Youth Ministry programs empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today. They help youth to make the right connections and they grow young disciples. In fact, observations from a survey of Millennial Youth showed that 75% of respondents say religion is important in their lives and that they want to know what the Church teaches. However, did you know that less than half of the Diocese has a paid Youth Ministry position?

The Catholic Foundation is excited to share a partnership with the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office and donors who want to support the effort to reverse that statistic.

This summer, The Catholic Foundation made a major investment in the Church’s youth by awarding Youth Ministry Grants to parishes within the Diocese of Columbus. This is the first round of 15 expected Youth Ministry grants over the next 3 years. The Foundation established these grants with a focus on engaging middle through high school-age youth at the parish level and encouraging their continued faith formation.

“Five years from now we feel confident that we will see Youth Ministry flourishing in places where no one thought it was possible,” said Mike Hall, Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
Dear Friends,

Fiscal year 2015 recently ended and I’m pleased to announce that The Catholic Foundation, in addition to celebrating our 30th anniversary, is celebrating another record-breaking year. Throughout this most exciting and impactful year, the Foundation distributed over 1,300 grants amounting in $9.5 million support our four pillars. We exceeded our record for the third year in a row, increasing our grants from last year by 46%! Additionally, we exceeded previous records by opening 73 new endowment funds and other funds. This is truly a testament to the faithful in our diocese strengthening their commitment to keeping their gifts in the faith. This was a record-breaking year because of you, and we are all so thankful for that!

While we are excited to see these numbers, the true value of these funds is demonstrated through the lives we are able to touch and the resulting impact here in the Diocese. This year, we were blessed to offer several new grant opportunities to our parishes. For example, we provided 20 grants to send Pastors and their team to The Amazing Parish conference in April. Through these grants, Pastors serving one-fourth of our parishes gained the insight and guidance necessary to establish a strategic vision for the future of their parish.

Additionally, we heard a common desire to respond more generously to the needs of young parishioners through Youth Ministry. Through collaboration with the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office and our passionate donors, The Catholic Foundation supported an initiative to provide grants to start or strengthen Youth Ministry programs throughout the diocese.

In this issue, you will read more about the specific purpose of these new grants, in addition to an update of some of our other programs and happenings at The Catholic Foundation. We are truly blessed to have made such significant strides this year.

As I reflect on an outstanding year of many blessings, I would like to extend my gratitude to you for your continued support of our Catholic faith through The Catholic Foundation. We touched countless lives thanks to your generosity, and we hope it is evident that your gifts are igniting transformational change. We begin our new fiscal year in full force, and we anticipate making even greater strides in furthering our Catholic mission. I encourage you to consider how best to support your parish or Catholic organization, and the role that the Foundation can play in your giving plan. With your help and with Christ as our guide, The Catholic Foundation will continue to be a resource for the future of our faith and our diocese.

In Christ,

[Signature]

A Message From Our CEO

Loren Brown
President & CEO

Upcoming

September 10, 7pm
Young Professionals Group ‘Cocktails and Conversations’
Dave and Busters at Polaris

November 10, 10:30am
Kyrie Bequest Society Mass and Lunch
Immaculate Conception Parish, Columbus

Welcome New Trustees

Jeffrey S. Hedley
Robert W. Baird & Co.
St. Mark Parish, Lancaster

Jennie Wilson
MGF Sourcing
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

Retiring Trustees

The Catholic Foundation thanks Trustees Bob Eversole and Jerry Geswein for their many years of service!

Laurels

Trustee Michelle Cramer, CFRE, was recently named 2015 Outstanding Professional Fundraiser by the Central Ohio Association of Fundraising Professionals. Congratulations, Michelle!

New Employees

The Catholic Foundation welcomes Sara Ireland and Natalie McIntyre to the team. Sara is a recent graduate of Capital University, and fills the role of Development Coordinator. Natalie recently relocated from Cincinnati, and fills the role of Administrative Coordinator. Welcome, Sara and Natalie!
The 2015 Youth Ministry Grants are to provide parishes with the funding necessary to pay for a new, full-time Youth Minister or a new, full-time position with Youth Ministry as the primary responsibility. This person will focus on managing the parish’s Youth Ministry Program and creating an environment that is welcoming to young Catholics. These grants provide a wonderful opportunity for parishes to revitalize their youth by encouraging their active participation as members of the Church.

“If young people are to grow into adult disciples, they need support in knowing Jesus as a person, in hearing how He is calling them to live, and in responding generously to that call especially when doing so is considered counter cultural,” said Reverend Monsignor John Johnson of Our Lady of Peace.

The Catholic Foundation is pleased to award the following parishes with the first Youth Ministry Grants:

• Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Newark
• Immaculate Conception Parish, Columbus
• Our Lady of Peace Parish, Columbus
• Sacred Hearts Parish, Cardington
• St. Agnes Parish, Columbus
• St. Aloysius Parish, Columbus
• St. Timothy Parish, Columbus

These parishes demonstrated a strong desire to better engage young people in parish life, and a thoughtful plan to sustain the position after the grant ends. The Catholic Foundation congratulates these parishes on their success, and is honored to help make their visions a reality.

“With God’s graces, the St. Timothy Youth Ministry Program is already drawing teens into relationship with one another, with the wider community, and ultimately with Christ,” said Mrs. Karen McGirty, a Youth Ministry volunteer at St. Timothy parish in Columbus. “My vision for this is to continue by focusing on building relationships that link everyone together around the purpose of passing on the faith.”

The Catholic Foundation thanks our generous donors who made these grants possible by committing to an ongoing investment of the spiritual development of young Catholics. With support from these donors and others, The Catholic Foundation will continue to empower the Church’s youth of today in order to build lifelong followers Christ for tomorrow.
As its inaugural year comes to a close, The Catholic Foundation is pleased to share the many joys and successes of the St. Martha Giving Circle.

Most notably, the St. Martha Giving Circle announced its first-ever grant recipients in May. Members, called Marthas, nominated 11 organizations for consideration to receive a portion of the over $24,000 available, and then narrowed the selection through a vote last month. Congratulations to this year’s grant recipients:

- St. Francis Evangelization Center ($6,650 grant)
- Pike County Outreach Council of Churches ($4,250 grant)
- Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Parish, St. Vincent DePaul Society ($4,500 grant)
- Catholic Social Services ($6,066 grant)
- Christ Child Society ($2,750 grant)

Also in May, the Marthas gathered for a Spring Social with a special presentation by Brooke Taylor. Taylor is a former radio personality for 95.5 The Fish in Cleveland, founder of “The Mom Squad” and an active blogger (www.thesacredsink.com). The women in the room both laughed and cried as they listened to an inspirational and heart-warming talk by Taylor.

Throughout the rest of the year, the Marthas engaged in various activities to learn about charitable organizations in the Diocese of Columbus and to give back through time, talent or treasure. The Marthas hosted two grantee panels in which representatives from charitable organizations briefly spoke about their mission and local impact, as well as how the Marthas could potentially support them. Additionally, the Marthas participated in the last three Service Saturday projects hosted by Catholic Social Services.

With over 120 members (40 of whom contributed $1,000 or more and belong to the Founder’s Circle), the St. Martha Giving Circle experienced incredible response and growth in its first year. The Catholic Foundation hopes that this group of women continues to grow each year, forming a beautiful network of women committed to supporting organizations in the Diocese of Columbus.

The St. Martha Giving Circle is open to any woman who, regardless of age or background, wants to have a meaningful impact on our Catholic community. Gifts to the fund might range from $10 - $10,000, but The Catholic Foundation asks for a minimum contribution of $100 for grantmaking voting privileges. Non-paying members are free to participate in all activities, outside of the annual grantmaking vote.

To sign up, or for more information about the St. Martha Giving Circle, please visit www.catholic-foundation.org/TheMarthas or contact Betsy Sewell at bsewell@catholic-foundation.org.

Craig Heppner, Development Officer at The Catholic Foundation, recently earned the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy® (CAP®) professional designation from the Richard D. Irwin Graduate School of The American College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. The CAP® program provides professionals in the nonprofit and financial services fields that work with individuals and families in development and implementation of philanthropic programs with the knowledge and tools needed to help clients reach their charitable giving objectives while also helping them meet their estate planning and wealth management goals.

Candidates for the CAP® designation must complete a minimum of three courses in philanthropic studies at the Irwin Graduate School and six hours of rigorous, supervised written examinations. The curriculum addresses the advanced design, implementation and management of charitable gift techniques and strategies, as well as philanthropic tools including charitable trusts, private foundations, supporting organizations, donor-advised funds, pooled income funds and charitable gift annuities. Over 800 individuals have been awarded the CAP® designation since its inception in 2003.

CAP® graduates are uniquely qualified to help charitable organizations achieve long-term financial success. In addition, professionals that have earned the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy® designation help donors improve their communities by maximizing the effective application of their financial resources. Congratulations, Craig!
The Amazing Parish
Reviving and Uniting Parishes

As one of The Catholic Foundation’s four pillars, Parish life provides a home to members of the Church that fosters spiritual growth on a personal and communal level. The Foundation seeks to offer support for the tools necessary for parishes to provide amazing ministry in an innovative way that draws parishioners closer to Christ. In order to help parishes bring these ideas to life in the Diocese, The Catholic Foundation awarded twenty $3,500 grants for Pastors and up to four of their team members to attend The Amazing Parish conference in April 2015.

Drawing over 450 participants from around the country, The Amazing Parish conference taught leaders of the Catholic Church how to build a parish focused on evangelization and discipleship in the twenty-first century. At the conference, Pastors engaged in collaborative exercises, listened to keynote speakers, and identified a vision for the future to implement at their own parishes. Through this energizing experience, Pastors gained the resources necessary to build their parishes into places of transformational faith formation.

“It was truly a blessing that 25% of the audience was our energetic diocesan participants. Their discernment on how best to serve their parishes was inspiring to watch,” said Amy Parker, VP of Grants Management. “At our follow-up meeting many ideas were shared by the pastors and no two were the same. This really speaks to the process of discovery at The Amazing Parish.”

After experiencing The Amazing Parish firsthand, the Pastors from the Diocese returned renewed with many exciting ideas to implement at home. Throughout the summer, Our Lady of Prepetual Help Parish published a series of articles in their bulletin that brought together insights gained from the conference to share with the community. In addition, Our Lady of Lourdes in Marysville is in the planning stage for a PSR program inspired by ideas developed in their experience at The Amazing Parish.

“The conference was transformative for our team and the parish. We have already begun to make positive changes,” said Father Black of St. Joan of Arc after attending The Amazing Parish. “The Foundation is a valued force behind this movement in our parish and in the diocese.”

With the support of generous donors, The Catholic Foundation provides the funding to help parishes develop a vision for growth within their communities. Through blessings like The Amazing Parish, our Pastors and their teams are energized and enlightened to serve their parishes in more amazing ways. The Catholic Foundation thanks the donors who made this experience possible for our Pastors.

For more information on the conference, to access online resources, or to learn about future conferences, visit AmazingParish.org.
We all know that God’s plan for us is to one day join Him in Heaven. As amazing as we all know that will be, it is still hard to think about leaving this life and our loved ones behind. But what if you could, in your own unique way, leave your mark on this world?

Everyday I work with individuals whose intent is to leave a sum of money from their estate to their parish or favorite ministry. But when all is said and done, it isn’t about leaving money at all.

For instance, take the story of Molly. She passed away many years ago but left her parish a gift from her estate through an endowment fund at The Catholic Foundation. Every year since her passing, the parish received a check from Molly’s endowment fund to be used as her Sunday offertory gift! You see, an end of life gift to your parish or favorite ministry is not just a financial transaction, it is an act that tells the world about you, what was important to you, and what mattered in your life. An end of life gift to charity helps pass your values and beliefs to younger generations. It inspires others to look deep into their hearts and determine the mark they wish to leave on this world.

It is a way to be remembered.

Designating an end of life gift through The Catholic Foundation is also one of the easiest things you can do to leave your legacy. It does not require a lot of time, a minimum amount of money, or lengthy legal paperwork. Call me today to learn more!

ALL YOU NEED ARE THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN YOUR WILL:

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“I/we the undersigned, give (a percent or a dollar amount) of my/our estate to:

Foundation of the Diocese of Columbus (DBA The Catholic Foundation)
257 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-443-8893
Tax I.D. #31-111-6640

If you choose, you may also add language similar to the following:
This bequest is to be added to _______________________ Endowment Fund.
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Craig Heppner, CAP® is a Development Officer at The Catholic Foundation. Contact him at 614-443-8893 or cheppner@catholic-foundation.org to get started on leaving your legacy today.
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS
Dei Gratia
2015
THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR ONCE AGAIN!

We awarded $9.5 million in grants and opened 73 new endowment funds!