



*Share our*

# LEGACY

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

## “I Feel Refreshed in My Faith”

I am honored to participate in the Archdiocese of Washington Legacy Society because I want to ensure that the blessings, ministry and outreach of Saint Matthew’s Cathedral I have been privileged to receive are there for those who will follow. Like many other life blessings we receive, I believe we are stewards of our Church and we have the responsibility to care for, sustain and enrich it so it will continue to be a vital and integral part of not only the Church community but the entire community it serves.

In 2005, I became a parishioner of Saint Matthews Cathedral after a career as an officer in the United States Air Force. As I put down roots in Washington, D.C., I also was looking to put down roots in a church community. From the first mass I attended at Saint Matthews, I felt at home. Walking home from that first mass in 2005, I was reminded of a quote from Robert Frost, who wrote, “Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in.” Thanks to the warm greeting of the Rector, Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson, V.F., and the entire Church community, Saint Matthews had, indeed,



Kenneth Goss

taken me in. Every time I leave the Church, I feel refreshed in my faith and challenged to live my life according to Christ’s and the Church’s teachings. I am truly blessed to be a part of such a vital ministry and community.

For those who are not familiar with Saint Matthews, we are an inner-city Church that serves our parishioners and the much larger local community as well. The Church is a haven to those

who come to Washington as government leaders, embassy officials and tourists. The Church is not an island—its ministry extends far beyond the Church itself to serve the many spiritual and material needs of the local community. I hope you will take the opportunity to visit Saint Matthews Cathedral when you are in Washington, D.C.

Please consider joining me in leaving a bequest in your will to your Church, the Archdiocese or one of our outstanding schools or programs that brings faith to reality every day in the Archdiocese of Washington. I promise—you will be blessed multi-fold for doing so. The Archdiocese Office of Planned Giving is always ready to help you with the charitable aspects of your plans. Please give them a call.

**Inside:** • Make Sure Your Plans Still “Fit” • Tax-free Giving Through IRAs



## Make Sure Your Plans Still “Fit”

**D**o you review your will and other estate plans on a regular basis? It’s a good idea.

There are many events in life that can call for a change in your plans, such as:

**A change in marital status.** If you are recently married or widowed, revisions to your plans may be necessary.

**The birth of children or grandchildren.** You will no doubt want your plans to include additions to your family. You can also name guardians for minor children or other dependents.

**A move to another state.** State laws governing wills and trusts vary. If your plans were drafted under the laws of another state, it may be wise to have them reviewed to be sure you make use of all the benefits available under the laws of the state where you now live.

**If someone cannot serve.** If your plans were made some time ago, the person you named to settle your affairs may no longer be able to serve. If an alternate is not named, a court could appoint someone you or your family may not know.

**Changes in assets.** Your estate plans should change along with your economic circumstances.

**Changes in tax laws.** State and federal tax laws change from time to time and may make it necessary to revise your plans.

**A desire to make charitable gifts.** Many choose to use their estate plans to make “gifts of a lifetime.” After taking care of family and friends, they choose to remember the charitable organizations, like the Archdiocese of Washington, that they have faithfully supported in life.

Consult your advisors if you believe changes are in order. We will be happy to provide more information about ways you can include the Archdiocese in your plans.

Visit our planned giving website  
to learn more:

[adw.givingplan.net](http://adw.givingplan.net)

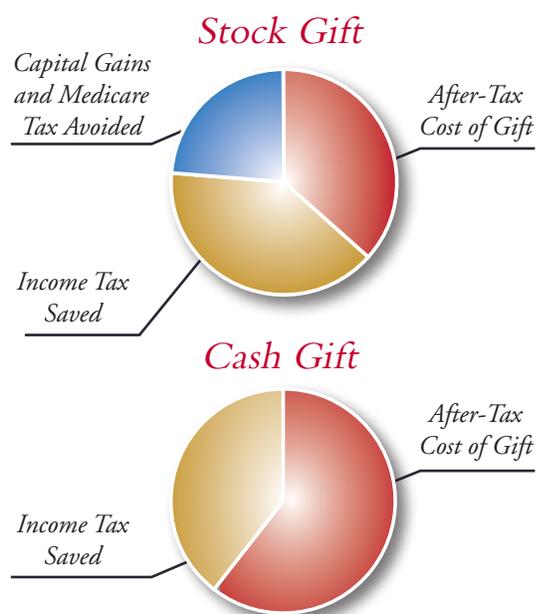
## Extra Savings with Non-Cash Gifts

Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds or mutual funds) and certain other property are generally deductible at their full value if they have been owned for longer than a year. These gifts also result in bypassing capital gains tax that would be due on a sale.

The cost of such gifts can be even less than a comparable gift of cash. Gifts of appreciated assets can be used to offset tax on up to 30 percent of adjusted gross income.

The chart below compares the maximum federal tax savings from giving cash versus appreciated assets.

### Tax Savings Compared



Your savings depends upon your tax rates and other factors

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### Giving securities can be simple

Check with us or your advisors for more information about tax-favored gifts of securities and other assets. In most cases, a gift of securities is very easy to complete. Simply instruct your financial advisor to transfer the stock to our account.

For more information about making a gift of stock, please contact Charlie Thomas, director of planned giving, at (301) 853-4573 or email [thomasc@adw.org](mailto:thomasc@adw.org).



## Tax-Free Giving Through IRAs

For those who are age 70½ and older there is a special provision that allows you to make charitable gifts directly from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) without having to pay taxes that would otherwise be due.

Those with traditional or Roth IRAs can make gifts to qualified charities, such as the Archdiocese of Washington, using funds that might otherwise be taxed when withdrawn. Donors may choose to make charitable gifts directly from an IRA up to a total of \$100,000 per year.

**Example:** James, age 72, lives comfortably on his pension, savings and Social Security. When he takes his required IRA withdrawals, he is taxed on those funds. His withdrawal also causes more of his Social Security income to be taxed.

By making his charitable gifts directly from his IRA, James does not have to report that amount as income, he pays no taxes on those funds and he does not trigger an additional tax on his Social Security benefits.

Contact your plan administrator for more information about IRA gifts. Or visit [adw.givingplan.net](http://adw.givingplan.net) for more about tax-effective ways to give from your IRA.

# You Are Invited to Become a Member of the Legacy Society

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.

We would love to welcome you as a member of the LEGACY SOCIETY. As a member, you will be included as one of the generous supporters of the Archdiocese in special publications (or you may choose to be an anonymous member), and periodically you will be invited to special Archdiocesan functions.

One such function, the inaugural LEGACY SOCIETY luncheon, was just held on March 18 at Saint Matthews. I had a wonderful time getting to know current members of the LEGACY SOCIETY and sharing with them the impact that their wonderful gifts will have on our parishes, schools and community.

If you are considering making a gift to the Archdiocese of Washington in your will or other plans, I would be happy to talk with you about ways you can fulfill your charitable goals for the Church. You can reach me at (301) 853-4573 or email me at [thomasc@adw.org](mailto:thomasc@adw.org).

Sincerely yours,  
Charlie Thomas  
Director of Planned Giving

Monsignor Jameson, Charlie Thomas and Legacy Society members enjoying the inaugural appreciation luncheon.



## More Information

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