



OPPORTUNITIES TO LEAVE YOUR LEGACY OF FAITH

Legacy gifts can be made during your lifetime and/or planned as a final testament of your charitable heart. If you choose to include a legacy gift to the Church in your estate plans, you will automatically be considered a member of the *Vivos Christi Society*. This society honors you and the Catholic Legacy you are leaving to advance the ministries of the Catholic Church in Central Florida. You can choose to be a named or anonymous member (your gift amount always remains confidential.)

Below are some opportunities to leave a lasting legacy for your favorite parish, school or ministry in the Diocese of Orlando.

1. WILLS AND TRUSTS

Regardless of your age or circumstances, you can provide lasting support for your family and loved ones, as well as your parish, school or favorite ministry through a will or trust.

Benefits:

- An easy way for you to make a truly life-changing gift. One paragraph is all it takes,
- Costs little or nothing during your lifetime; easily executed with an attorney.
- Revocable: If your plans change, you can revise your gift.
- Flexible: You can give a certain percentage of your estate, a set dollar amount, or the remainder after all other gifts have been distributed.

LANGUAGE FOR YOUR WILL:

I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to [LEGAL NAME OF PARISH OR DIOCESAN ENTITY] located at [STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP], Federal Tax ID # [xx-xxxxxxx], the following: [AMOUNT, PERCENTAGE, REMAINDER, OR OTHER SPECIFIC ASSET] for [its general use and purpose/SPECIFIC PURPOSE]. In the event that [LEGAL NAME OF PARISH OR DIOCESAN ENTITY] shall no longer exist or be within the jurisdiction or possession of the Roman Catholic Church, then such bequest shall inure to the successor or juridic person, designated by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Orlando to serve a substantially consistent purpose.

After you have completed your arrangements, please notify us so we can properly thank you and record your intentions. We kindly request the will/trust cover page, gift designation page and signature page(s) of the will/trust be sent to:

Diocese of Orlando, PO Box 4905, Orlando, FL 32802
Attn: The Catholic Foundation – Vivos Christi Society

We will keep these in a confidential file which allows us to ensure your charitable intentions are followed.



2. POD/TOD ARRANGEMENTS

A “Payable On Death” or “Transfer On Death” arrangement is commonly used for bank accounts and investment accounts. This is a simple way to avoid probate and give directly to the Church or other beneficiaries. It requires a small amount of paperwork at your bank or financial manager.

Benefits:

- Does not require attorney to make this change.
- Avoids probate for these assets.

3. LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance policies offer an easy and effective way for you to leave a legacy to your parish, parish school, or larger diocesan causes like seminarian education or retired priests’ support. You can simply name the Church as a beneficiary of a policy that is no longer needed or name the Church as both the owner and beneficiary of the policy.

Benefits:

- An easy and inexpensive way to leave a substantial gift to the Church.
- Giving a paid-up policy requires no additional payments from you.

4. RETIREMENT PLANS

Retirement funds that are left to heirs may incur income and estate taxes. It may be a better choice to leave other assets to heirs, such as a home, bank account, or stock. Naming the Church as the beneficiary of all or part of a retirement plan can benefit both the parish *and* your loved ones. Retirement assets include IRAs, 401(k) and 403(b) plans, Keogh plans, and other qualified retirement plans.

Benefits:

- You can continue to take withdrawals from the plan during your lifetime.
- Easy way to give a significant gift that may reduce the tax burden on loved ones.

5. APPRECIATED SECURITIES

Gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds that have appreciated in value are always beneficial to you and your parish. When you donate appreciated securities that you have held for over a year, all capital gains taxes are eliminated and your gift is credited for the full market value, even though you originally purchased the assets at a lower cost.

Benefits:

- May offer substantial tax benefits and cost less than a cash gift.
- Can be used to fund an endowment, reserve or donor advised fund.

6. CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

If you own highly appreciated property such as stocks or real estate, you can put them into a charitable remainder trust. When the donated property is sold by the trustee, you will receive income for life (or a term of years) and a charitable tax deduction. You can direct the remainder of the trust to one or more of the Church’s ministries.

Benefits:

- Avoid capital gains tax and increase income for your lifetime or a set number of years.
- Make a substantial gift to the Church at the end of term.