

PLANNING FROM THE HEART

INSPIRATIONAL STORIES, NEWS AND CHARITABLE GIVING STRATEGIES

GIVING BACK SO FUTURE GENERATIONS CAN FULFILL THEIR CALL

By Emily Woodham

Father Tom Loucks has been a priest for the Diocese of Boise since 1977. He is so thankful for all that the diocese has done for him that he chose to include it in his estate. “The Diocese of Boise paid for half of my education, and this is my way of gifting back to the diocese for the wonderful things they have done for me,” he said. “I want to give continuing support for the mission of Jesus in the diocese.”

Knowing that the funds he gives through his bequest will be used to support the diocese through the future gives him great satisfaction. Specifically, his gift will help seminarians fulfill their call to the priesthood. He wants to ensure that the cost of their education will not be a deterrent in answering their vocation.

Father Tom first made a will over 20 years ago, but it wasn’t until recently that he had the assets to include the diocese in his estate. “I’ve dedicated my life to service for the Diocese of Boise, and the funds that have accumulated are a direct result of my service. So I’m just giving back to the diocese for all that it has given to me,” he said.

Continued on Page 2



Father Tom Loucks

IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 2
How Your
Estate Plan Helps
Others Plan

Page 3
The Importance of
Planned Giving

Page 4
The Perfect Way
to Honor Someone
You Love



HOW YOUR ESTATE PLAN HELPS OTHERS PLAN

Talking about estate planning may be uncomfortable, but it's critically important for those you leave behind.

When you created your estate plan, you took time and care to craft it to meet your goals and serve as a testament to who you are, your values and the legacy you want to leave. Communicating your plan clearly and honestly with your loved ones gives you and them peace of mind.

You may want to let your family know about your end-of-life wishes, such as having anointing of the sick as well as a traditional funeral Mass. By planning ahead and putting it in writing, you are making a statement to your loved ones about what was most important to you during your lifetime—your Catholic faith. Some children may be hoping for an inheritance from you to fund their own children's education or buy a house. Sharing your plans allows them to make their future plans accordingly.

If you've included a gift to the Catholic Church in your estate plan, please let us know. Like your loved ones, it helps the Church plan for our future so we can better meet our most pressing needs and continue to build up the Kingdom of God. More than half of people who leave charitable gifts in their wills do not notify the organization, leaving the charity at risk for not receiving the gift.

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Continued from Page 1

He hopes that others will also remember the diocese in their wills to continue its important work for future generations.

Like Father Tom, you can help seminarians fulfill their call to the priesthood—and support the mission of the Catholic Church—with a gift in your estate plan. To learn more, please contact Margaret Hampton at hampton@rcdb.org or (208) 342-1311, Ext. 5139.

Helpful Conversation Tips

Here are a few useful suggestions to help you navigate the conversation:

- Be honest about your intentions and the reasons behind your decisions. Let your loved ones know why you want them to be aware of your future plans.
- Choose a comfortable environment, relatively free of stress. No one works well under pressure, so be sure to allow everyone enough time to discuss.
- Remind everyone the importance of the conversation. This can be as simple as an anecdote of a family who mishandled an estate because they failed to discuss their plans with each other.
- Remember that it's an ongoing discussion. A lot can change that will affect your estate plan. Communicate periodically as your plan is updated.



Join the Legacy Society of the Idaho Catholic Foundation

The Legacy Society thanks our parishioners who have remembered the Roman Catholic Diocese and/or their parish, school or other Catholic entity in Idaho through their estate plan. These parishioners have agreed to be the “**Legacy**” angels of our parish family on earth and in Heaven. You may choose to remain anonymous with your estate gift, and you can modify or revoke it at any time.

The **Legacy Society** offers a number of benefits to its members including: special remembrance of all members at the Bishop’s annual Mass for Legacy Society members as well as your name remembered in our prayers and memorialized in a special way.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNED GIVING

At the Idaho Catholic Foundation, we rely on donations from friends like you to carry out the Church’s important work and Catholic mission.

But what about the future? Though we’ve accomplished a lot, there’s still much left for us to do. Planned gifts help us get there.

When you make a planned gift to the Catholic Church, you:

- Provide us with solid financial footing
- Help us plan for the future with confidence
- Ensure we can adjust our offerings to meet the changing needs of those we serve

There are several ways you can make a planned gift to the Church, many of which offer you benefits in return. Some popular gifts include:

- **Giving a gift in your will or living trust.** This gift costs you nothing today and is easy to change as needed.
- **Naming the Church as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets.** A simple form is all that’s needed to make this gift.
- **Donating appreciated stock.** When you give stock that is worth more now than when you bought it, you can avoid capital gains tax.
- **Establishing a life income gift.** Give a gift and receive steady income in return. You may even qualify for a tax deduction in the year you make your gift.

To learn more, we would be happy to speak with you in confidence, with no obligation. Have you already included the Church in your estate plan? Please let us know so we can thank you properly.

THE PERFECT WAY TO HONOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE

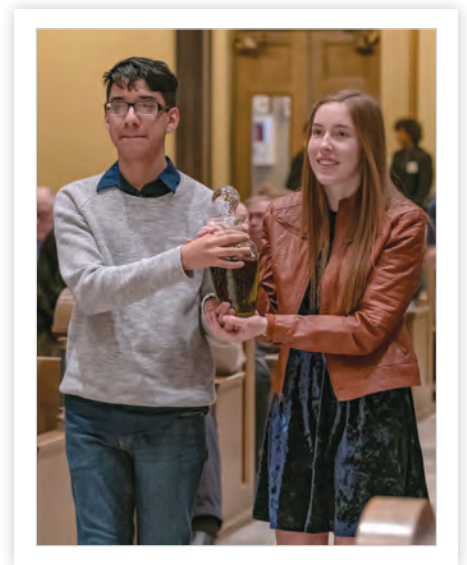
If you have a friend or family member whose Catholic faith has been important to them, consider making a gift to us in his or her name. When you memorialize some of the most important people in your life as part of a gift to the Church, you:

- Honor that special person
- Support the Catholic mission
- Possibly receive personal financial benefits.

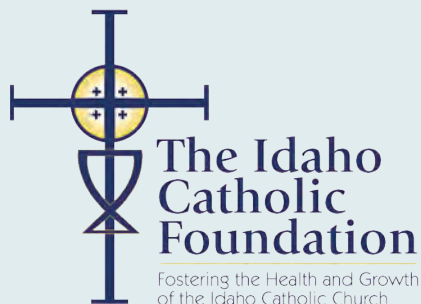
You Have Choices

Three basic methods are available for establishing an honorary gift:

- 1 A gift today**—An outright gift can help fund our immediate needs or an upcoming project. The financial benefits include an income tax deduction and the possible elimination of capital gains tax.
- 2 A gift through your estate plan**—You can include a gift in your will or living trust, stating that a specific asset, certain dollar amount or percentage of your estate will pass to us at your death in honor of your loved one.
- 3 A gift that lives on forever**—Honorary endowments can be made now or through your estate plan. Endowments are structured so that a small portion of your gift, rather than the whole amount, is used each year to fund a particular purpose. To perpetuate the fund forever, the majority of the fund always remains intact and is invested for the future.



We're Here to Help
Making an honorary gift is a wonderful way to acknowledge someone's vision for the future. Contact us to learn more about ways to recognize your honoree.



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