

SCHOLARSHIP SEASON BLOOMS

The Catholic Community Foundation scholarship season has officially begun! The scholarship committee, led by Cathy Bergmann and a team of volunteer evaluators - including two past recipients - has selected the grant recipients for the 2025-26 school year.

This year, \$479,000 will be awarded to 40 Catholic school students to help nurture the next generation of faith-driven leaders and ensure the vitality of Catholic education for years to come. *Continued on page 4.*

WEBSITE GETS A FRESH NEW LOOK

The Catholic Community Foundation is excited to unveil its new website. This platform has been thoughtfully designed with a focus on accessibility and user experience, ensuring easy navigation through valuable resources and information.

With a sleek, modern design, the site showcases our core initiatives, simplifying the process for donors, organizations, and community members to connect with our programs and understand our mission. *Continued on page 6.*

HOW ONE PAIR OF SOCKS MAKES A DIFFERENCE

In October, attendees of the Catholic Community Foundation Crozier Gala got a party favor like no other – a fancy little bundle containing a crisp \$20 bill!

The catch? They had to find someone in need and bestow their newfound treasure upon them, whenever and to whomever they chose. And then, the fun part: sharing their heartwarming tales!

Continued on page 4.

\$177,197 GRANTED TO SEVEN ARIZONA ORGANIZATIONS



In February, the Giving Circle awarded \$177,197 to seven remarkable non-profit organizations making a positive impact in our community.

The Catholic Community Foundation Giving Circle is a pioneering initiative inspired by community members who are excited to take an active role in the local grant-making process and have the chance to connect with the recipients. *Continued on page 3.*

CEO'S MESSAGE

By Deacon James Carabajal

Faithful. Trusted. Informational. I hear these words said about the Catholic Community Foundation. Each day, we work to serve our community in the Diocese of Phoenix. And rightly so, those words describe our mission.

Serving at the center of our community's needs and resources, we at the Foundation are honored to be an instrument in inviting the faithful to learn about the wide variety of beautiful ministries, their missions, and what can be done to secure the financial future of those organizations. All through the many giving options the Foundation has to offer.

It is pure joy to facilitate the act of faith-filled generosity on behalf of our donors. At the same time, giving is personal, something that only God and the donor can understand.

It is a privilege to be trusted to accompany you on your sacred journey in generosity. Bearing witness and being a part of the Goodness of God in our diocese.

Continued on page 2.



Get Your Affairs In Order attendees receive a wealth of valuable information, a chance to talk to industry experts, and important resources to help with decision making and planning in the future. This seminar is free.

LET US HELP GET YOUR AFFAIRS IN ORDER

Being well-prepared can significantly improve the outcome of nearly any situation in life. And, the Catholic Community Foundation is the trusted place to find resources and information when making important decisions well in advance of any of life's emergencies.

Throughout the year, the Catholic Community Foundation offers free seminars called "Get Your Affairs in Order" at parishes around the Diocese of Phoenix. Over dinner and wine, industry experts from our carefully vetted Professional Advisory Board provide information to consider when planning your future. Questions are encouraged, even the hard ones. If you are interested in researching the important topics the future holds, here is some of the important information to consider.

Trusted Advisor



The Catholic Community Foundation is dedicated to helping individuals, families, and organizations navigate the important journey of preparing for the future. Through our partnerships we offer seminars designed to guide you through the process of getting your affairs in order. You'll receive valuable insights and practical steps to ensure your plans reflect your values, minimize burdens on your loved ones, and support the causes you care about.

Tax-Smart Giving



Justin D. Smith, CFA, CFP, CAP, from Savant Wealth Management, explains that giving while living is one of the most tax-efficient ways to maximize your impact and minimize your taxes. He also emphasizes that you need to STOP WRITING CHECKS for donations, bunching donations, creating a donor-advised fund as your charitable "checking account," understanding qualified charitable distributions, charitable trusts, and the importance of estate planning.

Estate Planning



Building an estate plan through one of our Professional Advisory Board attorneys is an excellent way to ensure your plans are honored, easy to manage, and protected. The Catholic Community Foundation encourages you to establish a will or trust to avoid the probate process, make final decisions regarding your health care, and protect your assets.

End-of-Life and Hospice



We partner with organizations such as Americare Hospice to provide education and support on passing with dignity in a manner that aligns with Catholic values. This guidance ensures your care reflects your faith and brings comfort to you and your loved ones.

Funeral & Burial Planning



Through our trusted partners at Catholic Cemeteries and Funeral Homes and Dignity Memorial, you learn about funeral and burial plans consistent with your beliefs and values. Pre-planning a Catholic funeral ensures sacred rites, guarantees costs, and ensures all the decision-making steps are already completed. This is another act of love you can provide to your family during a time of uncertainty.

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a check or money order to:

Catholic Community Foundation
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Endowment Spending Policy Allocations

Organizations will receive by mail the
first week of May.

Get Your Affairs In Order Seminar

Complementary Wine and Dinner

Friday, May 9, 2025
Christ The King, Mesa, at 5:30 p.m.

REGISTER:

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Scholarship Awards Ceremony

Saturday, August 2, 10 a.m.
Location TBD



Launching soon, the new
commemorative keychain
featuring St. Katharine Drexel.



WEBSITE - CONTINUED

A key advantage of the new site is its improved donation platform, which makes it easier than ever to contribute to the Foundation. Visitors can securely make online donations, monitor their giving history, and explore various giving options—from one-time contributions to planned gifts—all within just a few clicks. Additionally, the website offers educational resources, including guides on estate planning, charitable giving, and financial tools for individuals and organizations, empowering the community to make informed choices regarding their philanthropic aspirations.



DONOR PROFILE

NANCY KNIGHT MEMORIALIZES HER HUSBAND FOR ETERNITY

Ralph Knight's life journey was one of perseverance, opportunity, and faithfulness. Born into a potato farming family in rural Maine, he grew up with seven siblings in a household where higher education felt out of reach. This changed when his aunt and uncle recognized his intellectual potential and provided the means for him to attend Newark College of Engineering. Armed with a degree in Chemical Engineering, Ralph embarked on a distinguished career, constructing polyethylene and polypropylene plants worldwide, all while remaining steadfast in his devotion to Christ.

Ralph and his wife Nancy first met in Los Angeles, where they married and raised their family. Over 40 years ago, they moved to Arizona and became active members of Our Lady of Joy Catholic Church in Carefree.



When Ralph passed away in June 2010, Nancy sought a meaningful way to honor his legacy and pass along his passion for Christ and education. As a former Catholic Community Foundation board member, she was familiar with its longstanding mission. She established a scholarship fund to give Catholic high school seniors aspiring to study science and engineering in college a \$5,000 award. Named "The Ralph M. Knight Scholarship Award," recipients are selected by an independent Scholarship Committee organized by the Foundation.

In 2025, Nancy permanently changed the award, converting her fund from a donor-advised fund to an endowment fund, ensuring that Ralph's name and legacy would endure for generations to come. The permanent endowment guarantees that the award will continue to grow over time and, most importantly, that Ralph's passion for engineering and faith will carry forward into the future.

Nancy believes the Foundation's careful investment and management will carry Ralph's legacy forward in the most faithful way possible. "I trust the Foundation to honor Ralph's name and ensure his passion for engineering and our Catholic faith lives on for generations. There is no better way to give than through a mission that aligns with our values."

As of 2024, the scholarship has helped 15 students pursue college opportunities and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future—or, as we like to say, 'until Jesus comes again.'



GIVING 101

PLANNING A GIFT - WHAT TO CONSIDER

Planning a legacy gift, also known as planned giving, allows individuals to create a lasting impact for a charitable cause or multiple causes by donating some of their assets after passing.

By utilizing the Foundation, you ensure that your wishes are honored. This approach not only provides potential tax benefits but also creates a meaningful way to commemorate loved ones or personal legacies.

Planning now allows you the ability to customize your giving to meet your desires, interests, and vision for a parish, school, or non-profit's future. Through the Foundation's tools: endowments, donor-advised funds, custom restricted funds, and more, it is ensured your wishes are honored for generations to come.

To begin create your plan, consider these 5 questions. If you answer yes to any of these questions, please feel free to contact a member of our team to create your customized plan. We are here to help you - 480-651-8800.

1

Do I know which organizations I'd like to impact?

Most importantly, whom do you want your planned gift to impact? What do you deeply care about? What would you like to see flourish or protect? It could be a specific charity or a broader area of interest, such as protecting life.

2

Do I want my gift(s) to span generations?

Deciding whether you want to create a lasting impact on your cause(s) for generations or provide immediate benefits is a key step in choosing the right type of fund to preserve your legacy.

3

Do I want to restrict the use of my gift?

Planned gifts can specify both the timeline of your gift and the areas in which they may be applied. Whether the impact is permanent or immediate, the Foundation will ensure that your intentions and wishes are honored.

4

Do I want to involve my family or other loved ones?

Legacy gifts provide a wonderful opportunity to introduce your family to philanthropy. Your planned gift can include your children and grandchildren, giving them the option to serve as advisors on the future of your gift.

5

Do I want to include flexibility in my plan?

If the goal is for your legacy to endure forever, then choosing a fund advisor or specifying alternative uses for your fund can help ensure it adapts to an uncertain future.



Father Frankie and Deacon James together during the annual endowment drive benefiting St. Timothy Church and School.



(2025 Giving Circle Grant Recipients. L to R) Andre House Hospitality, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School, Arizona Life Coalition, St. Joseph the Worker, St. Mary-Basha Catholic School, St. Timothy Catholic School, and St. John Paul II Catholic High School.

CEO - CONTINUED

I am excited to share this newsletter that introduces the "Giving 101" section on the five questions to ask and answer while planning an end-of-life gift, and the seven very worthy grant awardees of the annual Giving Circle Grant Program.

These organizations received a combined \$177,197 in support on behalf of our donors who contributed to our Forever Endowments over the years. And, finally, a heartfelt story of a member in of our Catholic community who gives out a clean pair of socks to those in need along our roadways. We offer these stories as examples of impact.

Community impact can only be possible through Foundation donors such as you. God's glory and the faithful's generosity are all around us. Sometimes, the distractions of everyday life can make it hard for us to see. We hope that this newsletter provides a bit of clarity on the ways the Foundation fulfills its mission in our diocese.

May this newsletter inspire further acts of love and generosity to help our community thrive even greater. If the Lord is stirring your heart to make an impact, contact us at the Foundation. We are here to help.

God bless you!

James Carabjal

Deacon James Carabjal, CEO
Catholic Community Foundation



WINNERS -CONTINUED

Thanks to contributions from the Giving Circle, the Catholic Community Foundation has funded ministries and organizations for over 25 years through its Forever Fund Endowment. Members identify urgent community needs and promote grant opportunities for schools and nonprofits in areas like Life, Community, Music, and Care.

Each year, they engage in the philanthropic process by evaluating nonprofit pitches and awarding grants, significantly impacting organizations that provide community services.

Joining the Giving Circle supports sustainable funding for evolving community needs through long-term endowment programs.

This year's winners are:

Andre House of Hospitality - \$10,000

Purchase nightly meals to feed the underserved unhoused population.

St. Joseph the Worker - \$30,000

Assist with eliminating debt for ten clients (who would pay \$3,000 to avoid eviction costs) and providing a foundation for stable housing.

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School - \$35,000

Install an intercom system that can facilitate communication across the school campus during lockdowns or other safety concerns.

St. Mary-Basha Catholic School - \$15,000

Replace an aging, unsafe, uneven playground ground covering.

St. Timothy Catholic School - \$13,528

Install multi-functional tables in the newly constructed multi-purpose room and classroom desks in the newly built classroom space.

St. John Paul II Catholic High School - \$54,170

Purchase instruments, storage, and spirit-band attire for the Instrumental Music Program.

Arizona Life Coalition - \$19,500

Develop pro-life internet marketing of community pregnancy resources, connecting more women to the affiliated pregnancy help centers.



KEEP THE GIVING GOING...

During Lent

by contributing to the Forever Fund Endowment that will grant even more to our community in 2026!



GIVE TODAY!



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MEET CHRIS CAMPISANO, VICE CHAIRMAN

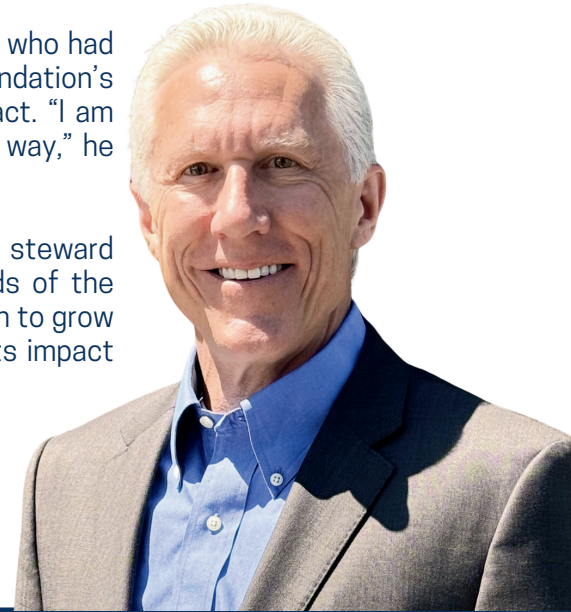
With over four decades of experience in investment management, Chris Campisano brings a wealth of knowledge and a deep commitment to service as vice-chairman with the Foundation. As a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA), Chris has built his career designing and constructing portfolios, a skill he now leverages to support the Foundation's mission of effective stewardship.

A Tucson native, Chris earned his BSBA in Finance from the University of Arizona before pursuing an MBA from the University of Chicago. His professional journey has taken him across the country, with time spent in Chicago, Ridgefield, Atlanta, San Francisco, New York, and Phoenix. He shares his expertise with the next generation of financial professionals as a co-instructor for FIN 526 Portfolio Management at the University of Arizona. He and his wife Lezlie attend St. Joseph Catholic Church in Tucson.

Chris was inspired to join the the Foundation board by the example of others he respected who had served before him. He recognizes that his specialized skill set is uniquely relevant to the Foundation's needs, so he finds it incredibly rewarding to use his expertise to make a meaningful impact. "I am proud of the Foundation's overall mission and humbled to be in a position to help in some way," he shares.

For Chris, one of the Foundation's most valuable contributions is its ability to effectively steward donor assets, ensuring that funds are invested wisely and distributed to meet the needs of the Catholic community. As he looks toward the future, he sees opportunities for the Foundation to grow by partnering with affiliated organizations, leveraging collective expertise, and increasing its impact through collaboration and economies of scale.

Chris's service is a testament to the power of financial expertise in shaping a stronger, faith-driven community. His dedication to stewardship continues to reinforce the Foundation's mission of connecting generosity with purpose. You can connect with Chris on LinkedIn at Christopher Campisano.



SCHOLARSHIPS - CONTINUED

For over 25 years, the Catholic Community Foundation has provided scholarships for Catholic education. The Christian Service Award Program recognizes Catholic 8th-grade students with up to \$8,000 for their Christ-centered behavior, as evidenced through their volunteer service to the parish, school, and community.

The Catholic Community Foundation Scholarship recognizes 7th grade students in need of financial assistance to make attending Catholic high school a reality, offering up to \$17,000. Additionally, there are college scholarships available in social work, and engineering, funded by generous donors who value education and wish to make it accessible.

Over the last six years, the Catholic Community Foundation has granted over \$2.5 million in scholarship funds and awarded more than 1,500 scholarships. If you know a student who would benefit from the scholarships offered through the Catholic Community Foundation, the application toolkit will be available on July 1, 2025, at ccfphx.org.



SOCKS - CONTINUED

Tom Brennan faces a lengthy commute to work each day, but it's not the drive itself that troubles him; rather, it's the numerous individuals he encounters along the way who are experiencing homelessness.

"When I received a \$20 bill at the end of the last Catholic Community Foundation Crozier gala, I wanted to find a meaningful way to put it to use. Sure, I could easily drop it into the collection basket at St. Bridget or give it to someone in need on the street, but I aimed to create a more lasting impact with that \$20," Tom shared.

"One day during my commute, I heard an advertisement for Bombas socks. You know, the company that specializes in 'comfort-focused socks and apparel'? They mentioned that fresh socks are one of the most requested items at shelters and organizations that assist the unhoused. That afternoon, I went on Amazon and discovered a six-pack of quality Hanes work socks for just under \$10. I bought two packs and kept them in my car."

Now, when Tom takes his exit off I-17 at Indian School or Camelback, he knows he has something special to give when he meets someone in need.

"My brothers and sisters absolutely shine with joy when I hand them a brand new pair of quality socks!" he exclaimed. "I recently reordered more socks and plan to always keep a supply in my car."