



Share our

LEGACY

Gift Planning News and Ideas for Friends of the Archdiocese of Washington

Making a Difference Together

For more than 75 years, the Archdiocese of Washington has spread the gospel from generation to generation. The Archdiocese brings Christ's love to our diverse Catholic community—Mass is celebrated in more than 20 languages in the District of Columbia and 5 surrounding counties.

Because of the support provided by so many people like you, the work of the Church of Washington is accomplished in meaningful ways each day. Whether it's outreach provided by your parish, formation of priest through our St. John Paul II Seminary, the poor and those in need served by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington; the important work of education our

62 Archdiocesan Catholic schools provide; or the needs of vulnerable women and children served by St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Family; with your thoughtful philanthropy you not only assure these important arms of outreach are extended, but help us to make Christ present in tangible ways to our brothers and sisters.

Compassionate, thoughtful gift planning is all about helping you maximize the potential of your resources as you help others through Jesus Christ. In this issue of *Share Our Legacy*, we hope you will discover how you can provide financial security for yourself and your loved ones while giving to support the Archdiocese of Washington.



“Through our Catholic educational, social service and health care programs, the goodness of God, the power of the Holy Spirit and the presence of Christ is actually visible and tangible in our community.”

—Cardinal Donald Wuerl

Inside: • Smart Giving With Securities • An Unexpected Source for Giving



Smart Giving With Securities

Many people find investing in stocks, bonds and other securities over time can be an essential part of building their financial future.

You may be surprised to learn such assets can also be a wise choice when making charitable gifts this year-end. If you have owned securities for more than one year, they may be an excellent source for providing charitable support and can bring about welcome tax benefits.

Here are some commonly asked questions about giving securities.

Q. What are the advantages of using securities to fund my gift?

A. Giving noncash assets can result in especially favorable tax treatment. If you have owned securities for more than one year that have appreciated in value, you may owe a substantial capital gains tax if you sell them. If you use these assets to fund a charitable gift, you will bypass capital gains tax while enjoying a federal income tax deduction for the full value of the securities. These savings may allow you to make larger gifts than you may have thought possible.

Q. Which security should I give?

A. For maximum tax benefits, it is usually best to give securities that have increased in value the most since you have owned them. Or, you may wish to

give a particular security as a means of balancing or simplifying your portfolio.

Q. What if the securities have dropped in value?

A. It is usually best to sell them and then make a gift of the cash proceeds. You may then be able to claim tax benefits for both the capital loss and the charitable gift.

Q. How do I make a gift of securities?

A. It depends on whether the securities are held in a brokerage account or you have personal possession of them. For tax purposes, the gift is complete at the time of the actual transfer. Ask us or your financial advisor about the best way to complete your gift. It's a good idea to allow sufficient time for the completion of gifts of securities, particularly at year-end.

Learn more

By giving securities, you can maximize the size of your charitable gifts, conserve cash for other purposes and enjoy multiple tax benefits. You may even decide to use securities to fund a gift that will provide you with income for life.

We will be happy to assist you and your advisors with additional information at no obligation. Contact Charlie Thomas, director of planned giving, at (301) 853-4573 or email thomasc@adw.org or visit our website adw.givingplan.net.

An Unexpected Source for Giving

Using retirement funds for making charitable gifts is generally not among most people's plans at the outset. However, retirement plan assets can be a wise source to make your gifts, both now and in the future.

Give now

Make Tax-Free Gifts to the Archdiocese of Washington from Your IRA. If you are aged 70½ or older, you can give directly from a traditional or Roth IRA completely free of federal income tax (up to \$100,000 per person per year).

Giving directly from your IRA won't increase your adjusted gross income and possibly subject your Social Security income to a higher level of taxation. Additionally, your charitable IRA gift may count toward your required minimum distribution.

Give later

Make the Archdiocese of Washington the Beneficiary of a Retirement Plan. When you leave the balance of an IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) to your heirs, they must carefully manage the account to avoid losing its tax-deferred status and potentially triggering large income taxes and possible penalties.

You can simplify matters for your loved ones by directing all or a portion of what remains in your retirement accounts to charities and leaving other more tax-favored assets to your heirs. Designating a charitable beneficiary of a retirement account does not require you to change your will.

Here for you

For more information about making a gift using retirement plan assets, simply return the enclosed card or contact Charlie Thomas at (301) 853-4573 or thomasc@adw.org.



Let's secure the future of this young Catholic.

The Charitable IRA Highlights

- Applies to qualifying transfers up to \$100,000 from a traditional or Roth IRA.
- Couples with separate IRAs could "double up" and make total transfers up to \$200,000.
- Gifts from IRAs can be used to fulfill pre-existing pledges.

Contact us or your plan administrator for more information.

Year-End Planning Checklist

- ❑ Complete all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on your 2016 return.
- ❑ Keep all receipts, bank statements, payroll deduction records and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.
- ❑ Consider using appreciated securities to make gifts. This type of gift can yield greater tax benefits than a gift of cash.
- ❑ If you are age 70½ or older, check with your advisors about making tax-free charitable gifts directly from a qualifying IRA.
- ❑ If donating property valued at over \$5,000, you must complete form 8283 and obtain a qualified appraisal for the property donated.

Please check with us or your advisors if you need assistance.

Leave a Legacy

Your Church has been there for you throughout your lifetime: You can be there for your Church's future. The LEGACY SOCIETY recognizes the generosity of parishioners and friends of the Archdiocese of Washington who provide for the Archdiocese through deferred gifts, such as gifts through your will or trust.

Leaving a gift in your will to the Church, your parish or school allows you to create your legacy to an institution that has meant so much to you and many others. Your thoughtful philanthropy allows the Archdiocese to continue to fulfill its vital mission. In doing so, the lives of many are lifted up. A gift in your will or other estate plans permit you to make a gift without any loss of comfort or financial security during your lifetime.

We would love to WELCOME you to the LEGACY SOCIETY.

To request more information from the Planned Giving office, please call Charlie Thomas at (301) 853-4573 or email him at thomasc@adw.org. Also, visit our website at adw.givingplan.net.



More Information

Charlie Thomas
Director of Planned Giving
Archdiocese of Washington
P.O. Box 29260
Washington, D.C. 20017
(301) 853-4573
Email: thomasc@adw.org

