On the feast day of St. John Fisher – Thursday, June 22 – more than 40 St. John Fisher Stewards attended a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell at the St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus. Following mass, Bishop Campbell blessed an icon of St. John Fisher (written by iconographer Judith Hedge) at a luncheon at The Catholic Foundation.

Loren Brown, Foundation President and CEO, said the icon was a gift to Bishop Campbell for his constant support of the Foundation, which was founded by Bishop James Griffin in 1984. Brown said, “We are extremely grateful to Bishop Campbell’s continuing commitment to the Foundation and to Bishop Griffin’s original vision of providing perpetual funding for the long-term needs of diocesan parishes, schools, and institutions, and to assuring the faithful that the assets they leave to the Foundation are stewarded for their intent.”

Bishop Campbell identified St. John Fisher as the patron saint of The Catholic Foundation in 2011 because of Fisher’s stewardship of endowments. An endowment is a financial asset, in the form of a donation made to a non-profit group, organization, or individual consisting of investment funds or other property that may or may not have a stated purpose at the bequest of the donor. Most endowments are designed to keep the principal amount intact while using the investment income from dividends for charitable reasons. Much as St. John Fisher was a
Dear Friends,

As a young priest, John Fisher worked to ensure donor intent with assets entrusted by God to Lady Margaret Beaufort, the mother of King Henry VII. He was an early example of stewardship in the Catholic Church as he endowed some of Lady Margaret's assets according to her estate plans for the founding of St. John's College. Ultimately, his work was the first disagreement King Henry XIII had with him, and executed John Cardinal Fisher in 1535.

St. John Fisher is most known by his martyrdom as supporting the sanctity of marriage. However, it was his vision to establish endowments as to why Bishop Campbell named him as the Patron Saint of your Catholic Foundation. I invite you to see The Catholic Foundation’s website and to visit the Bishop Campbell Library at The Catholic Foundation to learn more about the life of St. John Fisher, and to see the gift of the St. John Fisher icon to Bishop Campbell.

I am so pleased to present to you this edition of Blessings because it also highlights great examples of endowments having an impact in our Catholic diocese through the St. Martha Women’s Giving Circle and through scholarships. Over $13.5 million was distributed through The Catholic Foundation this most recent fiscal year. And, in our thirty-third year of history, I am so blessed to announce that The Catholic Foundation surpassed over $110 million in total granting for the needs throughout the Diocese of Columbus. I can’t express enough our gratitude to the many donors who have made this significant impact possible through their charity and love for our Catholic faith.

May God bless you,

Loren Brown
President & CEO

Upcoming

September 5
Pastor’s Advisory Council

September
Professional Advisors Group: Quarterly Luncheon

October
St. Martha Giving Circle

November
Kyrie Bequest Society and Luncheon

November 17
John L. Sauter Estate Planning Seminar

Rest In Peace

God recently received the following fund holders, Kyrie Bequest Society members, or other individuals into eternal life with Him:

Robert Braun
Virginia Brokamp
James W. Burns
Manette Chezek
John H. Davidson
Ronald L. Dorsey
Beatrice Eigen
Michael E. Fisberty
Lester J. Flynn
Jeanette Frazier
Armando P. Gastaldo
Mary Hausibetz
James Hunkler
Joseph D. Karam
Heimo Langer
Mark Lomeo
Catherine D. Lynn
Robert E. Lynch
Gerald O. Martin
Lenore Mastracci
Harry Pavlik
Robert A. Schuler
Dr. Katherine Tabatowski
Claraelle Tanner
Teresa Tracey
Maria Whitt

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the soul of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Welcome

In May, The Catholic Foundation welcomed back to the team, Scott Noseman as Vice President of Development. Scott worked for The Catholic Foundation from 2002 to 2013 and left to become the Director of Business and Advancement Operations at St. Francis DeSales High School. A graduate of Ohio Dominican University, Scott’s previous work experience also included corporate science and business administration. Scott lives in Westerville with his wife Laura and their three children, Jackson, Lily, and William.

In August, Megan Polk joined The Catholic Foundation as their new Administrative Coordinator. Megan received her Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Ohio Dominican University and prior to joining The Catholic Foundation, Megan worked at JDRF as their Senior Development Coordinator. Megan and her husband live in Grove City with their two young children and attend St. Matthew.
careful steward who recognized the importance of long-term financial planning, the Catholic Foundation’s mission is to inspire giving and assist donors in providing for the long-term needs of the Diocese of Columbus. What sets The Catholic Foundation apart from similar organizations is that the Foundation can ensure that funding is in alignment with Catholic teachings and values because of its unique knowledge of the needs in the Catholic faith and diocese. The Foundation’s vision is to continually work with the diocese, parishes, and schools to ensure their long-term needs are met—to do so, the Foundation annually provides over $12 million or more in support in our local Catholic community. In striving to deepen and strengthen the relationships with the parishes within the diocese, the Foundation identified a group of individuals that were passionate about their faith and wanted to serve their parishes and ministries in a meaningful way as St. John Fisher Stewards. A St. John Fisher Steward serves as a volunteer, and promotes the growth of endowments in collaboration with The Catholic Foundation’s awareness and service initiatives. A Saint John Fisher Steward makes a two-year volunteer commitment and must have an existing affiliation with The Catholic Foundation as they serve as a liaison between the parish and The Catholic Foundation.

To learn more about this group and how to become a member, please visit our website www.catholic-foundation.org/st-john-fisher-stewards or contact Scott Hartman at 614-443-8893.

ST. JOHN FISHER
About the Icon

The St. John Fisher icon is essentially based on the byzantine style including elements such as a raised border, a gold halo representing the radiance of the Holy Spirit, and the writing of the person’s name. The writing represents the completion and crowning act of the icon that distinguishes an icon from a portrait. It has great theological significance, because invoking a person’s name is to invoke them. The Scriptures place a great emphasis on the importance of a name, particularly the name of God. Everything in the icon, however bold or subtle, is outlined in red, which profoundly signifies the sealing in the blood of Christ. Other elements include; the use of gold, the keys of St. Peter, heart and diamond design, interwoven rose branches and Tudor roses, coats of arms, crosses, young sprouting branches, dove and mandorla, and Trinitarian wheat design. For more detailed information on the symbolism and elements used in the creation of the St. John Fisher icon please visit our website, www.catholic-foundation.org/st-john-fisher-stewards.

If you are interested in becoming a St. John Fisher Steward or want to learn more about the Saint John Fisher Icon contact Scott Hartman at 614-443-8893 or shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

About the Artist
Judith Hedge

Judith is an iconographer and fine artist based in rural Ohio. She specializes in egg tempera icon panels and statue restoration. All work is meticulously researched, designed, and created according to the highest standards, using natural materials whenever possible. Judith also works in portrait drawing and painting, nature drawing, stained glass, and various other fine arts media. She is passionate about renewing culture through restoring beauty in the arts.

Judith studied art at Ashland University for two years but was quickly disillusioned with contemporary art. She later graduated from Notre Dame of Ohio with a B.A. in Arts and Management. In between earning her degree, she worked as an illustrator for the US Army Reserves and attended ROTC. Upon graduation, she was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Signal Corps and was stationed in Germany, where she met her husband Mark.

They later moved to Mark’s homeland of England and resided in Devonshire, attending St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Newton Abbot. When their priest, Father Patrick, asked her to write two large icon panels for the church, she began studying iconography and soon fell in love with the rich spirituality and history behind this sacred art form. She later attended two courses in Byzantine and Russian iconography at Buckfast Abbey, a Benedictine Abbey in Devon.

After moving back to the United States, Judith continued to keep up with her artwork while homeschooling the four children. She attended a Gothic icon course, in the Diocese of Columbus, led by David Clayton from Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, New Hampshire. The family are active members of St. Luke Catholic Church, Danville, Ohio.
The Catholic Foundation Awards Over $142,000 in Scholarships

This year, over 35 exceptional students will continue their education with support from The Catholic Foundation. These young Catholics are the recipients of over $142,000 awarded in scholarships for the 2017-2018 academic year. Scholarships support promising and deserving students by assisting them with the costs of their education. Donors often establish a scholarship in honor or memorialize friends, teachers, family members, or other loved ones. Since 2007, The Catholic Foundation has awarded over $430,000 in scholarships empowering over 100 young people to continue their academic and vocational studies. With continued generosity of donors who share this dedication to education, the Foundation will continue to support students as they answer God’s call.

Scholarship Funds, such as the Joseph J. Laihr & Adeline Pax Laihr Scholarship Fund, serve as a powerful legacy to support and encourage students who feel a deep calling to the vocation of service. The Laihr Scholarships are awarded to two graduating high school seniors pursuing higher education in the fields of education and nursing who embody Adeline Laihr’s passion for serving others. The 2017 Karen Louise Laihr Teaching Scholarship recipient is Brittany Katona, who will attend Otterbein University and the Brenda Jo Laihr Galbraith Nursing Scholarship recipient is Margaret Claire Farrell, who will attend Xavier University.

The Steven L. & Salena A. Hitchens Scholarship is awarded to two graduating students of Newark Catholic High School pursuing a degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse. Winners are selected based on their academic achievement, involvement in school activities, and community leadership. This year’s Hitchens Scholarship was awarded to Kaitlin Anna McCarty and Nicholas Gialdini (pictured right).

In an effort to streamline the process, the Foundation made it easier than ever to apply with a complete listing of available scholarships, qualifications, and applications on its website. The recipients were selected based on criteria established by the donor who created each scholarship. For more information on tuition assistance, please contact the Office of Catholic Schools or your local school. For more information on the aforementioned scholarship funds, please visit www.catholic-foundation.org.

We congratulate the 2017 scholarship award recipients and we pray for God’s blessings for this school year!

THE LAIHR AND HITCHENS SCHOLARSHIPS ARE TWO OF MANY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED THROUGH THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION. THE FULL LIST OF AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS IS AS FOLLOWS:

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The Catholic Foundation's St. Martha Giving Circle met on June 14 to present the awards to this year's grantees. Members of the St. Martha Giving Circle, called Marthas, nominated nine organizations for consideration and were able to award money to all nine to receive a total of $25,000!

- **Angels Nurture & Disciple - $5,000**
  This grant will go towards facility needs and their enrichment programs that promote life, chastity, and God's love.

- **Women's Care Center - $4,500**
  This grant will go towards an addition at the second location at 3273 E. Main Street across from Planned Parenthood.

- **Dominican Sisters of Peace - $4,000**
  This grant will go towards services and programs regarding human trafficking.

- **Catholic Social Services - $3,500**
  This grant will go towards the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, a newly renovated Community Center on the west-side of Columbus that assists mostly Hispanic families in the areas of: Health & Nutrition, Family Strengthening, Economic Development, and Community Building.

- **Christ Child Society of Columbus - $3,500**
  This grant will go towards the organization's literacy programs.

- **Saint Paul's Outreach – Ohio - $2,000**
  This grant will go towards scholarships for SPO's signature program, The School of the New Evangelization (SNE).

- **Hope Hollow - $1,000**
  This grant will go towards providing gas, grocery, and restaurant gift cards to those in need during their stay at Hope Hollow.

- **Run The Race - $1,000**
  This grant will go towards purchasing a 12-passenger van to offer transportation to the youth using the Center after school.

- **Columbus Catholic Women’s Conference - $500**
  This grant will go towards need-based, full conference scholarships.

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**TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED: $25,000**

The St. Martha Giving Circle is an initiative through The Catholic Foundation that is designed to bring Catholic women together to raise awareness and funds for charities in the Diocese of Columbus. The Marthas gather to learn about organizations and their needs, to join together in service, and to decide together which projects and organizations to fund.

Interested in joining the Marthas? Contact us at (614-443-8893) or marthas@catholic-foundation.org or visit www.catholic-foundation.org/TheMarthas for more information.
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Most people think that you need to have thousands or millions of dollars in the bank in order to give or leave a legacy. Not true! The Catholic Foundation will work with you to create the most effective and meaningful gift that fits your interests and life. We have had donors choose to give us houses, land, stocks, IRA distributions, and all or part of their life insurance. If you want to make a lasting legacy to the Catholic community, The Catholic Foundation is the perfect starting point.

THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION WILL HELP YOU:

• Name a fund for you and/or your family to honor a loved one or remain anonymous
• Provide current and/or permanent support for your favorite charities and organizations
• Provide annual gift planning and/or fund management consultation
• Prepare timely grants research and due diligence
• Give you a comprehensive review of your giving and grant strategies
• Receive prompt gift acknowledgement and grant processing

THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION’S WAY TO GIVE:

• Donor Advised Fund
  A personalized and flexible approach to giving
• Endowment Fund
  A long and lasting approach to sustainable giving
• Scholarship Fund
  Support promising and deserving students by assisting them with the costs of their education
• Charitable Trust
  Receive regularly scheduled payments for life or for a pre-determined number of years
• Charitable Gift
  Fixed income payments for life, no matter how long you live

We are here to help you. All you need to do is ask.

Contact Scott Hartman our Vice President of Development at 614-443-8893 or email him, shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

The ARCH Ministry (Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope) was launched in the spring of 2017 as a joint ministry of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus Office for Social Concerns and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul with the generous support of The Catholic Foundation. The purpose is to equip parishes with the tools to minister to the needs of the formerly incarcerated (returning citizens) and their families.

Returning citizens have paid their debt to society in terms of serving time in jail or prison, yet continue to face significant challenges in their reintegration back to their families and the larger community. Most returning citizens struggle with obtaining steady employment and accessing affordable housing. They need to have a support system upon release to help identify resources and practical steps that can help them to rebuild their lives. The effects of criminal behavior and incarceration are a major contributor to poverty in our community. The Church can play a central role in helping people stabilize their lives and experience the mercy of Christ.

On September 12, The Catholic Foundation will be co-presenting, with the Catholic Diocese of Columbus Office of Social Concerns, a business leader breakfast beginning at 7:30 a.m. If you are interested in learning more about this event please contact The Catholic Foundation at 614-443-8893 or to learn more about the ministry contact ARCH Ministry Coordinator, Wendy Tarr at wendytarr6@gmail.com or at 614-532-7106.
Papal Blessing

In June, board member Stephen Denz, received a Papal Blessing for his nine years of service! We would like to thank him and Mike Gamp, who has served as Chair this past year, for their service to The Catholic Foundation and the Diocese of Columbus.

Pictured from left to right: Loren Brown, President & CEO, Stephen Denz, Mike Gamp, and Bishop Frederick F. Campbell.

GRANTS

The Catholic Foundation has its 5th Record-Breaking Year In Distributing Grants

The Catholic Foundation celebrates its fifth consecutive year for record-breaking impact. In the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2017, the Foundation distributed over 1,500 grants totaling almost $13.5 million.

“Our vision is a comprehensive understanding of the needs throughout the Diocese of Columbus, and to be a meaningful resource to address those needs. I pray for a day when that resource exceeds $20-$25 million annually. Because of our donors, this year’s $13.5 million in granting is a blessing that we are well on the way of achieving our vision.” said Loren Brown, President & CEO of The Catholic Foundation.

“I want to thank our many donors for their charity through their Catholic Foundation, and for the tremendous impact they are making on the many needs in our Catholic faith.” said Brown.

As one of the oldest and largest Catholic foundations in the country, The Catholic Foundation has distributed nearly $110 million in the diocese since 1985. Look for more details on the impact of the Foundation in the upcoming Annual Report.
The Catholic Foundation is pleased to announce another record-breaking year!

We distributed over **1,500 grants** totaling almost **$13.5 million**!