Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Since being installed as Bishop of Richmond, I have spent time visiting and getting to know the people and history of the Diocese. I have witnessed firsthand the vibrancy, dedication, and competence of all who support this Church in its catechetical, sacramental, charitable, and administrative efforts.

I am deeply grateful to my predecessor, Bishop Francis DiLorenzo, for his foresight in conducting the Living Our Mission capital campaign, and in establishing the Catholic Community Foundation. The work of so many in supporting those initiatives has enabled us to be equipped with the tools necessary to move our Church forward. But there is still much more that can be done.

At the core of the Foundation’s mission is continuing the good work begun by Living Our Mission in building endowment funds to support our parishes, schools, and ministries. I consider these endowments created by individuals and families to be inspired giving. They are gifts which are a true testament to their perpetual love of the Lord and his Church.

In this booklet, you will find important information regarding key aspects of the Catholic Community Foundation. I encourage your interest in reviewing it and, your prayerful consideration of support for the ministries and programs of the Diocese of Richmond.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout
Bishop of Richmond
Responsibility
The Catholic Community Foundation designs and implements all stewardship and development initiatives of the Diocese of Richmond. Its professional team of Diocesan staff members collaborate closely with the leadership of parishes, schools, agencies, and ministries throughout the Diocese. The Foundation coordinates the Annual Diocesan Appeal, Living Our Mission campaign continuation, parish stewardship, and legacy giving efforts in service to the mission of the Diocese of Richmond.

Investment
With the guidance of professional investment managers, the Foundation builds and invests permanent endowments and long-term investments on behalf of the Diocese of Richmond and its related entities. Because it manages funds from many entities under one umbrella, the Foundation is able to effectively diversify its portfolio, optimize its investment returns, and minimize investment fees. Permanent endowment funds manage all contributed funds in perpetuity and distribute only the income from those funds on a periodic basis.

Board of Directors
The Foundation benefits from the strategic input and oversight of a Board of Directors. The Board consists of clergy and lay leaders from various geographic regions of the Diocese of Richmond. Subcommittees guide investment strategy, advise on development initiatives, and ensure accountability.

Accountability
The Catholic Community Foundation operates as an independent 501(c)(3) organization and holds itself to the highest standards of accountability and transparency. A fiscal audit is conducted annually and information is readily available through the Foundation’s website, its annual report, and ongoing communications.

Types of Funds
The Catholic Community Foundation holds endowment funds restricted specifically for parishes, schools, agencies, and ministries of the Diocese of Richmond. The Foundation also holds donor-named endowment funds and Donor Advised Funds in the name of individuals or families to support of particular entities or ministries of the Diocese, they choose to benefit.

Giving Opportunities
Outright Gifts: Making an impact today is as easy as writing a check or making a donation from a checking account or credit card. Not only will you be providing present-day resources for the Church, you may also be able to receive an income tax deduction for the value of the gift.

Beneficiary Gifts: A simple provision in your will or living trust can provide immeasurable impact to the ministries of our Catholic Church while at the same time allowing for an estate tax deduction. In addition to a will, the Church can be named as a beneficiary of a whole or universal life insurance policy.

Life Income Gifts: A vehicle such as a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) can provide you with a guaranteed income stream for life while helping you realize significant tax savings.

Retirement Plan Gifts: Once you turn 70½, you can turn your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an IRA into a substantial tax-free gift for the Catholic Church. You can also choose to support the Church through a 401k, 403b or other qualified retirement plan.

Gifts of Appreciated Assets: Gifts including stocks, bonds and property (such as real estate) can provide you with charitable deductions as well as additional tax savings.

Lumen Christi Legacy Society
Lumen Christi is Latin for Light of Christ. It calls each Catholic to allow the light of Christ given to them at Baptism to live on through them as a light to the world by their final and faithful generosity. The Catholic Community Foundation will encourage every Catholic to consider how they can make a legacy gift as a final act of faith, a demonstration of love for God and others, and a witness to those who live on. The Lumen Christi Legacy Society is a way to express gratitude to every legacy contributor and to champion the blessing of legacy giving to all members of the Church.