

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST



Lumen Christi



Dear friends in Christ,

As Catholics, we know that gifts we receive are entrusted to us for the sake of those who come after us. This familiar church teaching brings unique purpose to our Catholic Foundation.

Leading the board of directors for the only community foundation in northwest Pennsylvania guided by Catholic values is a role I take seriously with humility and faith. Working to serve and promote Catholic philanthropy is the heart of this ministry. With gratitude for all who are engaged in our mission, we celebrate our impact, highlighted in this 2025 report.

Challenges await our Catholic community, but so do significant opportunities for renewal. The Catholic Foundation is a tangible way for all of us, through the Holy Spirit, to bring the light of Christ and hope to our Catholic community today and tomorrow.

With faith in our future,



Kenneth Kane
Chair, Board of Directors



Prayers for Donors Offered During Jubilee Year of Hope Pilgrimage

“My husband, Mark, and I saw a Jubilee Year of Hope pilgrimage in October 2025 as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for us individually and as a couple. While we were very excited, we really had no idea how amazing the experience would be. For 10 very full days of spiritual growth and touring, we walked with open hearts and awe. As executive director of the Catholic Foundation, my personal and professional lives blend naturally. In this way, I was humbled to offer my personal prayer intentions in these holy places, along with my prayer for the mission of the Catholic Foundation and our many wonderful donors.”

Lisa R. Louis
Executive Director



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Read the
full story.

Diverse in Expertise, United in Faith

Board of Directors



Kenneth Kane
Chair
Senior Advisor,
Generations Forestry
Saint Callistus, Kane



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Vice Chair
Director, Enterprise
Safety & Health,
Erie Insurance Group
Saint Patrick, Erie



William J. Steger
Treasurer
Retired CPA
Saint George, Erie



Vincent Assetta
Secretary
President,
Straub Brewery
Sacred Heart, Saint Marys



Russell J. Adkins
Partner/Attorney,
Lucas & Adkins Law
Saint Bartholomew,
Sharpsville



Robert D. Crowley
Nonprofit Community
Leader
Saint Joseph, Warren



Thomas Hoffman, II
Attorney,
Knox Law
Saint Peter Cathedral, Erie



Raymond R. Learn, II
Corporate Counsel,
Horizon Farm Credit
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Vice President for
College Advancement,
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Funeral Home, Inc.
Holy Redeemer,
Warren



Marie Vereb
CFO/Treasurer,
Organ Supply
Industries, Inc.
Saint Patrick, Erie



Michael Vereb
Erie Market Leader,
The Reschini Group
Saint Patrick, Erie

Investment Committee

The following Board Members provide professional expertise and faithful oversight of Foundation investments:

- **Vincent Assetta**, Committee Chair/ Board Secretary
- **William J. Steger**, Board Treasurer
- **Michael Vereb**, Board Member



Robert C. Jazwinski
CPA/PFS, CFP
Partner, President/
Wealth Advisor
JFS Wealth Advisors



Joseph E. Kloecker
MBA, CPA
Retired Senior
Financial Advisor
HBKS Wealth Advisors

Foundation Staff

Lisa Louis, CFRE, Executive Director

Julia Cooney, Operations Director

Elizabeth Rathburn, Development Associate

Matthew Zinna, CPA, Financial Consultant
Partner, McGill Power Bell & Associates, LLP

The Catholic Foundation

of Northwest Pennsylvania:

- Is the only community foundation in northwest Pennsylvania guided by Catholic values
- Is an independent 501(c)(3) corporation
- Is governed by a board of lay Catholics representing the 13-county Diocese of Erie
- Is guided by expert oversight in partnership with The Concord Advisory Group to ensure Catholic values-based, institutional-quality investing
- Is the most reliable way to help a ministry that's important to you remain active and vibrant



Where Catholic Giving Grows

When you partner with the Catholic Foundation, you are joining others in supporting the organizations and ministries that have shaped our souls and strengthened our faith. This support will make a difference in the Church now and for future generations.

About Our Funds

- Simple to set up, our fund agreements provide confidence your funds will be used exactly as you intend.
- It is easy to contribute using a variety of gift options.
- Support a parish, cemetery, school, or nonprofit now and forever.
- Know your funds are professionally invested, aligned with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' guidelines for Catholic investing.
- Your fund may be established to memorialize or honor your name, family, or others special to you.



Our Types of Funds

Whether you want to give now or later, the Catholic Foundation offers a variety of options to suit your personal philanthropic goals. As a donor, you may contribute to any of our existing funds or establish one specific to your interests. Unrestricted gifts are also welcome and provide general support for the current needs of the Foundation to continue its work for the Church in northwest Pennsylvania.

Non-Endowed Fund

A non-endowed fund allows you to be responsive to today's needs with the full value of your fund available for grantmaking. You determine the beneficiary and the purpose of the fund as well as the timing and frequency of grants. When the full balance has been granted, the fund ceases to exist.

Endowed Fund

An endowment offers you a way to fund a cause you believe in, forever. Permanent gifts can bring you peace of mind, and our fund agreements provide assurance that the parishes, cemeteries, schools, and ministries you care deeply about will be funded on a regular and sustainable basis, both now and beyond your lifetime.



The Catholic Foundation Legacy Society recognizes devoted Catholics who have committed to providing for the future of our shared Catholic community with an estate gift or by establishing an endowment fund. These gifts from the heart will provide financial support to the Catholic ministries they love for generations.

Legacy Society / Page 19



Any individual or institution can **establish an endowment or non-endowed fund.**

Anyone can **donate to an existing fund at any time.** Gifts of cash, contributions from Donor Advised Funds, Qualified Charitable Distributions, and many non-cash giving options are welcome.

Meeting an *Important* Financial Need



Michael and Lisa Vavala Lewis

As President/Supervisor of Donald E. Lewis Funeral Home, carrying on a family tradition of providing families with compassionate and dignified funerals has been Mike Lewis's life's work. The Lewis family has been dedicated to faithfully serving their community in the oldest established funeral home in Warren, purchased by his father in 1972 and later by Mike and his wife, Lisa, in 1997.

Faith and prudent financial management are part of every day at work for Mike, a meaningful parallel to his current board service at the Catholic Foundation.

For Mike and Lisa, joining in the mission of the Catholic Foundation included their recent decision to establish the *Michael and Lisa Vavala Lewis Family Endowment for Saint Joseph Cemetery* through the Foundation. The endowment

will support the perpetual care and upkeep of Saint Joseph Cemetery in Warren.

"We both have loved ones buried in Saint Joseph Cemetery," Mike shared when asked why they established this fund. As funeral directors, their family has seen first-hand the hard work and dedication required to maintain a cemetery. With fewer traditional burials and some Catholic families not burying in the Catholic cemetery, the cemetery committee is faced with less income than needed to maintain such beautiful grounds.

"We know that they are in dire need of financial sustainability, and we also wanted to honor our loved ones with the Michael and Lisa Vavala Lewis Family Endowment," Mike shared. "We hope that other families decide to start an endowment for the cemetery as well."

"The Foundation is a strong fiduciary, carrying out the desires of those who establish an endowment for a specific purpose and ensuring donor intent far into the future." – Mike and Lisa Vavala Lewis

The Foundation's practice of investing with Catholic values is particularly attractive to Mike and Lisa. "People who invest with the Catholic Foundation are establishing a gift that will be a legacy for our future Catholic people," they said. "It is an invaluable gift those in the future will appreciate. If we believe in our faith and want it to continue, now is the time to choose to give and make a lasting example of who we are as Catholic individuals."

Mike and Lisa see the Foundation as a way to help "keep our churches and schools and Catholic charities strong in the future. Keeping our Catholic community in good financial order provides for the mission of our church." As a member of its governing board of directors Mike has a bird's-eye view of the Catholic Foundation's independence as a Catholic community foundation.



Mike and Lisa chose to establish an endowment to help ensure the continued care and maintenance of Saint Joseph Cemetery.

You, too, can choose to **establish an endowment or contribute to an existing one**, creating a lasting gift that extends beyond your lifetime.



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Read the full story.

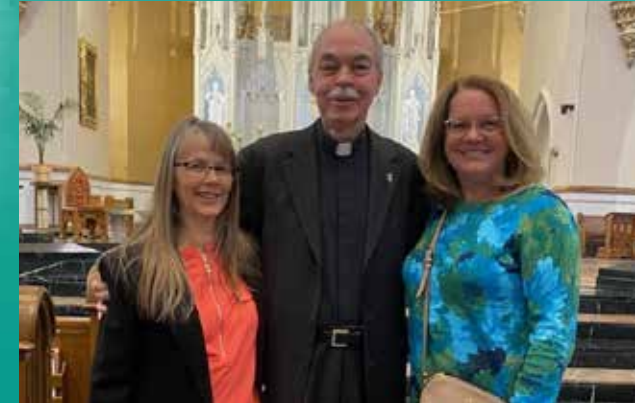
Giving Back & Providing Help for the Future

Father Tom Brown grew up in Erie at Saint Luke Parish, the oldest of 8 children. Ordained in 1978, he enjoyed various parish appointments over the years. With an affinity for the small-town outdoor life, his time at Saint Bibiana Parish in Galeton, Saint Thomas and Saint Elizabeth Parishes in Corry and Saint Raphael Parish in Eldred created fond memories and lasting relationships.

As he approaches his 75th birthday, Father Tom is reflecting on his life in priestly ministry. With both gratitude and hope for the future, through his estate plans he established *The Reverend Thomas E. Brown Endowment for Clergy Health and Welfare* as well as *The Reverend Thomas E. Brown Endowment for Missionary Priest Service*.

Father Tom openly shares his health challenges. A diagnosis of cancer 11 years ago involved significant treatment, that kept him away from ministry for a long time. “I was blessed to survive,” he said. Managing through very difficult side effects of treatment, he lived at St. Mary’s East for five months.

During that time, he kept asking with concern, “Who is paying for this?” Monsignor Robert Smith, Vicar General of the Diocese of Erie at the time, reassured Father Tom when visiting, “don’t worry about that.” Many years later, Father Tom still thinks about that. “I don’t know where the money came from, but the diocese took care of me,” he recalled. “That’s my motivation now,”



Laura, Father Tom, and Cheryl at Saint Peter Cathedral in Erie for the annual Chrism Mass

he continued. “I want to repay them with this gift to help make sure support like this will be available for others in the future.”

Even now, side effects of his head and neck cancer treatment and related medication are sometimes difficult to manage. Related hospital stays can keep him from his work and service as a pastor. These days, his sister, Cheryl, visits often from New Hampshire. She and Laura, the parish secretary, are Father Tom’s supporters and close confidants. Father Tom and Laura both plan to retire in 2027 when he turns 75. He imagines there may not be a priest to serve at Saint Raphael Parish at that time. Looking to the future of our Catholic community, Father Tom made plans to fund a second endowment to help with the expense of missionary priests serving in the Diocese of Erie to help fill the need.

Not long ago, Father Tom came to learn about the work and mission of the Catholic Foundation when individual donors from the Eldred area pooled their charitable gifts to establish multiple endowments in the Foundation to fund the perpetual care of Saint Raphael Parish Cemetery. It was a grassroots effort that Father Tom endorsed and celebrates. These funds will ensure there will always be funding for maintenance of the parish cemetery for generations to come. His experience learning about and working with the Catholic Foundation gave him confidence in its governance and sparked ideas for his own charitable giving plans.



Father Tom Brown chose to set up endowments to give charitably through his estate. You, too, can choose to **establish or give to an existing endowment through your estate** to give a gift that extends beyond your lifetime.



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Read the full story.

Creating a Welcoming Wardrobe

The original Saint Clare’s Clothing Closet at Saint Joseph/Bread of Life Community Parish in Erie was not in the best condition for those who came in seeking free clothing and household items. The parish turned to the Catholic Foundation for a grant to update the condition of the “closet.”

“Those seeking help should be given our finest efforts and served with dignity, a smile, and an open heart,” Jean Malthaner, Director of Ministries at Saint Joseph Parish, wrote in her grant application.



The Catholic Foundation awarded Saint Joseph Parish a grant supporting these upgrades. Shortly after renovations were completed, Saint Joseph pastor, Father Steve Schreiber, dedicated the new space at an event where parishioners could come and learn about the ministry.

“The volunteer staff have found the new space to be more welcoming to the public and roomier to accept and organize donations,” Jean shared. “Thank you for believing in the mission of Saint Clare’s Clothing Closet. Your generosity ensures that those who come to us in difficult moments are met with compassion and practical help.”



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Read the full story.

Our Collective Impact

The Catholic Foundation supports the mission of the Church by helping parishes, schools, and organizations build resources for their ministries, and by providing grants and annual distributions that meet the needs of Catholic communities in northwest Pennsylvania. In 2025, the Catholic Foundation distributed over \$692,000 to fund programs and projects throughout the Diocese of Erie.

Granting Endowments

In 2025, the Foundation distributed over \$201,000 to 33 nonprofit organizations through its competitive grants program. The diverse initiatives supported everything from providing emergency support for families in crisis to funding important youth and adult faith formation programs throughout the diocese, reflecting the Foundation’s commitment to respond to the ever-changing needs of our Catholic community.



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Meet our grantees.

Grants and Distributions by Mission Area

See page 13 for list of beneficiaries.

	Scholarship	\$164,219
	Ministry & Outreach	\$154,925
	Parish Life	\$122,591
	Clergy & Religious	\$82,249
	Education	\$63,313
	Faith Formation	\$56,250
	Capital Improvements	\$43,187
	Cemetery	\$6,203

Extraordinary Grant for Clergy

The Catholic Foundation Board of Directors became aware of a need for funding designated for the Diocese of Erie Emmaus Convocation, an annual gathering of priests and deacons that provides our clergy a time for rest, reflection, and renewal of their commitment to Christ and to one another.

Because of the generosity and vision of donors who have established unrestricted endowments in the Foundation, the board of directors was able to provide an extraordinary grant for the 2025 Emmaus Convocation to assist with the hotel arrangements for our diocesan clergy during this special gathering.



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Read the full story.



Youth Service Trip

Encourages *Inter-Parish Camaraderie*

Corey Hansen, director of faith formation for Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish in North East, turned to the Catholic Foundation for support in sending 15 parish youth to Catholic Heart Work Camp in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He saw this as a great opportunity to take students out of their comfort zone, meet new people, grow in their faith, and help others.

Saint Gregory Parish was awarded a grant from the Foundation to support student attendance at Catholic Heart Work Camp. The group of over 50 students attending represented several parishes around the Diocese of Erie. The experience allowed the youth to build a small community of their own across parishes.

“One of the participants from our parish stated that this experience showed how living our faith and helping others had a greater impact than he expected,” Corey shared in his grant report. “Experiences like these are vital for the growth of our young people in their faith, relationship with God, and relationships with



Catholic Heart Work Camp 2025

each other. I watched this group from many different parishes in our diocese go from strangers to great friends over the course of the week together. Your generosity fuels this kind of growth and will pay dividends of a stronger diocese and Church as the youth stay involved and active in their faith. Thank you!”



Read the full story.

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Gannon University, Erie



Holy Spirit Parish, DuBois



Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mercer

2025 Endowment and Grant Beneficiaries

Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City
Benedictine Sisters of Erie
Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie
Camp Notre Dame, Fairview
Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services, Inc.
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, Inc.
Diocese of Erie
Diocese of Erie Catholic Schools Office
Diocese of Erie Chancery
Diocese of Erie Clergy Personnel Office
Diocese of Erie Office for Women Religious
Diocese of Erie Office of Communications
Diocese of Erie Office of Faith Formation
DuBois Central Catholic School, DuBois
Elk County Catholic School System, St. Marys
Erie Catholic School System, Erie
Erie Diocesan Cursillo Movement
Gannon University, Erie
Good Samaritan Center, Clearfield
Good Shepherd Parish, West Middlesex
Holy Cross Parish, Fairview
Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren
Holy Spirit Parish, DuBois
Immaculate Conception Parish School, Clarion
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mercerr

L'Arche Erie, Inc.
Maria House Project, Erie
Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie
Nazareth In The Woods Inc., DuBois
Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage
Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harborcreek
Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie
Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Edinboro
Prince of Peace Center, Farrell
Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Erie
Saint Basil the Great Parish, Coalport
Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Bradford
Saint Boniface Parish, Erie
Saint Boniface Parish, Kersey
Saint Callistus Parish, Kane
Saint Elizabeth Center, Oil City
Saint Francis Catholic School, Clearfield
Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield
Saint Francis Xavier Parish, McKean
Saint George Parish, Erie
Saint Gregory Parish School, North East
Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish, North East
Saint Joseph Bread of Life Parish, Erie
Saint Joseph Catholic School, Warren
Saint Joseph Parish, Lucinda

Saint Joseph Parish, Oil City
Saint Joseph Parish, Sharon
Saint Joseph Parish, Warren
Saint Joseph School, Lucinda
Saint Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie
Saint Lawrence the Martyr Parish, Albion
Saint Mark Parish, Emporium
Saint Martin Center, Erie
Saint Mary Parish, St. Marys
Saint Patrick Parish, Erie
Saint Patrick Parish, Franklin
Saint Peter Cathedral Parish, Erie
Saint Raphael Parish, Eldred
Saint Stephen of Hungary Parish, Erie
Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Corry
Saints Cosmas & Damian School, Punxsutawney
Seton Catholic School, Meadville
Shenango Valley Catholic School System, Hermitage
Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania
St. Patrick's Haven, Erie
The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, Meadville
Venango Region Catholic School, Oil City
Villa Maria Cathedral Preparatory Catholic School System, Erie

Donor Funds

- Advance the Mission Endowment for the Catholic Foundation
- Anonymous Endowment for Saint Francis Xavier Parish
- Anonymous Scholarship Endowment for Kennedy Catholic High School
- Bill and Joy Steger Family Endowment
- Bishop Donald W. Trautman ‘Feed My Sheep’ Endowment
- Bishop Lawrence T. Persico Endowment for Pastoral Ministry
- **Bishop Michael J. Murphy Residence for Retired Priests Endowment**
- Brookville Area Catholic Scholarship Endowment
- Brookville YMCA Endowment
- Burton-Horstman Family Endowment in Memory of G. David Burton
- Catholic Social Ministry Endowment
- **Cauley Fathers and Sisters Endowment**
- Cenedella Family Endowment
- Center for Spiritual Healing Endowment
- Clergy Health & Welfare Endowment
- Crowley Family Endowment for Saint Raphael Cemetery
- Dammeyer Family Endowment
- David J. Murphy Endowment
- Dawn and Dan Schaaf Family Endowment
- **Deacon Joseph and Elizabeth Cicero Endowment**
- Deacon Martin P. Eisert Scholarship Endowment for Cathedral Preparatory School
- Dean and Lisa Huya Family Endowment
- Dennis G. Deiner Charitable Endowment
- Education Endowment
- Erie Catholic School System Endowment for Teachers
- Faith Formation Endowment
- Farrell Christopher Home Corporation Endowment
- **God’s Love For All Fund**
- Gregory and Sylvia Bosner Family Endowment
- Helen Potosnak Memorial Endowment
- Immaculate Conception Parish Capital Improvement Endowment
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Education Endowment
- Irish Settlement Endowment
- **Jack and Carla Bell Family Endowment**
- James “J.E.” O’Mara Memorial Endowment
- James E. and Bonnie A. Sullivan Endowment
- John and Barbara Jacquiel Endowment for Our Lady of Mercy Church
- John and Cathryn Zawacki Charitable Endowment
- John E. and Rose M. DeMarco Endowment for Catholic Charities
- John E. and Rose M. DeMarco Endowment for the Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania
- Kathryn Eisenman Eisert Endowment
- Kevin Paul Sullivan Endowment
- L’Arche Endowment in Memory of Donna Faye Carr & Sr. Barbara Ann Karsznia, OSB
- Loyola Retreat House Endowment
- Malue Family Endowment for Our Lady of Peace Parish
- Mary Fabrizio McCarthy Education Endowment
- McGovern Family Endowment
- **Michael and Lisa Vavala Lewis Family Endowment for Saint Joseph Cemetery**
- Michael C. McCloskey Memorial Endowment
- Monsignor Edward J. Zeitler Endowment
- Monsignor Robert Malene Endowment
- Monsignor Salvatore Mitchell Education Endowment
- Mosco Family Endowment
- **Raymond L. and Joan L. Fels Endowment for Erie Catholic School System**
- **Raymond L. and Joan L. Fels Fund for Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network**
- **Raymond L. and Joan L. Fels Fund for St. Patrick’s Haven**
- Reverend J. Thomas Dugan Memorial Endowment
- Reverend Leo J. Gallina Endowment for Saint Bernard Church
- Reverend Leo J. Gallina Endowment for Saint Boniface Church
- Reverend Monsignor Richard R. Siefer Endowment
- Reverend Thomas Fialkowski Endowment for Cathedral Preparatory School and Mother Teresa Academy
- **Reverend Thomas M. Fialkowski Endowment for the Bishop Michael J. Murphy Residence for Retired Priests**

- **Richard J. Buseck and Sally M. Buseck Fund**
- Richard McCormick Family Endowment
- Rita M. Bevevino Endowment for Saint Joseph School
- Robert and Pauline Osmer Endowment
- Robert M. Gallivan Charitable Endowment
- **Ronald J. and Frances M. Petruzzi Endowment for Saint Raphael Cemetery**
- Sacred Heart Parish Beautification Endowment
- Saint George Parish Second Century Endowment
- **Saint John Cemetery and Saint Jacqueline Cemetery Endowment**
- Saint Philip Church, Crossingville Endowment
- Saint Thomas More Club “Fr. Pete” Endowment
- Sam and Joanne Malene Endowment
- Sister Denise Mosier Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- **Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania Endowment**
- Social Justice Endowment
- **Spehar-Frame Family Endowment**
- St. Patrick’s Haven Shelter for Homeless Men Endowment
- Stark Family Endowment
- The Hamilton Endowment
- The Reverend Joseph C. Gregorek Endowment for Catholic Charities
- The Reverend Joseph C. Gregorek Endowment for Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania
- The Reverend Monsignor David A. Rubino Endowment for the Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania
- The Reverend Rocco A. Tito Endowment in Memory of Joseph and Vittoria Tito
- **The Reverend Thomas E. Brown Endowment for Clergy Health and Welfare**
- **The Reverend Thomas E. Brown Endowment for Missionary Priest Service**
- Thomas J. and Mary H. Loftus Charitable Endowment
- Toohey Family Endowment
- **Vocations Endowment**
- Yvonne M. Galak and Dorothy J. Chiodo Endowment

Tithing Into the Future

With their faith at the center of their personal and family lives, Dr. Jeff and Katy McGovern found establishing an endowment through the Catholic Foundation a natural extension of their active participation in the Catholic community. “We have always taught our children about the necessity and value of tithing,” Jeff explains. “This Catholic legacy is a concrete expression of that teaching.”



Katy and Jeff established *The McGovern Family Endowment* to provide general support for retired clergy and retired religious in the Diocese of Erie. They describe this charitable giving as their “humble support for the priests and consecrated of our diocese who have given so generously.” The McGoverns’ perspective on legacy giving is second nature to them when they say, “There are so many others who have come before us. We only stand on their shoulders.” The endowment they established is a gift for today and for the future, always designated to support the men and women religious in northwest Pennsylvania. Through this endowment, Jeff and Katy’s tithing will extend not only beyond their lifetimes, but also those of their daughters.



Read the full story.
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Investing in the Future Through Pastoral Ministry

In 2017, Bishop Lawrence Persico marked the occasion of his fifth anniversary of his ordination as bishop of the Diocese of Erie with a gift for the future of the Church: *The Bishop Lawrence T. Persico Endowment for Pastoral Ministry*.

“My hope is that by establishing this source of funding, the Foundation will always have resources for people who want to build their skills and knowledge in pastoral ministry,” he explained. One recent grant from the endowment supports studies in canon law for the Assistant Chancellor of the diocese, Maria Caulfield.

Through this endowment, his gratitude has become a lasting gift — one that will strengthen pastoral ministry for generations to come.



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Read the full story.

Ensuring the Legacy of Mount Calvary Parish

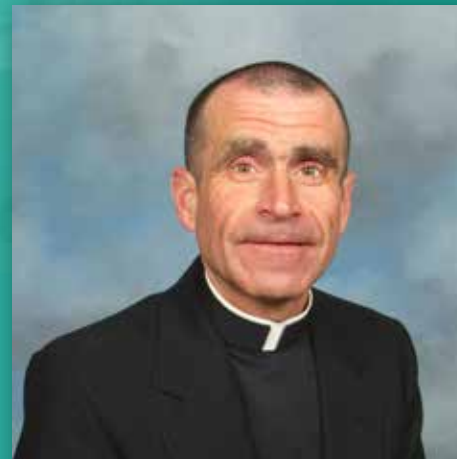


Read the full story.
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When Father James McCormick, pastor of Saint James Parish in Erie, guided the merging of the parish communities entrusted to his care, he recognized both the weight of significant change and the opportunity for renewal. The eventual decision to sell Mount Calvary Church prompted a deeper reflection. Father McCormick and the parish leadership were committed to honoring the spirit and legacy of a parish community that had flourished for nearly 75 years.

Confident in the Catholic Foundation's strong governance and faithful stewardship, Father McCormick and the parishioners moved forward with a clear plan. The entire proceeds from the sale of Mount Calvary Church, school, and rectory were placed into a newly established, non-endowed fund designed to carry its legacy

into the future. "*The Mount Calvary Legacy Fund* will support outreach, maintenance, faith formation, and other charitable initiatives, ensuring that the love and legacy of Mount Calvary parishioners endure," Father McCormick explained. He understands that while buildings may change, the mission of the Church endures.



Father James McCormick

"I appreciate your help in making our dream a reality."
– Father James McCormick

Agency Funds

Catholic schools, parishes, and organizations establish agency funds with the Foundation to ensure the continuation and growth of their mission for the future.

Parish, School, and Cemetery Funds

- Blessed Sacrament Parish Charitable Endowment
- Calvary Cemetery Endowment (Saint Francis of Assisi, Clearfield)
- **Christ the King Cemeteries Endowment**
- **Christ the King Parish Endowment**
- Christo Servire Endowment (Shenango Valley Catholic School System, Hermitage)
- Dr. Howard R. Ferguson, Jr. Scholarship Endowment (Saint Joseph, Warren)
- Eisert Family Scholarship Endowment (Erie Catholic School System)
- Erie Catholic School System Endowment
- Evergreen Endowment (Saint Boniface, Kersey)
- Excellence Scholarship Endowment (Saint Boniface, Kersey)
- Gannon University Endowment
- Holy Cross Parish Endowment
- Holy Redeemer Parish Endowment
- Holy Trinity Cemetery Endowment (Saint Basil the Great, Coalport)
- **Immaculate Conception Cemetery Endowment (Christ the King, Houtzdale)**
- Lawrence and Janet Bindseil Scholarship Endowment (Erie Catholic School System)
- Mercyhurst Preparatory School Endowment
- **Mount Calvary Legacy Fund (Saint James, Erie)**
- Our Lady of Peace Parish Endowment
- Our Lady of the Lake Parish Endowment
- Reverend Monsignor Richard J. Stack Endowment for Blessed Sacrament Parish
- Sacred Heart Church Education Endowment
- Saint Anthony-Saint Bernadette Endowment (Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro)
- Saint Basil the Great Parish Cemetery Endowment
- Saint Basil the Great Parish Endowment
- Saint Brigid Church Education Endowment (The Epiphany of the Lord, Meadville)
- Saint Callistus Church Cemetery Endowment
- Saint Callistus Church Endowment
- Saint Callistus Church Organ Endowment
- Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Education Endowment for Seton Catholic School
- **Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Endowment**
- Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Endowment

- Saint Francis of Assisi School Scholarship Endowment
- Saint Francis Xavier Church Endowment
- Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish Endowment
- Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus School Endowment
- **Saint Joseph Cemetery Endowment (Christ the King, Houtzdale)**
- Saint Jude Cares Endowment
- Saint Jude the Apostle Parish Endowment
- Saint Mark Church Endowment
- Saint Michael the Archangel Church Endowment (Holy Spirit, DuBois)
- Saint Patrick Church, Erie Endowment
- Saint Patrick Parish, Franklin Endowment
- Saint Peter Cathedral Education Endowment
- Saint Peter Cathedral Capital Endowment
- Saint Peter Cathedral Operating Expense Endowment
- Saint Raphael Parish Cemetery Endowment
- Saint Thomas Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- Saint Thomas Ministry Education Grant Endowment
- Saint Venantius Church Endowment (Saint Joseph, Oil City)
- Venango Catholic High School Endowment
- Venango Region Catholic School Endowment

Catholic Organization Funds

- Captain Clare Baldauf Endowment for Catholic Charities Emerging Needs
- Catholic Charities Legacy Endowment
- Erie Diocesan Cursillo Movement Endowment
- James L. and Mary Fabrizio McCarthy Endowment for Saint Patrick Church
- Joe Haas and Joe McCallion Building and Grounds Endowment (Camp Notre Dame)
- Maria House Project Monsignor James Peterson Endowment
- Monsignor Lawrence T. Speice Memorial Scholarship Endowment (Camp Notre Dame)
- Nazareth In the Woods Endowment
- Paul F. Speice Program Endowment (Camp Notre Dame)
- Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie Capital Endowment
- Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie Child Protection Services Endowment
- Saint Martin Center Endowment
- Sister Benita Repasky Endowment (Prince of Peace Center)
- Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network Endowment

Funds noted in bold were established in 2025 or 2026 (as of 3/31/2026).

Planning for Today and Tomorrow

Our mission is to strengthen yours. We help Catholic organizations — including parishes, schools, cemeteries, and social service ministries — plan, invest, and grow their financial resources while remaining rooted in Catholic values.

Endowed Funds

- Permanent fund that grows through strategic investing and donor contributions
- Supports an organization's mission in perpetuity
- Annual distribution provides stable income

Non-Endowed Funds

- Intermediate-term fund that grows through strategic investing and donor contributions
- Full balance of the fund is accessible to the organization at any time
- Fund is designed for organizations anticipating future operational or project needs

All funds are professionally managed in accordance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' socially responsible investment guidelines.

Contact us to learn how the Catholic Foundation can help strengthen your organization's financial future.

Lighting a Path for the Future

“The light of the risen Christ is a flame entrusted to each believer.”
– Pope Leo XIV

As we move through life, we reflect on the impact of our actions, beliefs, and contributions on others. This impact is your legacy — what you leave for future generations, and how you connect past and future.

The Catholic Foundation seeks to foster a vibrant and enduring community of faith and service by empowering individuals, parishes, and organizations through prudent stewardship of resources. We are dedicated to enriching the spiritual, educational, and social needs of our community, guided by Catholic values and traditions. By supporting initiatives that promote compassion, justice, and spiritual growth, we aim to build a legacy of faith that impacts current and future generations. Through collaboration

and generosity, we strive to transform lives and communities across northwest Pennsylvania, inspired by the teachings of Christ and the love of God.

Working with the Catholic Foundation allows you to create impact through planned and charitable giving that is meaningful and aligns with your Catholic values.

When you give through the Foundation, you gain the advantages of our staff and independent board expertise, faith-based priorities, investments that align fully with USCCB guidelines, and peace of mind knowing that we will always honor your gift intentions.

As your philanthropic partners, the Catholic Foundation is here to support your charitable giving and help you achieve meaningful, lasting charitable impact.



“I’ve been discerning my retirement over the past couple of years. With this comes Estate Planning. I am hoping that my decision to leave a legacy gift will make a greater impact than I could have ever accomplished alone during my lifetime. For this reason, rather than create a new endowment for something that is dear to my heart, I have decided to leave an unrestricted gift.”
– Diane Horneman

Together, we can build a future where the light of Christ’s love shines brightly for generations.



Longtime Catholic Foundation Legacy Society member Norman H. Stark passed away recently. We are grateful to Norm and his family for inviting gifts in his memory to the Stark Family Endowment. Norm established this endowment in 2013. Since that time, annual grants have supported clergy health and welfare needs as well as the needs of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Benedictine Sisters. Through Norm’s generosity, annual grants will continue to support these causes that were close to his heart in perpetuity. May God grant Norm eternal rest.

Legacy Society

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 **Denotes new members**

† **May God grant eternal rest to the members who have been called home to the Lord.**

As of 3/31/2026

Become a member of the Legacy Society and ensure **your legacy is faithfully stewarded for generations.**

The Catholic Foundation Legacy Society recognizes devoted Catholics who have committed to providing for the future of our shared Catholic community with an estate gift or by establishing an endowment fund. These gifts from the heart will provide financial support to the Catholic ministries they love for generations.

18 / 2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

MyCatholicFoundation.org / 19

Catholic Values Investing

The Catholic Foundation Board of Directors and its Investment Committee partner with The Concord Advisory Group Ltd. to steward growth and management of the assets entrusted to the Foundation by and for the community. Our investments are screened to ensure compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) investment guidelines. This is a unique benefit to investing with the Catholic Foundation and ensures that your funds will never be invested in organizations or causes that operate counter to our shared mission.

“The Foundation, within what was a fairly volatile time period, has been able to achieve significant financial results for its donors while diligently managing risk. With 2025 returns of 15.43% for the Long-Term Portfolio, the Foundation not only was able to comfortably exceed its investment objectives, but also placed in the top quintile (20%) of a large peer group of other endowments, foundations, and other non-profits. These exceptional results are a continuation of the long-term value delivered to Catholic entities and donors, through a process of careful financial stewardship of Foundation investment assets. In addition, the Foundation has continued to sharpen its alignment with Catholic values, both by excluding companies whose businesses operate in conflict with USCCB guidelines, but also seeking out organizations with positive stewardship and corporate initiatives. This important initiative is rigorously monitored by the Foundation Investment Committee, and the portfolios continue to hold no securities in conflict with Catholic guidelines.” – The Concord Advisory Group, Ltd.

Financial Summary

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 389,159	\$ 314,404
Investments - Endowed & Non-Endowed Funds	30,110,063	26,602,183
Other Assets	21,476	21,023
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 30,520,698	\$ 26,937,610
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Funds Held for Others	\$ 11,668,521	\$ 10,224,512
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	23,806	42,494
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,692,327	10,267,006
NET ASSETS	18,828,371	16,670,604
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 30,520,698	\$ 26,937,610

Audited financial statements are available at MyCatholicFoundation.org.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ guidelines group their policies on Catholic Compliant Investing into five key categories, which the Catholic Foundation incorporates into its investment decisions:

- Protecting Human Life
- Promoting Human Dignity
- Enhancing the Common Good
- Pursuing Economic Justice
- Saving Our Global Common Home



Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Erie



Elk County Catholic School System, Saint Marys

Celebrating Foundation Grants



Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie



Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Corry



As a service to the Catholic community in northwest Pennsylvania, #iGiveCatholic is facilitated for the ministries of the Diocese of Erie by the Catholic Foundation. More than \$2.6 million has been raised in seven years through this annual giving day. These otherwise unrealized funds support Catholic causes.

In 2025, \$550,208 was raised by 1,701 donors benefiting 94 Catholic ministries. Thank you to all who donated!

“A special thank you for the work of #iGiveCatholic. It gives us a chance to tell our story.”

– Sister Marian & Sister Tina, Catholic Rural Ministry of Oil City, Deanery

We thank our 2025 cash prize pool sponsors:



Save the Date: December 1, 2026

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Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you discover an error or omission, please accept our apologies and contact us at (814) 824-1237.

As of 3/31/2026

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Your generosity makes this work possible



Pray that our Catholic Foundation continues to bless our communities.



Support a parish or ministry you love through an existing fund.



Honor a loved one with a tribute gift.



Establish a legacy fund for the Catholic ministries you cherish.



Give through your DAF or IRA.



Talk with your financial advisor about the Foundation.

For more information on donating or starting a new named fund, call Lisa Louis at 814-824-1237.



Explore our existing funds.

SCAN HERE



Diocese of Erie Office of Communication, Erie



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