

ST. JOSEPH'S CONGREGATION OF BIG BEND

ENDOWMENT FUND

What is an Endowment Fund?

An endowment fund is a perpetual fund. It is created by charitable donations in the form of cash, stocks, mutual funds, real property, or other personal property given to a foundation, such as St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund, to support a specific goal or program. The St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund is a securely structured publicly supported 501(c)3 organization. It ensures that all donated funds will be used for their intended purposes.

What Does Charitable Donation Mean?

A gift made by an individual or an organization to a nonprofit organization, charity or private foundation. Charitable donations are commonly in the form of cash, but can also take the form of real estate, motor vehicles, appreciated securities, clothing and other assets or services.

What Does Estate Planning Mean?

The collection of preparation tasks that serve to manage an individual's asset base in the event of their incapacitation or death, including the bequest of assets to heirs and the settlement of estate taxes. Most estate plans are set up with the help of an attorney experienced in estate law.

Some of the major estate planning tasks include:

- Creating a will
- Limiting estate taxes by setting up trust accounts in the name of beneficiaries
- Establishing a guardian for living dependents
- Naming an executor of the estate to oversee the terms of the will
- Creating/updating beneficiaries on plans such as life insurance, IRAs and 401(k)s
- Setting up funeral arrangements
- Establishing annual gifting to reduce the taxable estate
- Setting up durable power of attorney (POA) to direct other assets and investments

What Does *Bequest* Mean?

The process of giving stocks, bonds, or any other assets to beneficiaries through the provisions of a will.

How does an endowment work?

The practice of investing the principal, rather than spending it, creates a perpetual fund. Most of an endowment's annual earnings are distributed to the designated benefactors or programs. Endowments provide a "forever giving" funding source to St. Joseph's programs and activities.

What is the purpose of the Endowment Fund?

To support and assist St. Joseph's Big Bend Congregation in its mission by providing supplemental funding of programs and services.

To provide additional support for its operation, maintenance, capital requirements, and continued existence.

To operate exclusively for religious, charitable or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended.

To receive any real property or tangible or intangible personal property, including money, by gift, grant, devise, or bequest from any individual, foundation, corporation, either private or public, or governmental instrumentality for the purpose or purposes set forth herein and to administer such property for such purpose or purposes.

To carry out the work of the Fund in accordance with the policies and guidelines established by the Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee and St. Joseph's Big Bend Congregation of Big Bend, Wisconsin.

If I give a gift to the St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund who decides where the money will go?

There is an Advisory Board, which consists of 9 to 15 dedicated members of the Parish. It is the function of the Advisory board to advise the Directors in matters relating to the St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund in accordance with the purposes stated above.

The Advisory Board will also establish and approve an annual budget of the operation of the Fund. Unbudgeted expenditures must have the written consent of the majority of the Advisory Board. The Directors of the St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund are the Archbishop, the Vicar General, the Pastor of St. Joseph's Parish, the Treasurer Trustee and the Secretary Trustee.

Why should I give to the St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund when there are so many other worthy causes that need funding just as badly?

There are many advantages. Endowments offer a solid base of funds that will be available now and in the future. They continue forever since only the interest earned is spent, allowing the fund to continue in perpetuity. Donors receive tax benefits in the form of charitable deductions. An endowment can allow the donor to honor or memorialize a loved one as a permanent philanthropic legacy.

The advantages of an endowment are many, and the rewards last forever.

Is a donation to the St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund tax deductible?

We are not able to give you tax advice, but it may be tax deductible for you. You should consult your tax advisor.

There are some situations where you can create a Charitable Remainder Trust, which will allow you to make a promise to the Endowment Fund for the future, but take a tax deduction today.

How can I make a contribution?

- **Appreciated securities & real estate** - this may be a way to gain tax advantages for donors who have held assets for long periods of time.
- **Stocks & gift stocks** - stocks, including stock from start-up ventures, may be placed in an endowment trust with current market value benefits.
- **Planned giving** - assets as a part of a will may be another opportunity to give a gift through a charitable trust agreement.
- **Cash donations** - the simplest and most convenient way to help; a cash donation can take the form of a long-term gift or pledge over several years. Make checks out to: St. Joseph's Congregation of Big Bend Endowment Fund.

What Does *Charitable Remainder Trust* Mean?

- A tax-exempt irrevocable trust designed to reduce the taxable income of individuals by first dispersing income to the beneficiaries of the trust for a specified period of time and then donating the remainder of the trust to the designated charity.

What Does *Estate* Mean?

- All of the valuable things an individual owns, such as real estate, art collections, collectibles, antiques, jewelry, investments and life insurance

I still have some questions. Who can I call?

You can come in or call the rectory at 262-662-2832.