

From the President and Executive Director



As we greet the crisp and colorful days of fall, we're excited to visit again through this edition of the FOCUS. We ended the fiscal year (FY) on June 30th having had another great year. We enjoyed investment returns of over 9% with all funds being invested according to our Catholic values. Additionally, we were blessed with almost \$1.6 million in contributions to new or existing endowments, and as of October 1, we have received over \$1.2 million in contributions for this FY. 2018's distribution availability of over \$1.3 million is

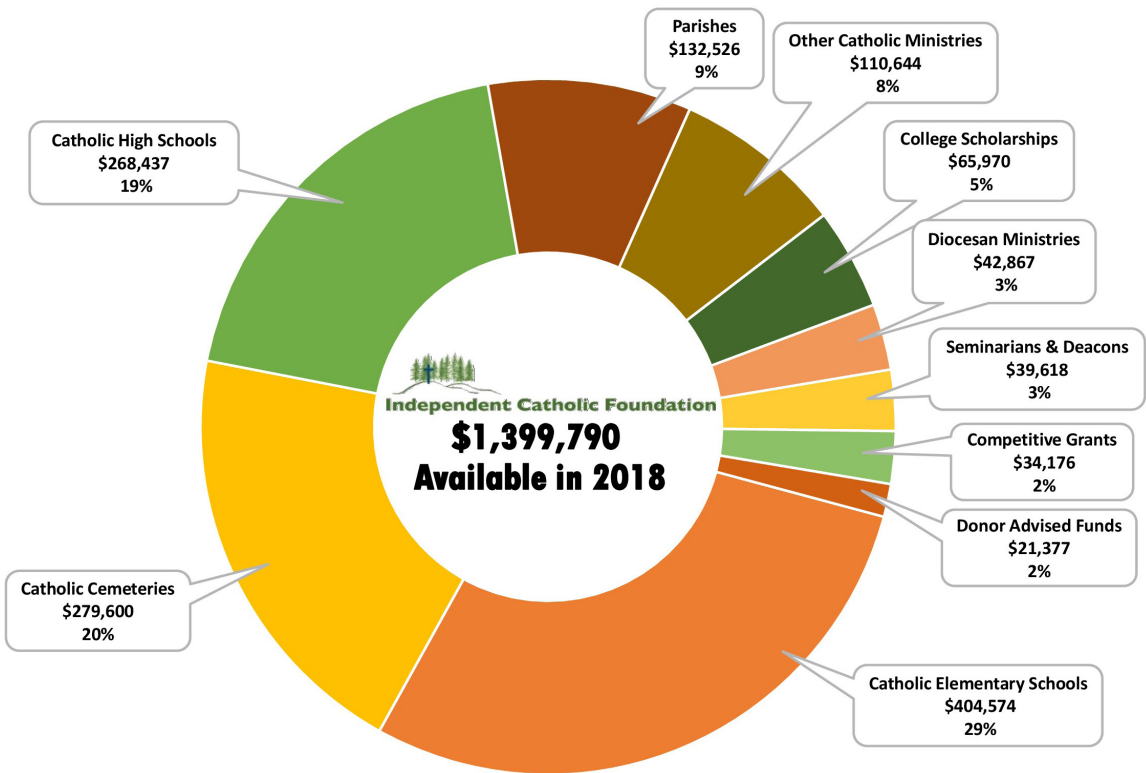
a record, as is \$32 million under management! We are humbled by this success and pray that God continues to smile on our efforts. We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and trust it provides insight on how you can remember your parish or favorite Catholic ministry in your estate planning. Please visit our website, www.icfdaj.org, for some gift planning ideas. Please contact our office or any Trustee to discuss how we may be of service. Thank you.

*Joe Keller, President
Bill Hiergeist, Executive Director*

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*THE MISSION OF THE
INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC
FOUNDATION IS TO BE A
VEHICLE FOR THE PEOPLE
OF THE BODY OF CHRIST
TO PROVIDE FINANCIALLY
FOR THE MINISTRIES OF
HIS CHURCH AND ENSURE
THE PERPETUATION OF HIS
MINISTRY FOR CURRENT AND
FUTURE GENERATIONS.*



Visit
www.icfdaj.org
for ideas about planning your
Year-End charitable gifts.

The Independent Catholic Foundation



Father D. Timothy Grimme, pastor of St. Therese Parish in Altoona accepts an Arise grant from trustee Jim Carrieri.



St. Joseph's Catholic Academy Head of School Jennifer Mallett and Theology Instructor & Campus Minister Nick Astle review plans for a Jesuit retreat with students.



Holy Trinity Catholic School principal, Elaine Spencer, shows the new security system to two students of the elementary campus in Altoona.



Trustee Marty Marasco presents a grant for Mount Carmel Parish's new organ concert series to Father Frank Scornaienchi, TOR, pastor, and James Dengler, director of music.



Father Rod Soha, TOR, pastor of all three Windber Catholic Parishes and Roxanne Newcomer accept an Arise grant from Chris Ringkamp.



Trustee Ron Stellabotte presents an Arise grant to diocesan director of Evangelization, Sister Linda LaMagna, CCW.

Foundation Awards \$34,368 through New Impact Grant Program

The Catholic version of a “prize patrol” has been taking place in recent weeks as trustees and employees of the Independent Catholic Foundation presented checks to parishes, schools and ministries throughout the diocese. The new Impact Grant Program was funded by a generous, unrestricted bequest from a blue-collar retiree who loved his Church. After investing the funds for the last year, the Foundation’s trustees decided to award a percentage of its annual earnings as grants.

The Foundation distributed Impact Grant Applications to parishes, schools and ministries in June with guidelines emphasizing the grant committee’s preference to give priority to evangelization initiatives. Funding requests

would be considered if the applications identified additional sources of income, guaranteeing that our grants would be matched. Twenty-four applications seeking a combined total of \$96,775 in need were submitted by the August deadline.

Realizing our grant pool was not sufficient enough to fund major capital renovations, the grant committee focused on supporting needs more closely linked to improving the faith lives of fellow Catholics. The Foundation awarded 22 grants totaling \$34,368. Fifty-two percent of the total amount was awarded for evangelization and youth experiences with the remainder providing support for leadership development, worship, security and renovation initiatives.

Grants to help cover expenses for the Arise Together in Christ experience were presented to St. Michael Basilica in Loretto, St. John the Evangelist and St. Therese Parishes in Altoona, St. Matthew Parish in Tyrone, Holy Family Parish in Portage, St. Clement Parish in Johnstown, St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Windber (for the benefit of all three Windber faith communities), SCI-Loretto Prison Ministry and the diocese's Evangelization Office.

Grants for student retreats were awarded to Bishop Guilfoyle and Bishop McCort Catholic High Schools, St. Joseph's Catholic Academy in Boalsburg and Divine Mercy Catholic Academy in Johnstown. Youth Ministry grants were presented to St. Augustine Parish in St. Augustine and St. Michael Parish in St. Michael, while a grant to purchase Bibles for Religious Education students went to Our Mother of Sorrows Parish in Johnstown.

Other grants included partial funding for the new organ concert series at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Altoona, a new automatic external defibrillator at Most Holy Trinity Parish in Huntingdon, upgraded security for the Altoona elementary campus of Holy Trinity Catholic School, relocation of the Saint Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in State College, a cemetery survey for Prince of Peace Parish in Northern Cambria and playground renovations at Lock Haven Catholic School.

A Foundation Impact Grant was also presented to Bishop Mark Bartchak to help cover expenses of a "Toolbox for Pastoral Management" initiative that will be presented by the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management for the benefit of pastors later in the current fiscal year.



Sister Karen Duddy, CCW, pastoral minister at St. Matthew Parish in Tyrone, displays the Arise grant in the parish's gathering space.



Lock Haven Catholic School Principal Michele Alexander and Pastor Father Joseph Orr show students where a new playground will be constructed.



Chris Ringkamp presents an Arise grant to Father Tom Stabile, TOR, pastor of Holy Family Parish, Portage.



Janet Haner, manager of the SVDP Thrift Store in State College, accepts a grant from trustee Rick Musar.



Chris presents a youth ministry grant to Father Brian Warchola, administrator of St. Michael Parish in St. Michael.



Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School students review the evangelization retreat outline with Campus Minister, Bob Sutton.

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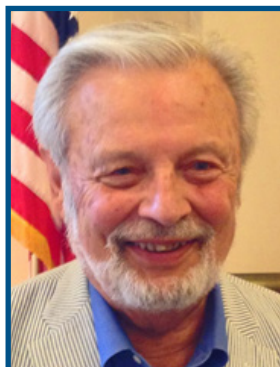
St. Michael, Hollidaysburg

John J. Wolf

Cathedral, Altoona



Board of Trustees Announces Changes



Dental Surgery (DDS) from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, University of Maryland 1966, followed

The Board of Trustees extends its deepest appreciation to Dino Persio, Esq., for fulfilling nine years of service as a volunteer trustee, and welcomes Ronald Stellabotte. Born and raised in Altoona, Stellabotte graduated from St. Francis University in 1962 with a bachelor's degree. He then graduated as a Doctor of

by Certification in 1967. Until 1995, he practiced dentistry and lectured nationally and internationally. After retiring from dentistry, he became a financial advisor and retired from Wells Fargo Investments in 2009. Ron, who was married to Nancy for 51 years until her passing in 2015, has four children: Joseph, Jamie, Ron, and Tim. He is active in his parish, Saint Michael the Archangel in Hollidaysburg, volunteering as Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharistic and is a member of the "The God Squad" by volunteering his time and talents at FCI-Loretto, Blair County Prison and Saint Leonard's Nursing Home. He received diocesan Lay Ministry Certification in 2012 and made his Cursillo in 2014.

Separate from, but committed to, *the Diocesan Church*

The Foundation is an independent entity – legally separate from the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown – committed to the long-term strength and viability of Catholic institutions within the eight-county diocese. The Foundation is overseen by a board of trustees comprised of lay men and women. The Diocese (as a legal entity) and the Diocesan Bishop have no role in the management of the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization [a public charity]. Endowment funds are owned by the Foundation and can not be attached for Diocesan operating funds or any needs of the Diocese.

Please Note

In all instances it is advisable to speak with legal counsel, a Financial advisor and/or a tax consultant. No information contained in this newsletter or on the Foundation website should be considered legal advice.

Independent Catholic Foundation

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