

Feeding Our Faith



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



3rd Quarter 2020



BIG Raffle

The Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan drew the winners of its BIG Raffle during an event at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption via live stream on Monday, July 20. In order to keep our community safe only a few committee members were present for the drawing event. More than 16,000 BIG Raffle tickets were sold by 41 parishes and schools in communities across the diocese. This year over \$86,000 was raised through raffle tickets and online purchases.

The Catholic Community Foundation and the BIG Raffle Committee would like to thank all those involved in this year's BIG Raffle. We were delighted to have had so many individuals involved and are grateful for the patience and support we've received.

June Distributions

Every year the schools and parishes receive a designated disbursement from funds directed to their organization. This year the CCFMM distributed \$159,784 for Catholic Schools Education and \$148,815 for Catholic Parishes throughout Diocese of Saginaw.

Like us on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/CCFMidMich

Board of Trustees Meetings

September 8 | December 8

Executive Committee Meetings

August 24 | October 21 | November 18

Finance Committee Meetings

August 18 | November 17

Grants Committee Meetings

August 14 | November 13

Investment Committee Meetings

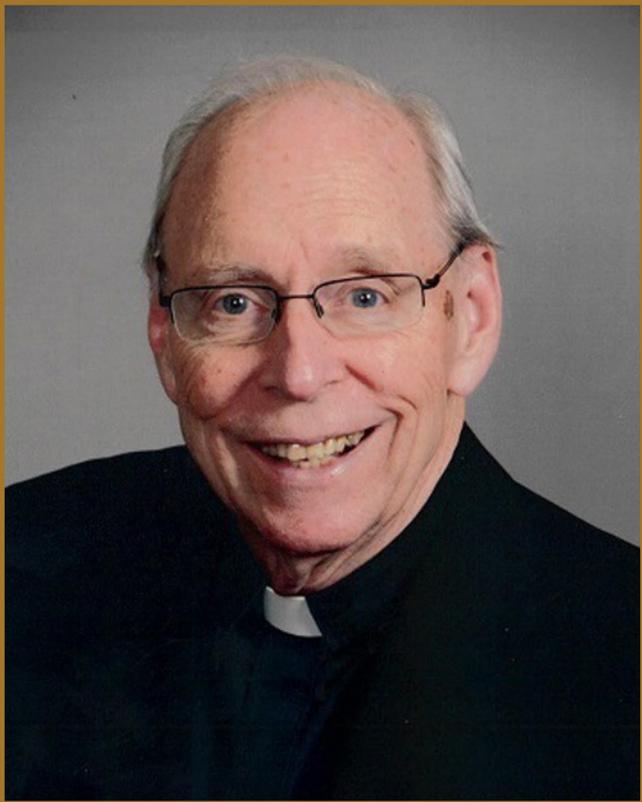
August 19 | November 13

Marketing Committee Meetings

October 1 | November 5

**Committee Meeting dates subject to change*

Gilbert and Adelaide Heller Fund



Father James G. Heller

Father James G. Heller was a well - known priest who served in many different capacities during his 51 years in the Saginaw Diocese. In addition to pastoral and diocesan positions, he was a board member of the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid - Michigan.

“He believed in the philosophy of the Catholic Community Foundation,” said Jeanne Glowicki, Fr. Heller’s niece. “He knew it was a way that people could be served for years to come.”

Fr. Heller died May 7th at St. Anne’s Home in Grand Rapids from complications related to the COVID - 19 virus. He was 78 years old.

His death weighed heavily on the hearts of his surviving family members, including two sisters and one brother, plus three generations of nieces and nephews.

“He had such an impact on all of us,” Jeanne continued. “He was humble, always worried about other people. He saw the good in everyone and he never lost hope.”

Fr. Heller’s death also was a loss for the clergy in the diocese, particularly Fr. William R. Taylor. He delivered the homily at Fr. Heller’s funeral Mass, and then died unexpectedly just weeks later on July 13th. “Father Heller saw the priesthood as a ministry of service,” Fr. Taylor said during the funeral Mass. “He ‘got the word out’ by word

Gilbert and Adelaide Heller Fund Cont...



and example and left the rest to God's grace."

Fr. Heller considered his 19 months at St. Anne's as a continuation of his life's work. He told Fr. Taylor, "This is where I am supposed to minister now."

Fr. Heller was born in Bay City and attended Bay City St. Mary's Elementary and High Schools. He entered the new St. Paul Seminary in Saginaw in 1960, was transferred to Holy Cross Seminary in LaCrosse, WI and studied theology at the North American College in Rome. He was ordained by Bishop Francis Reh on Dec. 20, 1968 at the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome.

He began his ministry as an Associate Pastor at Holy Rosary Parish in Saginaw in 1969, and then Associate Pastor at SS Peter and Paul Parish in Saginaw from 1970 -1974. He served on the Pastoral Team at St. Mary's Cathedral in Saginaw from 1974 - 1982 at which time Bishop Kenneth Untener appointed him Director of the Church Ministries Office for the next seven years.

He returned to pastoral service in 1989, serving at St. Philip Neri in Coleman and St. Anne in Edenville parishes. In 1996 he was assigned to his home parish of St. Mary's in Bay City, where he also served as Vicar of Vicariate VIII. His final pastorate

was at St. Stephen's Parish in Saginaw from 2005 - 2014, when he retired after 45 years of service and became a senior priest.

His connection to the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan went beyond his service on the board. He was proud of the Gilbert and Adelaide Heller Endowment Fund, a philanthropic charity created by his late parents and managed by the Foundation. Catholic institutions directly benefiting from the Heller Endowment include St. Mary's, Bay City; St. Stephen Church, Saginaw; Sacred Heart Church, Elk Rapids; Bay Area Catholic Schools and the Saginaw Area Catholic Schools.

Contributions in Fr. Heller's memory can be made to his parents' Endowment Fund by accessing the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan website: ccfmm.org/donate/ and specifying the Gilbert and Adelaide Heller Endowment Fund in the message/details section of the webpage. Contributions also can be mailed to the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid - Michigan, 5800 Weiss St., Saginaw, MI 48603-2779.

If you would like to read more of our story about Father James Heller please visit our website at

ccfmm.org

Written by Joan Ramm

Thank You to the Donors of the Heller Fund

Ms. Clevering Andress
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Bauer
Lynne Bennett
Ronald & Barbara Bindle
Andrea Broaddus
Debra Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Bowker
Mr. & Mrs. Buchmann
Mr. Robert Campbell
Mrs. Marla Comtois
Patsy Clark
Mary Coates
Ms. Debra Dishaw
Ms. Louise Duve
Timothy Dijak
Sister Mary Epple

Mrs. Karen Fischer
Charles Gilkey
Richard Gruss
Donald & Elaine Glowicki
Jeanne Glowicki
Judith Glowicki
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Glowicki
Mrs. Rosemary Gohm
Mr. & Mrs. Heintskill
Ms. June Herter
David Joswiak
Ms. Mary Ellen Johnson
Ms. Martha Ann Joseph
Mr. Paul Kerbyson
Mrs. Jalene Kulhanek

Ann Knoeck
Ms. Judith Lewandowski
Mrs. Mary Jane Malek
Lori Merchant
Ms. Sherri McHugh- Foth
Mr. Warren Mault
Mr. Daniel McKune
Mr. Robert Murphy
Lauretta Murphy
Mrs. Kimberly Norris
Gloria Novak
Ms. Theresa O'Shea
Mrs. Jane Passariello
Mrs. Mary Ann Prevost
St. Dominic Parish

Sisters of St. Francis
Susan Scott
Nancy Sullivan
Mrs. Barbara Starr
Ms. Susan Smith
Ms. Vickie Spindler
Mrs. Emma Jean Seman
Ms. Mary Sieggreen
Ms. Joyce Stapish
Mr. Arthur Trombley
Mrs. Mary Vogelpohl
Mrs. Sharon Wahl
Ms. Janet Woronoff
Bruce Yungerman
Mr. Fred Zingg

Heller Fund Growth, Thanks to You



Father Heller's Estate
Legacy Gift

\$217,693

Total Donors

62

Total Donations

\$5,250

“ Thank you to Fr. Jim for his attitude of compassion and joy, his long friendship and service.
- Donor ”

“ He always made everyone feel like family. His contagious smile and genuine interest in people was felt by everyone.
- Donor ”

The Gilbert and Adelaide Heller Endowment Fund was established in 2011 in loving memory of Gilbert and Adelaide Heller, parents of Father James Heller. The fund is designed to provide assistance to many institutions, including St. Mary's, Bay City, St. Stephen Church, Saginaw, where Fr. Heller was Pastor; Sacred Heart Church, Elk Rapids; Bay Area Catholic Schools; and Saginaw Area Catholic Schools. Additional contributions to the fund can be made by anyone at any time.

CCFMM Community Impact



Answering the Lord's Call

Written by The Diocese of Saginaw's Communications Office



Volunteers from Resurrection of the Lord Parish, Standish, are answering the Lord's call to feed the hungry in a big way.

In addition to their regular food bank, the parish is serving as a distribution point for a massive food giveaway effort by the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. Approximately 20,000 pounds of food are given away weekly at the parish, not including its regular food bank.

"If they come, we'll give them food," said parishioner Pat Adrian,

who organizes the food bank and giveaway. "How could we turn anyone away right now?"

Increasing Need, Increasing Response

Each Wednesday, about 30 to 35 volunteers organize a large drive-thru that winds its way through the church parking lot, where items such as canned goods, fresh produce, milk and bread are loaded into each vehicle without the driver exiting. The groceries are provided by the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, who purchases food from a variety of sources and receives donations from retail partners. "We've seen an increase every week," Pat said.

More Families

In the few months the parish has been hosting the giveaway, they have gone from serving 150 families to 288.



CCFMM Community Impact Cont.



Pat believes the increase is due in part to word getting out, but mostly because of the recent economic crisis as unemployment rises. Additionally, many have not yet received financial aid through the federal stimulus or state unemployment benefits. As children are not in school, they are also home for all meals.

“We’re seeing a lot of people that would never have to come to the food bank that are coming,” she said. “It’s very sad, very sad.”

Team Effort

“We have increased our food distributions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak,” said Kara Ross, President and CEO of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. “The number of unemployed and furloughed employees in Michigan continues to increase, so the need for food will only grow. We will continue to use our network and resources to get as much food into the communities we serve as possible.”

Feeding hundreds requires a small army of volunteers who arrive around 8 a.m. for the 10 a.m. giveaway and stay until the food is gone and everything is cleaned, around 2:30 p.m. Parishioners, Knights of Columbus and even members of other faith communities come together for the same cause.



“Our volunteers are tremendous,” Pat said. “We have a good, good group that come and stay until we’re done. It’s a lot of work!”

Community Comes Together

“We could not do what we do without our partners, which include faith-based organizations, schools, and other community organizations,” Kara said. “Volunteers at each location direct traffic, sort food into bags or boxes, and load it into vehicles, helping provide food to the community and doing it in a safe manner... It is truly a team effort. We pride ourselves on our ability to adapt and respond in times of crisis, and will continue to do all we can to serve those in need as we recover from this outbreak.”

CCFMM Community Impact Cont.



For both the Wednesday giveaways and the regular food pantry, which is currently drive-thru only, all volunteers wear masks and gloves.

“We just want to be as careful for all of our volunteers and the public as we can right now,” Pat said.

Resurrection of the Lord Parish plans to continue hosting the giveaway as long as the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan continues to supply the trucks of food to offer.

“It’s a great witness of Christian faith and human concern,” said Father Dave Parsch, pastor of Resurrection of the Lord Parish. “It’s remarkable outreach... It’s grown and grown and grown. It’s just a parade of cars and people. They’ve got quite a system.”

“I just couldn’t live with myself if people were going hungry. I just couldn’t sleep at night,” Pat said.

Father Dave also said they have received monetary donations from the community during this time of increased need, demonstrating that many people simply want to help in any way they can.

Hope

“I think it gives a lot of people hope,” he said of the food assistance. “It’s tough times for people, and everybody’s trying to do what they can. I’m sure it lifts their spirits greatly.”



Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Many parishioners across our Diocese have used this unusual time to reflect on the most important things in their life. It's no surprise that for many reading this note, the Church is right there at the top.

We have seen many of our beloved priests pass into eternal life. Fr. Heller and Fr. Taylor both made provisions in their wills for the future of the Church. Their stories are an incredible testament of their love and vocation. The Catholic Community Foundation of Mid – Michigan exists for the express purpose of helping people help others through legacy gifts that serve programs and ministries provided throughout the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw. We encourage faithful giving that is responsibly managed and reflective of the teachings of Jesus Christ.



If I can be of help to you in making a lasting gift to the Church at large or your parish, please let me know. I would be happy to sit down with you and review the various options available through the CCFMM. Interested in learning more? We are offering an estate planning webinar on Wednesday, October 14th at noon and again on Friday, October 16th at noon. Please stay tuned for more information on our website and Facebook page. You can also contact me directly at kristin.smith@ccfmm.org for more information.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristin Smith, CCFMM Executive Director

Please Join Us!



Helping People Help People!

We hope you enjoyed the fourth edition of *Feeding Our Faith*, a quarterly publication by the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan.

New stories and funds are featured monthly.

Mission Statement

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

We hope to hear from you!

Visit us online: www.ccfmm.org or in person:

5800 Weiss Street, Saginaw, MI 48603

Call: (989) 797-6680 or email: ccfmm@ccfmm.org

Board of Trustees

Most Rev. Robert Gruss, Bishop of Saginaw

Ex Officio

Michael Shabluk
President

Dr. Michael Wolohan
Vice President

Alan Watson
Treasurer

Greg Jarmolowicz
Secretary

Jerry Blaxton
Immediate Past President

Rev. Bill Rutkowski
Liaison to the Bishop

Maureen Becker

Marisa Horak Belotti

Ruth Buko

Joseph Day

Brent Domine

Thomas Gross

Sister Maria Inviolata

Erin Ludwig

Sarah Ostahowski

Deacon Gary Patelski

Peter Shaheen

Robert Sasiela

Catholic



lic

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF MID-MICHIGAN

*Joyous Giving in Christ.
Forever meeting the needs of all
God's people.*

