

THE Good Word

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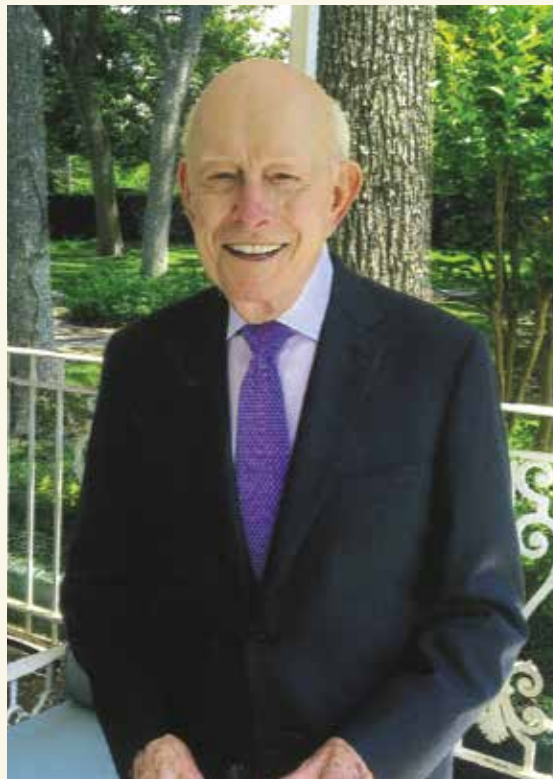
JACK PRATT SELECTED 40TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC FOUNDATION AWARD HONOREE

Jack E. Pratt, Sr., founder and retired chairman and CEO of Hollywood Casino Corporation and the developer of multiple successful hotels, casinos, commercial and residential buildings and restaurant chains in the U.S., Mexico, South America, Australia and the Caribbean, has been named the 2023 Catholic Foundation Award honoree.

With an entrepreneurial mind, servant's heart and memories of the Great Depression, Jack humbly looks forward to The Catholic Foundation Award Dinner on February 4, 2023, at which he'll be honored.

His Christian example, philanthropic support and distinguished service to further the religious, charitable and educational needs of people throughout the local Catholic community are enormous.

"Jack has devoted considerable time to philanthropic pursuits as founder and director of the Aileen and Jack Pratt Foundation, serving eight years on the St. Monica Catholic Church finance council, 12 years on the Investment Committee of the Diocese of Dallas and on the Bishop's Finance Council of the Diocese of Dallas. He's a legendary leader and his generosity toward the community runs deep," said Matt Kramer, president and CEO of The Catholic Foundation.



"I ALWAYS BELIEVED THE GOOD LORD WAS NUMBER ONE IN MY LIFE." - Jack Pratt

Catholic Supporter & Advisor

A native of Joplin, Mo., Jack also served as a member of the Leadership Council "Innovation in Medicine" campaign for Southwestern Medical University, the committee for Advanced Gifts - capital campaign fund for Ursuline Academy, the founding committee of John Paul II High School in Plano and the Leadership Committee for the "Our Faith Our Future" capital campaign for the Diocese of Dallas.

He was also the initial investor for the now nationwide Young Catholic Professionals, a nonprofit that brings together young business professionals in a variety of events to foster Catholic identity, and was the founder and advisor to the San Juan Diego Catholic Church in northwest Dallas.

Jack and his wife, Aileen, who currently serves as chair of The Catholic Foundation board of trustees, are parishioners at Christ the King Catholic Church. They have four children, nine grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Jack served as a master sergeant in the U.S. Army's Inspector General's office during the Korean War and handled parts logistics that aided helicopter pilots in Korea while based at Fort Wolters in Mineral Wells, Texas.

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THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Sitting inside the Santiago de Compostela Cathedral in Galicia, Spain, earlier this year with donors of The Catholic Foundation, I watched its giant incense-filled censer sway back and forth over the heads of the faithful during Mass.

The rhythm of its movement above us reminded me of the consistency of two cornerstones of the Foundation – our donors and Catholic education.

Like the censer that lifts prayers toward heaven, so too is the powerful generosity of our donors who demonstrate their charitable mindset by establishing funds with the Foundation to elevate multiple causes.

Because of the generosity of donors, the Foundation distributed 2,400-plus grants in excess of \$21.5 million to 800 charitable organizations in 2021.

And like the massive, yet sturdy censer, so too is the assurance that Catholic education helps mold people into conscientious, caring servants who use Christ-centered upbringings for good throughout life.

It's rewarding in my role to interact with so many quality minded people who not only care for their own family's needs, but purposely find ways to give back to others in the community through their own blessings.

As a lay-led community foundation, we exist to fulfill the desires of our donors. More often than not, the marriage of our donors' desires and Catholic education unite.

When the bond forms, we help create tuition assistance and scholarships funds to help families send their children to Catholic schools.

There, students participate in academic programs that challenge them to cultivate good decision-making skills. Inside Catholic schools, students are introduced to a wide range of extracurricular programs that produce life lessons about perseverance, teamwork, trust and more.

Please reach us to assist you so that your philanthropic wishes can take root immediately and/or grow over time as the impact serves our community long after your earthly duties are completed.

As a person who has benefitted from Catholic education, my prayer is that the 2022-23 school year exceeds all your expectations. May God bless all our local Catholic school educators, administrators, employees, volunteers, students and families. 🙏

J. MATTHEW KRAMER
President and Chief Executive Officer

A Strong FOUNDATION

HONORING A LEADER & FRIEND



Lydia and Dan Novakov

Lydia and Dan Novakov, the 2022 Catholic Foundation Award honorees, will serve as the 2023 Award Dinner committee co-chairs in celebration of dear friend, Jack E. Pratt, Sr.

Jack will be recognized at the 40th annual Award Dinner on Feb. 4, 2023, at the Hilton Anatole Hotel.

The Foundation is grateful to Lydia and Dan, long-time Dallas philanthropists, for their passion and service to the local Dallas Catholic community. They, like Jack and Aileen Pratt, are parishioners at Christ the King Catholic Church. 🐟

Together, Again

Annual Report Showcases Powerful Donor Impact Stories

The Foundation's 2021 annual report highlights the commitment of three donors who are making a strong impact on the causes most meaningful to them.

In the annual report, you'll read about how as Covid mandates and precautions changed, the Foundation was able to reconnect and resume face to face gatherings as part of a very strong year.

You can view the full annual report on the Foundation website on the Publications page under the About Us-News tab at www.catholicfoundation.com. 🐟



JACK PRATT SELECTED 40TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC FOUNDATION AWARD HONOREE

(continued from page 1)

"I always believed the good Lord was number one in my life," Jack said while reflecting on his life as a young sidewalk salesman of daily newspapers, flowers and puppies at the age of seven to support his family through the Great Depression of 1929-1939. "I always asked God for advice going into a new business. There were no safety nets in the Great Depression so if you needed help, the place you turned was the church."



Jack Pratt in his Joplin, Missouri days



A very young Jack Pratt

Giving Back To The Community

"I told myself as a six-year-old that I would do everything possible to work hard, help my family out of poverty, be a good Christian and give back to the community. It never left my mind," he said. "Never in my wildest dreams did I think a little kid from Joplin who sold newspapers on the street at the age of seven would receive this tremendous award."

One of his favorite philanthropic projects began after witnessing a Mass celebrated in the rain with people kneeling on soggy ground and a priest holding an umbrella above his head.

That sober vision, and the desire to find a growing community of people a proper church led to numerous hours over several years spent identifying real estate, negotiating deals with building owners, renovating facilities to meet the needs of a growing Hispanic Catholic community in northwest Dallas, selecting contractors to work on the project, financially contributing to and ultimately establishing San Juan Diego Catholic Church.

Professionally, Jack achieved success in a wide variety of ventures including T.G.I. Fridays, and as one of the nation's largest developers and owners of the Holiday Inn franchises, with more than 40 hotel properties including Hiltons, Crowne Plaza and Sheraton Hotels in the U.S., Mexico and Caribbean.

As business grew, he never forgot his Missouri roots. Jack subscribes to the notion, "To whom much is given, much will be required" with roots in the Gospel of Luke.

"You don't earn money to keep it for yourself. You can't take it with you," he said. "It was not a desire that I needed the money. I lived decently, and it was always in my thought that there were many other people who needed support and so I helped. The good Lord has answered a lot of my prayers and I've had the ability to give back and spend most of my time on church work." 🐟

Table and individual reservations for the 2023 Catholic Foundation Award Dinner at the Hilton Anatole Hotel on February 4 can be made later this year on the Foundation website, www.catholicfoundation.com, or by calling 972-661-9792.

Giving SPIRIT



Giving 101

by Cheryl Unis Mansour, Senior Vice President of Donor Relations

WHAT'S THE VALUE IN CHARITABLE GIVING?

.....
This is the first in a series of two columns. This one focuses on the less tangible side of philanthropy.

The urge to do something that helps another person tugs at the unselfish heart. Why? The charitable person may not even know those who will benefit from their beneficent act. They may never meet them and may never even receive a thank-you. Why do they care about these often faceless, nameless beneficiaries?

Most humans have an inherent desire to make life better for others. It's obvious why we want to help better the lives of our children and family.

But what about caring for those not among our circle of family, friends or neighbors?

Some may be driven by the teachings of their faith. We feel we're doing what our Creator intended us to do by helping others. By helping others we receive a justified sense of compliance with the requirements of our faith.

Some philanthropists are driven by gratitude for their blessings. In our American system of values, we revere the notion that hard work yields success. But where success comes, it can be hollow unless shared with others. Some people are content to give their immediate family their material blessings. But others find satisfaction in going beyond family.

It is curious that humans will go to great lengths to help outsiders, and go beyond family, neighbor and even their country. They will help to improve the lives of people they may never meet or even know. It is their faith in humanity and their belief that others will benefit that motivates them.

In all cases, the donor receives back a

feeling that can't be found any other way. The satisfaction of knowing you did something to benefit others is one of the most gratifying feelings a person can experience.

As noted in the parable of the widow's mite, the size of the donation is less important than the level of sacrifice for the donor.

For some, a modest donation can yield satisfying value the same as a major gift by a wealthy person. Everyone can feel the joy of giving, regardless of their circumstances.

In the next issue, we'll explore the more tangible benefits a donor has through their generosity.

The important thing to remember is that both the recipient and the donor get value from the act of charity.

It's all about you, the donor. We are here for you and reachable at 972-661-9792 and info@catholicfoundation.com. 🐟

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Roaring Like Lyons:

*Cradle Catholics Georgia & Marc
Dynamically Support Catholic Community*

.....
Georgia and Marc Lyons met on a blind date as freshmen in college in 1970 and, as they say, the rest is history! This year, the charitably minded couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a special blessing from Pope Francis.

Both "Cradle Catholics," Georgia and Marc were first introduced to The Catholic Foundation through many of their friends already involved in the Foundation and by their participation in the Bishop's Invitational charity golf tournament launched in 2011 and supported by the Foundation.

"From our Catholic upbringing, we learned very early on to be thankful for our God given gifts and to use those gifts to serve others," shared Georgia and Marc.

Ten years ago, the couple established their Donor-Advised fund, The Lyons Family Fund at The Catholic Foundation, as a flexible philanthropic tool.

Georgia and Marc are also members of the Legacy Circle for their long-term planned giving commitment to the Foundation and its mission. They are also valued members of The Gorman Society, a permanent endowment that underwrites the annual expenses of The Catholic Foundation.

Serving the Dallas Catholic community has always been their passion. Marc served as a Trustee of The Catholic Foundation from 2013-2020 including two years as board chair from 2018-2020.



Georgia and Marc Lyons celebrating their 50th anniversary Mass

He continues to serve on the Foundation's Advisory Council as well as on the Diocesan Endowment Educational Trust (DEET) board and St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store of North Texas board of directors among others. Georgia volunteers with the Angels of Charity women's auxiliary that serves Catholic Charities of Dallas.

Georgia and Marc firmly believe in Catholic education and have been loyal supporters of All Saints Catholic School, St. Michael Special School (New Orleans), St. Rita Catholic School, Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School, The Jethsuby Scholarship Fund of The Catholic Foundation, The Halo Initiative and the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS).

Both Georgia and Marc are loyal supporters of many organizations such as Holy Trinity Seminary, Catholic Charities Dallas, Catholic Pro-Life Community, In My Shoes, Young Catholic Professionals, Society of St. Vincent de Paul North Texas and The Institute for Homiletics.

Long-time active parishioners at All Saints Catholic Church in Dallas, their favorite pastime is spending quality time with their family; daughter Kristen, son Greg and his wife, Jaime, and their two beautiful grandchildren Grace, 11, and Noah, 8. 🐟

A LIGHT On



“THE VALUE OF A CATHOLIC EDUCATION IS UNDENIABLE.”

Laurie Senecal

During the Foundation's spring grant ceremony, St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School principal Laurie Senecal spoke on behalf of the 14 Dallas-area Catholic schools that received grants for tuition assistance. Her powerful comments witness to the power of a Catholic education.

“We have all gone through a time in history like no other. The shared experience has shown our resolve and faithfulness. Within the walls of our Catholic schools, you will find Christ-centered, academically rigorous learning environments.

“And you will find students who are nurtured, loved, encouraged and challenged in preparation for a successful life of leadership and service.

“You will find diverse communities of learners. You'll find teachers who work to cultivate a desire in each child to discover his or her own God-given talents.

“We make time to tell them God's version of who they are despite what they may see, and hear, on social media and beyond the walls of our schools.

“You will find communities of faith where all are welcomed. Within the walls of our Catholic schools, you will find the promise that we offer our families. Something more; just a little bit more hope.

“The value of a Catholic education is undeniable. Academic excellence along with discipline and values provide a strong foundation for the development of both mind and soul.

MAKING MIRACLES HAPPEN

“For many families, Catholic education is difficult to afford. This is where The Catholic Foundation steps in and makes miracles happen.

“Through the collective generosity of The Catholic Foundation donors and trustees - their time and talent - and a deep desire to make a difference,

a lifeline is provided to the schools that allow us to say 'yes.'

“Yes' to the families that desire a Catholic education.

“So, thank you for your stewardship, your dedication, your generosity and above all, your faith.

“Providing equitable access for students to grants and scholarships impacts not only our schools and our school communities in immeasurable ways, but is an investment in every recipient's future.

“As St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross said, “The nation doesn't simply need what we have; it needs what we are.” Our schools strive to form the next generation of servant leaders in Christ, and the impact of the gift of an education is life changing.

“Thank you Catholic Foundation for supporting our schools, believing in our mission and vision and making the gift of a Catholic education possible for so many families.

“You have given us hope. And for that we say thank you and may God bless the work of your hands.” 🙏

ALL SMILES FOR SPRING GRANT RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the 22 Dallas-area Catholic churches and schools, plus community organizations presented with \$1.1 million in grants from The Catholic Foundation's unrestricted Philanthropy Fund and other Legacy Funds of the Foundation during our spring grant ceremony.

Over time, The Catholic Foundation has provided more than \$247 million in grants to religious, charitable and educational organizations.

The grants that support HVAC replacements, building renovations, tuition assistance and technology upgrades for school classrooms were presented to:

All Saints Catholic Church – with partial funding from The Mary Anne Woods Charitable Endowment Fund

Bishop Dunne Catholic School – with partial funding from The Thomas W. Weinzapfel Endowment

Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe

Catholic Charities Dallas – with partial funding from the Thomas John Uhl Fund

Catholic Charities Dallas - Brady Senior Center – with funding from the Louise Emma Buhrer Endowment Fund

Catholic Conference and Formation Center – with partial funding from the Bernard (Brian) Bradley Endowment Fund

Holy Family Catholic Parish

Immaculate Conception Catholic School – with partial funding from the Joe & Hazel Fechtel Fund



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School – with partial funding from the William & Mary Jane Jaspersen Fund

Saint Paul Catholic Classical School – with partial funding from the Jean & Archy M. Roper, Jr. Fund

St. Cecilia Catholic School – with partial funding from The Osborne Family Endowment Fund, and the University Catholic Center at UT Dallas.

Tuition assistance recipients with funding from the Louise Emma Buhrer Endowment Fund and the Dorothy Irving Memorial Fund included:

Bishop Dunne Catholic School

Good Shepherd Catholic School

Holy Family Catholic Academy

Holy Trinity Catholic School

Immaculate Conception Catholic School

Mount St. Michael Catholic School

Saint Paul Catholic Classical School

Santa Clara of Assisi Catholic Academy

St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School

St. Cecilia Catholic School

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School

St. Mary of Carmel Catholic School

St. Mary's Catholic School, and

St. Philip & St. Augustine Catholic Academy

HELP RECOGNIZE DALLAS-AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

The 2022-2023 school year marks the 18th during which The Catholic Foundation will recognize Dallas-area Catholic school employees for their impact.

The Work of Heart Award honors employees who exemplify outstanding service, model a Christian example and go above and beyond for an individual student, family or community.

Work of Heart nominations require several examples of observed performance and are accepted throughout the school year. Nomination forms can be obtained on the Foundation website, www.catholicfoundation.com, or by calling 972-661-9792.

A panel of Catholic Foundation trustees and Advisory Council members review all nominees. Starting this school year, employees selected as Work of Heart recipients receive an increased stipend of \$1,000 and certificate to proudly display.

Over the years, nearly 1,400 Dallas-area Catholic school full-time employees have received the Work of Heart Award, and we look forward to recognizing more great role models this school year. 🐟



John Paul II High School Work of Heart recipient Melissa Downs with Bill Kula



St. Philip and St. Augustine Catholic Academy Work of Heart recipient Dianne Brungardt with Matt Kramer



Notre Dame School of Dallas Work of Heart recipient Kay Berry with R. Michael George and Notre Dame staff



Fr. Michael Guadagnoli of St. Monica Catholic Church, CiCi Petty and Darina O'Dowd Padian

THE 16th ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS SERIES

NATIONAL TAX STRATEGIST COMING TO DALLAS

The Foundation's 16th annual Advisors Series for Estate and Wealth Management Professionals on Nov. 10 will feature Paul S. Lee, J.D., LL.M.

Lee will present "Top Planning Ideas Today: COVID, Congress, Charity."

Professional advisors who are interested in obtaining the two hours of continuing education credits that comes with attending the conference can register on the Foundation website. The session in downtown Dallas starts with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. followed by a two-hour presentation with Q&A.

Paul serves as the chief tax strategist of The Northern Trust Company, within the Global Family & Private Investment Offices Group and Wealth Management division of Northern Trust.

Based in New York City, Paul is an executive vice president and managing director of the company. Prior to joining Northern Trust, he was at Bernstein Global Wealth Management as National Managing Director, and a partner in the Atlanta-based law firm of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Paul is a Fellow of the American College of Trusts and Estate Counsel and an Academician of the International Academy of Estate and Trust Lawyers. He has been inducted into the NAEP

Estate Planning Hall of Fame® and designated an Accredited Estate Planner® (Distinguished). He was the American Bar Association Advisor to the Uniform Law Commission Uniform Fiduciary Income and Principal Act. 🐟



Paul S. Lee, J.D., LL.M.



Dr. Karla Bellinger

Helping Homilies Flourish and Nourish

INSTITUTE FOR HOMILETICS GAINS GROUND

The Institute for Homiletics, a collaborative of the Catholic Diocese of Dallas, The Catholic Foundation and University of Dallas, has gathered momentum during the first year of its existence.

The Institute was recently showcased in an article by reporter Jeff Miller in *The Texas Catholic* and an op-ed column by BeLynn Hollers in *The Dallas Morning News*. Hollers, a University of Dallas graduate, is a member of the newspaper's editorial board.

The high-profile article and column discussed the importance of the Institute to enhance Catholic preaching and the role of founding executive director, Dr. Karla Bellinger.

The Institute's first cohort, or class, of priests and deacons from three Catholic Dioceses in the United States began this summer as the Institute for Homiletics advanced its mission to bring the people of God into an encounter with the living God through effective and memorable homilies.

"That encounter spurs personal conversion to Jesus Christ and a commitment to living a Holy Spirit-inspired life of vibrant discipleship," said Bellinger.

During the remainder of the year, the initial cohort will work in peer learning groups, receive one-on-one coaching and interact with lay (not ordained clergy) groups to evaluate their preaching. 🐟

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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:

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



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17th Annual Art On The Plaza
Dedication & Unveiling
October 19, 2022

16th Annual Professional
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November 17, 2022

Catholic Community Network
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