
- Seminarian Education
- Retired Priests of the Diocese (St. Joseph Association)



We are here to help you help
the Church

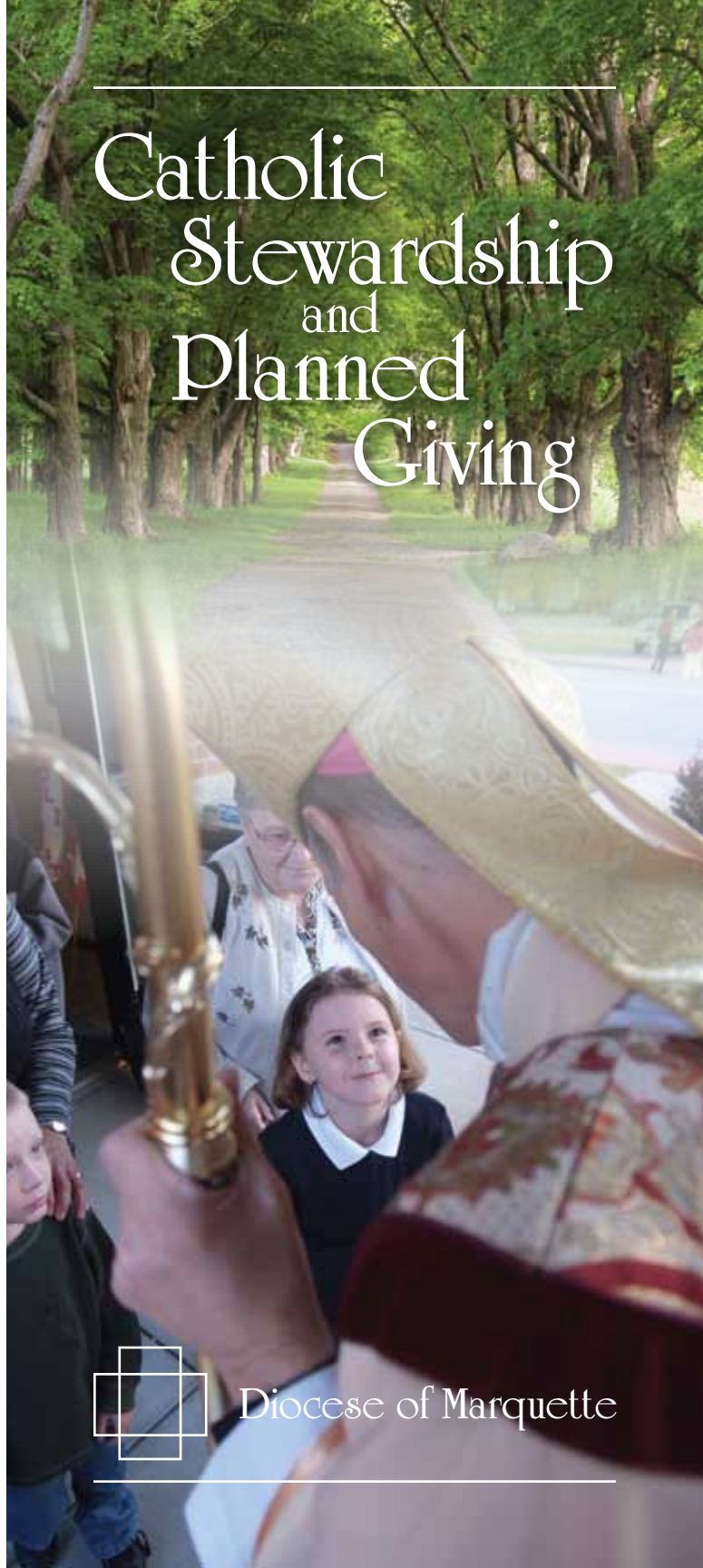
The Diocesan Development Office is here to serve you. We will work with you and your legal, tax and financial counselors in planning to meet your charitable goals.

Development Office
Diocese of Marquette
1004 Harbor Hills Dr.
Marquette, Michigan 49855
(906) 227-9108



Cover photo by Gerard Lauzon, North Light Photography.

Catholic Stewardship and Planned Giving



Diocese of Marquette

Catholic Stewardship

Jesus taught that all gifts are from God. Stewardship is a very practical concept that reminds us to use our resources wisely and give back to God in thanksgiving for all he has given to us. Stewardship is not a one-time act of giving, but rather a way of life that encompasses not only your weekly envelope and other planned gifts, but also the generous sharing of your time and talents with the Church and others. Jesus calls us to be disciples; stewardship is our answer to that call.

As good stewards, each of us plays an important role in preserving and extending our Catholic heritage in our own parish and the diocese through weekly gifts and planned giving. Planning our gifts to the Church can be a source of grace and deepening spirituality as we perpetuate our Catholic faith and walk more closely with the Lord Jesus. The Church depends on you and all her children to support the good works of proclaiming the Gospel and saving souls. This brochure explains how Catholic stewardship principles are expressed through planned giving to benefit you and the Church.

May God bless you for your faithfulness and generosity.



Perpetuating Christ's Work In the Church

Fulfillment of the church's mission is dependent in part on the sustained support of the people of the Diocese of Marquette. You can help support the good works of the Church in Upper Michigan through a variety of planned gift methods.

The starting point for planned giving is your weekly parish envelope. We are called to set aside part of our income to support the Church's mission. As we accumulate material wealth, however, we are also called to plan for the disposition of that wealth upon our death. We have a responsibility to provide for our families and a responsibility as Catholics to build a solid faith foundation for future generations.



Your Will

A will allows you to control how your loved ones are provided for after your death; it can also be an expression of your faith and create a lasting legacy of giving to your Church.

The easiest way to make a planned gift is to include a bequest in your will. Your bequest to the Church may be expressed in these words:

“I give and bequeath the sum of \$ _____ (or ____% of my estate) to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Marquette (or your parish or Catholic School) for its general purposes.”

A bequest may also provide more specific instructions regarding your gift, either restricting the use of the gift or granting a partial interest in the gift to others.

Other Gift Instruments

One reason for considering estate planning is to minimize taxes. You may have better income tax benefits if you consider making a current gift that transfers property to the Church upon your death. Life insurance and gifts of real estate with a retained life interest are examples of this. Gifts of appreciated stock may also generate considerable income tax benefits.

You may have special estate planning needs that require your gift to the Church to either be an income interest in property before your death (or the death of a loved one)—*a charitable lead trust*—or to take effect after providing you or your loved one a lifetime income interest or annuity—*charitable remainder trust or charitable gift annuity*. These are more complicated estate planning vehicles that require the services of an experienced attorney.

The chart on the next page shows several types of gifts that may be made and how you and the Church will benefit from them.

Benefits of Your Planned Gifts

Type of Gift	Benefit to Church ⁺	Benefit to You
Bequest <i>An attorney can prepare a Will or Codicil that includes a gift to the Church.</i>	Gift could be spent currently or invested to fund Church+ needs in perpetuity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible estate tax deduction • Perpetual gift opportunity
Appreciated Stock <i>Your financial advisor or attorney can help you transfer the stock certificate to the Church.</i>	Shares will be sold; the full value of the assets will fund Church+ needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance of capital gain tax • Income tax deduction for full market value on date of gift
Insurance Policy <i>Your insurance agent can help you name the Church as owner and beneficiary of a policy to maximize your tax deductions.</i>	The Church+ receives full face value of the policy upon death of the donor, or may receive current surrender value prior to donor's death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income tax deduction for value of the policy when transferred • Premium payments may be deducted as gifts
Real Estate with retained Life Estate <i>Your attorney will prepare a deed that retains for you the right to live in the property during your lifetime.</i>	Proceeds from the sale of property is used for designated purposes to benefit the Church+.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of property during your lifetime • Avoidance of capital gains tax • Immediate income tax deduction
Retirement Plan/IRA <i>Your attorney or financial advisor can help you designate the Church as a beneficiary of your retirement plan</i>	Upon the death of the donor, remaining assets benefit the Church+.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estate and income tax savings for substantial portion of gift
Charitable Gift Annuity <i>The diocese or your attorney will prepare this type of document</i>	Assets that are not used to pay annuity to the donor or others, benefit the Church+.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteed fixed income for life • Portion of income is tax-free • Potential tax deductions
Charitable Remainder Trust <i>Your attorney will prepare this type of document</i>	Upon the death of the donor or last surviving income beneficiary, the remaining assets benefit the Church+.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variable or fixed income • Deferred income if desired • Possible income and estate tax deductions
Charitable Lead Trust <i>Your attorney will prepare this type of document</i>	Income for duration of Trust helps Church+ meet needs until the asset reverts to donor or other beneficiary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At end of trust period, principal returns to donor or other beneficiaries • Principal can pass to others with little or no shrinkage • Possible income and estate tax deductions

⁺Church refers to any parish, diocesan school, or ministry designated by the donor.

For Additional Information

If you would like additional information on planned giving, please fill out the reply form below and return it to our office, or feel free to contact us with any questions. A gift is always a very personal matter. All information you provide will be kept in the strictest confidence. Please refer to the reverse side for contact information.

I would like more information on/about:

- gifts that pay income for life/annuity rates
 will planning
 other _____

Name

Parish

Address

City

State, Zip

Telephone

Email

