

# Feeding Our Faith



A Quarterly Publication by the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan

3rd Quarter 2022





## Join us for the Saint Joseph Society Bible Program Webinars

Are you interested in providing Bibles for your sixth grade class? Join the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan this September at one of the multiple webinars that we will be hosting to provide more information on the Bible Program of the Saint Joseph Giving Society. All sixth grade Catholic school teachers and all Parish religious education teachers are welcome to join one of the Microsoft Teams meetings.

**TUESDAY**

**September 20th, 2022 | 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**or**

**THURSDAY**

**September 22nd, 2022 | 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**For information on how to participate be sure to visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CCFMidMich](https://www.facebook.com/CCFMidMich) or website at [www.ccfmm.org](http://www.ccfmm.org)**

## College and High School Scholarship Application Windows

The 2023 College Scholarship application window will open this October with the 2023/2024 High School Scholarships application window to follow in November.

**Check out our Facebook page and website for Application Window date details!**

# Open Grant Applications



The Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan is proud to announce that eight grant applications have been opened. These grants help support ministries that reach the poor and vulnerable, seminarians and priests of the Diocese of Saginaw, and Catholic education. They also enhance community well-being, supplement Catholic school teachers' salaries, support tuition and scholarships to Catholic school students and enable Catholic ministries to thrive!

## Available Grant Listing

*Anonymous (International) Grant*

*Bishop Kenneth E. Untener Catholic School Education Grant*

*Geraldine Kuligowski and Karen Tyler Memorial Grant*

*Koncavich Memorial Grant*

*Reverend Noel T. Rudy Grant*

*St. Mary Medical Center Catholic School Education Grant*

*William P. & L. Majorie Falsey Memorial Fund for Catholic Education Grant*

Each grant has the opportunity to be awarded to multiple recipients. To be considered for a 2022 grant, applications must be received by October 14th, 2022. For more details of how to apply as well as qualification requirements please visit our website at [www.ccfmm.org/grants](http://www.ccfmm.org/grants)

# June Grants and Designated Distributions



Every year the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan distributes funds from designated endowments to Catholic schools, parishes and Catholic organizations throughout the Diocese of Saginaw. This year the CCFMM distributed over \$450,000. Below is the summary of these distributions.

Catholic Agencies received \$6,172 from *two endowments*.

Catholic International Organizations received \$4,406 from *two endowments*.

Catholic Organizations received \$8,112 from *one endowment*.

Catholic Parishes received \$92,601 from *twenty-five endowments*.

Catholic Schools received \$262,598 from *sixty-three endowments*.

Religious Education Programs received \$76,730 from *twenty-one endowments*.

The CCFMM thanks all donors who have contributed to the endowments that support these wonderful ministries. Visit our website to read about the impact of these ministries at [ccfmm.org/communityimpact/](https://ccfmm.org/communityimpact/).

**Inspired to Give?**

Become a donor today by visiting our website at <https://ccfmm.fcsuite.com/erp/donate>

# 2021 CCFMM Audit Report



The CCFMM Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that the 2021 Audit Report has been uploaded to the CCFMM website for your viewing. You can read the full report on our website at [www.ccfmm.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Audit-Report.pdf](http://www.ccfmm.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Audit-Report.pdf).

The clean 2021 Audit Report was processed by Yeo and Yeo CPAs & Business Consultants.

*In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan as of December 31, 2021, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.*

*Page 1 of the Independent Auditors' Report from Yeo & Yeo*

*We have previously audited the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan's financial statements as of December 31, 2020, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated June 7, 2021. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.*

*Page 3 of the Independent Auditors' Report from Yeo & Yeo*

Contact Kristin Smith, Executive Director of the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan at 989.599.0079 or [kristin.smith@ccfmm.org](mailto:kristin.smith@ccfmm.org) for any questions!

# James Cardinal Hickey Endowment Fund close

This is a story about a Cardinal's commitment to his Catholic school in Midland and the support of the parishioners of St. Brigid of Kildare Parish to carry on his legacy as the school celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Members of St. Brigid's have raised more than \$900,000 for the James Cardinal Hickey Endowment Fund to make sure that St. Brigid School's operations are supported in perpetuity. The goal is \$1 million.



“The campaign is a perfect opportunity to acknowledge the legacy of Cardinal Hickey and do everything we can to preserve it for the future,” said Father Andy Booms, pastor of St. Brigid’s. “Cardinal Hickey was always proud of his heritage growing up in Midland. His life is a great inspiration to never lose hope and faith in Jesus because he raises leaders in all times of the church.”

Cardinal Hickey, referred to by some as St. Brigid’s “Golden Child,” attended grade school at St. Brigid, was ordained in 1946 and became the Auxiliary Bishop of the Saginaw Diocese in 1967. He served as Bishop of Cleveland and was elevated to Archbishop of Washington, D.C. in 1980, and then to Cardinal by Pope John Paul II in 1988. He died in 2004.

Cardinal Hickey himself established the endowment with \$50,000 seed money in 1991 and the fund grew to

# to its \$1 million goal for St. Brigid School



\$1 million. In 2010, school trustees decided to use the majority of it to help fund a \$3 million school expansion that added a middle school, gymnasium, kitchen, and remodeled the original building.

*“We had outgrown the grade school building and needed the expansion to keep the school vital,” Father Andy said. “Our goal now is to restore the endowment for the future.”*

Father Andy explained that the leaders were able to draw down the money in the original endowment because the fund was managed privately and there were no restrictions. As of 2011, the endowment has been managed by the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan (CCFMM) and only the interest is available on an annual basis.

The current campaign was launched with a sizable gift from the estate of parishioner and school alumnus Therese Nowak. Interest from the endowment will be used exclusively for the school including recruitment, training, programs, improvements and operations.

Another goal of the drive is to have 400 contributors. “Truly we want this to be the work of everyone, not just a few elites,” Father Andy said.



Maureen Becker (far left), Deacon Al Oliver, Tom Erickson, Cathy Leikhim, Fr. Andy Booms, Laura Wilkowski, Steve Wilkowski, Tony Mitus (far right)

# Endowment Fund will provide an annual

Tom Erickson, co-chair of the Endowment Committee and a nephew of Cardinal Hickey, said St. Brigid's future is important because it is the only Catholic school that remains in Midland County.

*"More than ever today we need Catholic values and Catholic schools," he said.*

*"They produce strong future citizens."*

Committee member Maureen Becker, who taught at St. Brigid's for 18 years and was principal for 12 more, said the campaign is essential. "As principal I had the experience of working with very small budgets," she said. "To know that there will be a dedicated amount for the school each year is huge."

Becker said she is pleased with the progress of the campaign considering the turbulent economy. "I am seeing parishioners making sacrifices," she said. "I think people are finally becoming aware of how important this endowment is to the future of our Catholic school."

St. Brigid School had 135 students K-8 during the past school year. Enrollment is projected between 140 to 150 for the coming school year.

Father Andy is encouraged by the campaign. "The Endowment is a wonderful expression of trust and a way to sustain the life of our school, which is a vital part of our parish mission. We are making a final push to complete the journey."

*Written by Joan Ramm*



# disbursement for St. Brigid School in Midland



## Inspired to Give?

While the active phase of the campaign is ending, Fr. Andrew Booms welcomes your support!

Go to [www.ccfmm.org](http://www.ccfmm.org), click on our donate button, and search  
“James Cardinal Hickey Endowment for St. Brigid of Kildare School”

You can also donate by mail at:

Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan  
James Cardinal Hickey Endowment for St. Brigid of Kildare School  
5800 Weiss St., Saginaw, MI 48603

## Plan a Campaign for your Parish, School or Scholarship Endowment

Contact Kristin Smith, Executive Director of the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan at 989.599.0079 or [kristin.smith@ccfmm.org](mailto:kristin.smith@ccfmm.org) to learn more about how you can plan a campaign, like the James Cardinal Hickey Endowment Campaign for St. Brigid School.

# Stewardship: Giving from the Heart



We introduced the four areas of stewardship in our 2021 newsletters and thus far we have elaborated on being Disciples as Stewards, being Stewards of Creation, and being Stewards of the Church. In this issue of *Feeding Our Faith* we introduce the last area of stewardship, being Stewards of Vocation.

## What is a Vocation?

A vocation is the calling we have in this life. God has created us to love and serve Him, and He has a unique plan for each person's life - a vocation. As God is the source of all lasting happiness, satisfaction and joy, then living according to God's plan for us will be the best life we can lead. Courage, obedience and persistent prayer are needed for us to live our vocation, whether it is to single life, to marriage or in service to the Church as a priest or religious.

*Source: Vocation Glossary by the USCCB*

## What does it mean to be a Steward of Vocation?

Jesus calls us, as his disciples, to a new way of life—the Christian way of life—of which stewardship is part. But Jesus does not call us as nameless people in a faceless crowd. He calls us individually, by name. Each one of us—clergy, religious, lay person; married, single; adult, child—has a personal vocation. God intends each one of us to play a unique role in carrying out the divine plan. The challenge, then, is to understand our role—our vocation—and to respond generously to this call from God. Christian vocation entails the practice of stewardship. In addition, Christ calls each of us to be stewards of our personal vocations, which we receive from God.

*Source: To Be a Christian Steward: A Summary of the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship by the USCCB*

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## How do I discern my vocation?

*Pray* | Establish a routine prayer life of attending Mass regularly, praying the Rosary, meditating on Scripture, journaling, making a retreat, and spending time with the Lord in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

*Talk* | Contact your Diocesan Vocations Director and speak to them about your discernment thus far to get their advice on next steps.

*Spiritual Direction* | Spiritual Direction, often by a priest or consecrated person, attunes the heart to the voice of the Lord and will help you identify how the Holy Spirit is moving in your life.

*Come and See* | Often coordinated by the diocesan vocation office, these “Come & See” events offer a glimpse into the life of a seminarian / religious sister and will help you identify if this is the life to which God is calling you.

*Get Involved* | Consider volunteering in your parish or community and finding trusted friends who can provide support and accountability for your discernment journey.

*Rest* | Discerning a vocation should not be considered an “accomplishment” that you check off your to do list. It’s a daily walking with God that involves the whole person. A healthy life balance of eating well, exercising, and getting the proper amount of rest will positively contribute to your spiritual well-being.

*Source: How to Discern Your Vocation by the USCCB*

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In August the Saint Joseph Society had the opportunity to host our Giving Level Picnic and Mass with Bishop Gruss.



# About the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan



The Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan is a private autonomous pious charity established to serve the Catholic community in the Diocese of Saginaw. The CCFMM is a separate and independent entity from the Diocese, with its own 501(c)(3) designation, by-laws, trustees, and laity staff. The Bishop serves as an ex-officio, nonvoting, member of the Board of Directors to ensure our Catholicity.

An integral part of the Catholic Community in Mid-Michigan is to serve parishes, schools and ministries of the geographic area of the Diocese of Saginaw, including Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties.

The CCFMM offers various options listed below to accommodate your personal philanthropic goals. Funds are managed to optimize tax savings, to advance charitable interests, to create an enduring personal or family legacy and to build Catholic endowments.

**Donor Advised Funds**

**Charitable Bequests**

**Memorial and Honorary Endowments**

**Endowed Grants**

**Endowed Scholarships**

**Endowed Tuition Assistance**

**Restricted Endowments**

**Unrestricted Endowments**

# Letter from the President



Greetings Everyone!

We hope that all of you are enjoying your summer! Recently I was blessed with the opportunity to attend a Holy Hour/Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Service for Vocations. This time of quiet listening to the Word of God and trying to discern His Will was refreshing and encouraging.

In our busy world and busy lives there is a risk that quiet prayer and quiet listening to God may get crowded out by all of the noise. With seemingly ubiquitous texts, emails, social media, and constant updates on the crisis of the day, sometimes my prayer can get relegated to the “back burner”.

In a world where we can be inundated with secular alphabet soup acronyms and initialisms, it occurred to me that perhaps I should consider some spiritual ones to help me try to balance things a bit and try to focus on the bigger picture.

While we are all likely familiar with LOL (Laugh Out Loud), IMO (In My Opinion), BTW (By The Way), TGIF (Thank God It's Friday), I need to encourage myself to frequently think about JOY (Jesus, Others, Yourself) as a guide for prioritizing actions, FROG (Fully Rely On God), alternative TGIFs (Today God is First) or (Thank God I'm Forgiven!) as well as ASAP (Always Stop And Pray), as I get through my work day! Trying to keep God top of mind in a digital world can be assisted by thinking of a spiritual acronym or initialism every now and then!

Thank You to ALL OF YOU for being part of the Body of Christ in your parishes and our entire Faith Community.  
May God Bless You Always!

Best Wishes



Mike Wolohan, President  
989.799.5557

# Helping People Help People!

The Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan (CCFMM) is a nonprofit organization that inspires faith-filled charitable giving and manages assets to provide perpetual funding for Catholic parishes, schools, ministries, and nonprofit organizations in the Diocese of Saginaw community long into the future.

The CCFMM receives, grows, and distributes funds on behalf of our donors. We offer donors a personal and highly effective investment vehicle completely in line with Catholic values; the finest professional stewardship of those funds; optimal tax benefits; and the opportunity to create meaningful and lasting legacies through generous and responsible giving to the community.

**Please call us anytime!**

Kristin Smith	Connor Rabine	Michele Driver
<i>Executive Director</i>	<i>Communications Coordinator</i>	<i>Endowment Coordinator</i>
<b>989.303.9201</b>	<b>989.303.9202</b>	<b>989.303.9203</b>



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*Ex Officio*

## *Mission*

*We encourage faithful giving that is responsibly managed  
and reflective of the teachings of Jesus Christ.*

