

THE Good Word

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.catholicfoundation.com

EVEN IN THIS ECONOMY. . .

Foundation Upholds Mission to Serve Those in Need

To those who are chronically disadvantaged, economists' debates about the causes of and cures for the world's current economic woes must sound a bit like those arguments about how many angels can dance on the head of a pin.

Rising joblessness, unpaid worker furloughs, and the threat of further layoffs can't mean much if you've rarely been employed and never been able to keep a job.

Upside-down mortgages and home foreclosures surely seem irrelevant if you've run out of friends and family to stay with since your eviction from the substandard, subsidized housing to which you were assigned.

When all is said and done, what does "Recession" mean to the poor – except more of the same want and need? Already invisible to Wall Street or hidden away from Main Street, are



those in need to be ignored further by those of us who can help them because we, too, have fallen victim to the economy now and are finding that our balance sheets just don't add up the way they used to?

The Catholic Foundation says "NO." Emphatically. This year the Board of Trustees re-committed to its mission of serving those in need at a level consistent with past years, in

spite of the economy. Or perhaps because of it. Like the world's leading philanthropic foundation, the Gates Foundation, The Catholic Foundation recognizes that the needs of the poor have not been diminished, but have been compounded by current economic ills and that our response must be commensurate with this compelling call on our resources.

To that end, The Catholic Foundation encourages all donors to do the same: to increase your charitable giving if you can – even in, especially in, these tough times – to enhance our capacity to serve those in need.

As a community foundation, The Catholic Foundation is equipped to accept all kinds of gifts – cash, stocks, real property, insurance policies, IRA payouts – and to direct them to your choice of charitable endeavors – food, clothing, school supplies, tuition, scholarships, housing, *(continued on page 4)*

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



How many times have you heard "same time, same place, next year" or "maybe next time"? These popular sayings remind us of something to look forward to and the other to give us hope.

As we approach the end of another busy and news filled year it is time to reflect on the things we have accomplished and the things we need to be looking

towards. For many 2009 has not been one of the best years but that does not mean we should give up on the good things we are capable of doing, especially helping others who have needs greater than ours – others who need to have something to look forward to and have hope in the future.

That is where I believe The Catholic Foundation can be of help to you. There are many needs in our community, too many to name and they all

call for your help. An integral part of the Foundation's mission is to promote compassionate charitable giving and to serve the needs of others. We can help a generous individual make impactful charitable giving decisions that are timely and tax-wise. The Foundation offers virtually every type of charitable giving tool that can make charitable giving rewarding and something that will help you give hope to others.

So before 2009 is over one of my hopes is that you will take some time to learn how The Catholic Foundation can be of service to you. Please have a wonderful Fall and holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edwin M. Schaffler". The signature is written in a cursive style.

EDWIN M. SCHAFFLER

A Strong FOUNDATION

From the Chairman: Counting Our Blessing(s)

By Robin Hartmann



Robin P. Hartmann
Chairman,
Board of Trustees
The Catholic Foundation

I believe the work of The Catholic Foundation this year falls under the aegis of “Good News.”

In fact, it always has. The philanthropy of The Catholic Foundation is like that. It provides an effective, responsible way to share our abundant resources. But this year,

unlike some others, our Good News could have been drowned out by all the “bad” news – and this has not happened. I am particularly pleased that our Board of Trustees, after prudently examining our balance sheets, determined to fulfill our promise to the community by maintaining the level of funding available to help those in need.

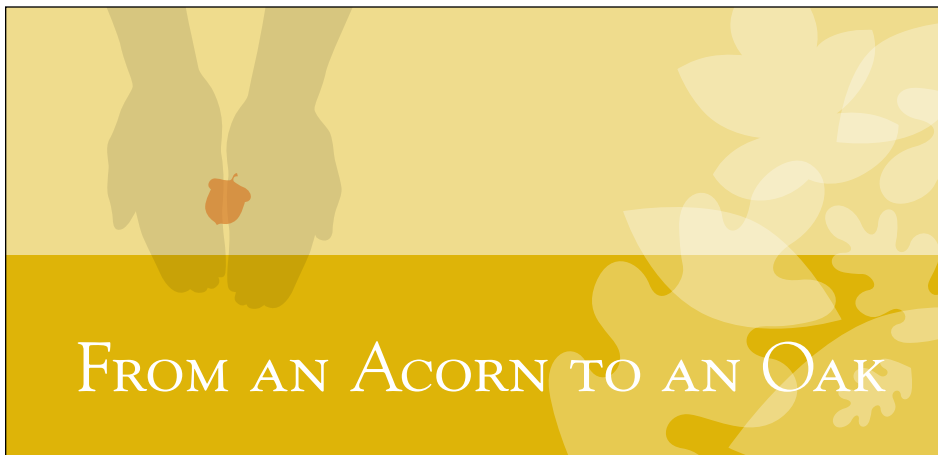
After all, the Foundation, while formed during good economic times, anticipated that challenging economic times would follow. Our very purpose from that beginning has been to help fill the gaps created by rapid growth, diminishing resources, and/or the structural poverty that inevitably leaves some of our brothers and sisters behind. At the same time, the Foundation was designed to advance and direct the best of our Christian charitable intentions to meet those needs. Thus we enjoy the blessings of both – generous donors and meaningful charitable work.

Nevertheless, as I’m sure you can imagine, in this particular time of shrinking assets and increasing demands, our challenges have never been greater. Compelling needs for food, clothing, health care, and scholarships, and for maintenance and capital improvements in our schools and churches have grown. And our resources, frankly, have not. Our job, then, as the leading philanthropic institution



Students of St. Mary of Carmel School benefited from grants for new textbooks, a new security system and a new roof for the school.

in the Diocese, is to help our entire Catholic community re-focus on our mission, and re-commit to helping meet the needs of our community. We are leading the way, I hope, by continuing to award grants at the same funding levels achieved in recent years. But our board is equally committed to pursuing new gifts, to generating new interest in the important philanthropic work of the Foundation, and to furthering understanding of the key role charitable generosity can play in sustaining hope and faith in our community. I invite you to join me at The Catholic Foundation in pursuit of this mission. 🙏



FROM AN ACORN TO AN OAK

Catholic Foundation President Ed Schaffler, Vice President for Development Cheryl Mansour, and Senior Development Officer Michael George, have been invited to make a presentation on behalf of the Foundation at the International Catholic Stewardship Conference in Dallas this fall.

Their talk, titled “From an Acorn to an Oak,” will highlight the rich history of the Foundation, its visionary founders, its mission-driven purpose, and the development and investment strategies that have made it one of the leading philanthropic resources in the Catholic Church today.

Mr. Schaffler calls the invitation “a tribute to the Foundation, its leadership among foundations in the Catholic Church, and the quality of oversight provided by our board.”

Giving SPIRIT



Giving 101

by Cheryl Unis Mansour, Vice President of Development

THE IRA: A UNIQUE PHILANTHROPIC TOOL

After 25 years of providing pre-retirement income tax savings, regulations governing Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) have been expanded, enhancing the potential of the IRA as a unique philanthropic tool.

In light of last year's widespread investment losses, for example, Congress has waived mandatory distributions from IRAs (and the requisite tax payments) for 2009 in an effort to help retirees rebuild their nest eggs.


In addition, as part of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, anyone aged 70½ and older

can direct that up to \$100,000 a year from his or her IRA be given to a qualifying charity and avoid all taxes – a provision that has been extended through this calendar year (2009).

What does The Catholic Foundation have to do with this? As a community foundation, we are uniquely qualified to process contributions from IRAs and thus to assist donors with a combination of sophisticated estate planning resources and generous philanthropic vehicles.

You may, for example, be able to assign the benefits of your IRA to The Catholic Foundation, so that, upon your death, the

funds go directly to charity, tax-free, avoiding the excise, estate, and income taxes your heirs might otherwise be forced to pay. You can specify how you'd like the money used, too. Or, under the Pension Protection Act, you can direct that a gift of up to \$100,000 be made before year-end from your IRA to The Catholic Foundation which can be used to immediately support your particular charitable interests or in support of the Foundation's grantmaking programs.

Our professional staff would be delighted to help you think through the ways you might take advantage of these particularly time-sensitive opportunities to enhance your philanthropy. 



DONOR PROFILE:


The Krusemarks

Don and Miriam Krusemark had six children, 16 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, a successful career, active faith lives, and a deep awareness of the many blessings they had received.

They also had a well-funded IRA (Individual Retirement Account) and, a few years ago, got actively involved in their estate planning. At the top of their list was the desire to make a significant charitable contribution to the church they loved and served.

When he met with his lawyer and accountant, Don Krusemark learned about a provision of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 that seemed meant for him: at that particular point in time (though the Internal Revenue Service has now extended the provision through December 31, 2009), individuals aged 70½ and older could provide for up to \$100,000 to be contributed from their IRAs to a qualifying charity without realizing the income tax consequences of the withdrawal. He had the assets, he appreciated the tax savings both he, individually and his estate, would realize, and, most importantly, he would be able to give generously

to The Catholic Foundation – as he and Miriam had intended. Further, he could give the money right then, while he was still alive, and derive some pleasure and satisfaction from seeing how it was used. (“And get articles like this published in the newsletter,” he laughs.)

Why The Catholic Foundation? “It seemed to me the most viable and effective vehicle in place in the Diocese.” Mr. Krusemark knows his gift to the Foundation's Unrestricted Fund will help support Catholic seminaries and vocations in perpetuity, and that's important to him. The Jesuits he encountered at St. Rita, which he and Miriam joined at its founding in 1961, were, he says, “a major factor in shaping my philosophy – trying to live a Christian life.” 

A LIGHT On

A MEDICAL MISSIONARY ON CAMPUS

UT Southwestern medical student Tommy Heyne spent his summer in Peru, working in a small hospital helping nuns render health care to the poor. He has traveled extensively – from Cistercian Preparatory School in Irving, Texas and The University of Dallas, where he earned a 4.0 grade average and was elected Student Government President while majoring in biology and history; to the University of Oxford (England) where he was awarded a Master of Studies in Theology (specifically Early Ecclesiastical History and 2nd and 3rd century Christian attitudes toward medicine and healing); to Granada, Spain on a Fulbright Scholarship to study Medieval Medicine (Christian and Muslim); and then, last fall, back to Dallas to attend University of Texas Southwestern Medical School. All the while, he says, he encountered doubts – his own and others’ – about his Christian Catholic faith.

Given the non-faith based environment Heyne found himself in at Oxford, he felt that “Catholic medical students at UT Southwestern would benefit from a group that helped to foster, deepen, and explain their faith in the midst of all the external pressures from peers and professors.” He was not alone. Three other students – Trevor Turner, John Mulvahill, David Ronderos – had been in contact with the national Catholic Medical Student Association and soon joined forces with Heyne and another student, Jamie Frediani, with the support of key faculty and administration, to establish a new Catholic



Left to right: John Mulvahill, Dr. Roy Heyne, April Taylor, Tommy Heyne, Jamie Frediani, and David Ronderos

organization, the St. Basil Society (www.basilsociety.com), on campus.

He reports, “Our little group quickly became one of the most active and successful student groups on campus.” The St. Basil Society hosted academic talks on campus twice a month “God and Psychiatry”, “Christian-Muslim Dialogue”, and scheduled several well-attended service, spiritual, and social activities designed to “help show each student that he’s not alone in his struggle to survive med school and keep his faith alive.”

“May God bless The Catholic Foundation, particularly for the innumerable patients that we – future Catholic physicians – will see in the future.”

Several generous donors, mostly Catholic doctors, funded the group’s first year. A faculty sponsor, Dr. Robert Collins, suggested they apply for a grant from The Catholic Foundation to sustain the organization. The grant was awarded – in full. (And this doesn’t happen often, notes Catholic Foundation President Ed Schaffler. “The Grants Distribution Committee and the Trustees were all simply very, very impressed with the students’ initiative, service to the community, and deeply moving faith.”)



TCF Trustee, Chuck Kobdich, presenting grant check to St. Basil Society member, David Ronderos at the Spring grant ceremony.

Tommy Heyne calls himself an evangelist for the Catholic faith. He says “It has always been apparent to me that the eternal questions are the most important ones, and that these merit the most effort and consideration.” That’s why all the study, why he believes other students of faith need support, and why, even now, as his second year of medical school is underway, he wonders if he might be called to the priesthood. He’s going to finish med school first, though. “Now that the St. Basil Society is doing so well, I can’t imagine myself leaving. We have to keep it going.” And he’s thinking his current goal of becoming a medical missionary will allow him to combine service to both the body and the soul.

“May God bless The Catholic Foundation,” he wrote from Peru, “particularly for the innumerable patients that we – future Catholic physicians – will see in the future.”

In This Economy (continued from page 1)

and more. We make tax-advantaged charitable giving straightforward and optimally effective. We can put today’s dollars right to work in ongoing programs serving our community, and we can bank on gifts you might pledge as part of your estate plan. We can translate your deeply personal need and impulse to give – social, cultural, educational and/or religious – into meaningful good works of any scope or scale – from a single scholarship to safe housing for the elderly.

Why give? Because the needs are greater than ever.

Why give to The Catholic Foundation? Because we share a unique, mission-driven commitment to serving those in need in our community – especially now – and, as the leading source of philanthropy in the Diocese, we have the resources and expertise to make the most of your gifts.

Please contact us today: 972-661-9792 or www.catholicfoundation.com



Magic Carpet by Pamela Nelson

PLAZA ART TO BE UNVEILED DURING ARTS DISTRICT DEDICATION

The winner of the fourth annual Catholic Foundation Plaza Art Contest will be announced and his or her work unveiled during the opening festivities and dedication of the new Dallas Center for the Performing Arts complex in October.

The Plaza, which showcases a new North Texas visual artist each year, was created on the grounds of the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe as a gift to the people of Dallas as part of the Foundation's 50th Anniversary celebration four years ago. The Plaza serves as a "front porch" to the Arts District, given its location at the corner of Flora and Crockett Street. According to Pamela Nelson, whose work is currently displayed, "All great urban

cultural centers throughout the ages have had at their core a Cathedral, a place where people return, week after week. So, too, in Dallas, in addition to creating an international cultural destination with its Arts District, we have in the Plaza a place where the population will come to see winning works of art over and over again."

"We are very pleased that The Dallas Arts District is going to include the Plaza in the ecumenical dedication ceremonies on Sunday, October 11. This is a great civic event," said Ed Schaffler, President of the Foundation.

Entries for the contest have been solicited throughout the vibrant North Texas art community, using emails, postcards, and word of mouth, with valuable assistance from the Offices of Cultural Affairs in both Dallas and Fort Worth. 🐟

JEFFREY N. PENNELL HEADLINES NEXT PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS' SEMINAR

The Foundation's next Professional Advisors' Seminar on Tuesday, December 8, 2009 will feature a return engagement by the popular legal scholar and estate planning authority Jeffrey Pennell, who last addressed local legal, financial, and other planned giving professionals in 2007.

Professor Pennell, who teaches at the Emory University School of Law, will speak on recent developments in estate planning, including a look at the extensive menu of changes to tax regulations currently under consideration.

The program begins with breakfast at the Belo Mansion at 7:30 a.m. followed by Professor Pennell's presentation, which will qualify for two hours of continuing education credits. The seminar fee is \$75, with registration available online at www.catholicfoundation.com.

All Dallas area legal and financial advisors and estate planning professionals are welcome to attend the Foundation's annual Professional Advisors' Seminar. Please call Linda Scheets at the Foundation (972-661-9792) for further information or to be added to the Foundation's current list of professional advisors.

Save the Date

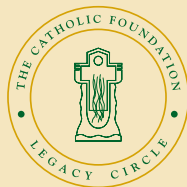
February 5, 2010

THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION AWARD DINNER

6:00 P.M.

FAIRMONT HOTEL, DALLAS
REGENCY BALLROOM

FOUNDATION CREATES LEGACY CIRCLE



The Foundation is pleased to announce the creation of The Catholic Foundation Legacy Circle to honor those donors who have made long-term commitments to the Foundation through planned gifts such as bequests and/or charitable trusts.

In addition, the donors who have established a fund at the Foundation that is either permanent or ultimately benefits the Foundation's

Unrestricted Fund, or have used the Foundation's resources to develop some other type of planned charitable gift will also be part of the Legacy Circle.

Members will be welcomed at a special celebration and, with permission, their names will be published as an example to the Catholic community of the opportunity to include the Foundation in their philanthropic and estate planning and to inspire their participation.

"The Legacy Circle is a small, but important new way for us to show our gratitude to these forward-thinking, generous donors whose enduring support provides the means for us to fulfill our mission of meeting the needs of the Catholic community in perpetuity," said Ed Schaffler, President of the Foundation.

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The Good Word

The Good Word is published to provide news and information about The Catholic Foundation's activities and programs. Any questions or comments should be sent to:

The Catholic Foundation
5310 Harvest Hill Rd., #248
Dallas, TX 75230

or faxed to 972-661-0140.

For additional information regarding the Foundation, please call 972-661-9792 or refer to: www.catholicfoundation.com



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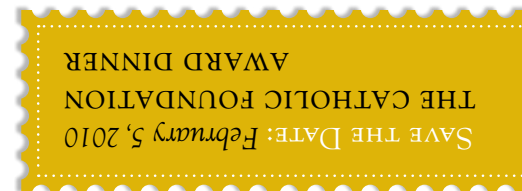
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