



## **A Special Opportunity for Our Catholic Faithful**

A critical component of the Catholic Community Foundation's service to parishes is offering a program to help parishes promote and support the development of legacy gifts for future ministry. This program is designed not only to educate Catholics about the importance of having an updated Will, but it also asks them to consider naming their parish as a beneficiary.

This special opportunity allows the faithful to make a final witness to their life of stewardship and, by so doing, provide for the long-term financial health of their parish. For many, a legacy gift is an expression of faith that the church will remain vital in the future. Moreover, it recognizes the value of passing

on to the next generation the blessings from those who came before us.

Each year Maggie Keenan, Director of Planned Giving, works with parish legacy committees to conduct the program which includes information, guides, and a schedule of easy-to-follow tasks to ensure that parishes stay on track. As a part of the program, parishes receive the additional benefit of having their own Lumen Christi Legacy Society chapter. This society is a way to honor those who name the parish in their Will.

Another important component of this program is that Maggie provides an informational seminar, *Get Your Affairs in Order: 4 Things Your Family Will Thank You For*. Participants learn about Wills, Trusts, Catholic Advanced Medical Directives, Funeral Mass & Burial Planning, and Legacy Planning. Recently, Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Virginia Beach, a participant in the legacy program, hosted the seminar and over 60 parishioners attended.

If you would like to learn more about legacy giving opportunities for your parish, please contact Maggie Keenan at [mkeenan@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:mkeenan@richmonddiocese.org).