



## DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Have we told you lately how incredible you are?

**Really.** We mean it.

You are compassionate and resilient. You possess the power to do great things; in fact, you already have. From your participation in the Holy Mass, to caring for your family, to helping those in need. You hold the power to show forth the love of Christ in your every thought, word and deed. As St. Augustine of Hippo says, “Our whole business therefore in this life is to restore to health the eye of the heart whereby God may be seen.”

As a thank you, we’d like to send you a complimentary copy of *Know Your Worth*, a **guide to organizing your assets and planning ahead**. Return the reply card today to get yours.

Think of this issue of *Faithful Giving* as your tool kit for creating the world you wish to see. In it, we’ll help you harness the power of your estate plan to achieve your goals, from protecting yourself and your loved ones to helping others experience God’s goodness. You’ll also meet Eryk, whose connection to Catholic Campus Ministry at Northern Michigan University inspired his mother, Hilda, to “pay it forward” with a legacy gift in her will.

Thank you for all you do for the Church in the Diocese of Marquette. We are here to help you give your best gifts to the Church. You have the power to change the world.

With Gratitude,

Terri Gadzinski  
Executive Director, Stewardship & Development  
Diocese of Marquette

**P.S.** Our work isn’t possible without you. Let us thank you with a gift! Return the enclosed reply card to receive your FREE planning resource ***Know Your Worth***, a handy worksheet that will help you account for all your assets and create a solid estate plan.



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# Faithful Giving

A GIFT PLANNING NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF THE DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE

## Legacy Gift to Benefit Campus Ministry Students

**L**ike all mothers, Hilda felt nervous and apprehensive when her son, Eryk, informed her that he had found the perfect college, which was 400 miles away in a city neither of them had ever been to.

When Eryk arrived on the campus of Northern Michigan University (NMU), he didn't know anyone. Back in Chicago, Hilda worried. Would Eryk find friends to hang out with? Would he continue to practice his Catholic faith? Would he be safe and happy?

Eryk was invited to join a Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) session at St. Michael's Parish. It was there, during a "Food for Thought" meeting, that Eryk first met Father Brandon Oman. Eryk and Father Brandon hit it off immediately. Eryk remarked, "I couldn't believe that I had met a priest who loved dirt bikes as much as I did!"

Eryk loved being a part of the CCM group. He grew in his faith through scripture readings and spiritual development. He took part in CCM-sponsored camping and hiking expeditions and visited many of the beautiful and historic sites the Upper Peninsula has to offer.

Eryk also developed close friendships. Every week, when he talked with his mother, Hilda began to feel more at ease about her son being so far away. When Hilda met his CCM friends, she understood how CCM-NMU had become a safe, comfortable and spiritual home for her son.

Hilda was planning to update her will and asked Father Brandon for guidance. She was grateful to CCM-NMU for supporting Eryk. "When Father Brandon told me about the CCM-NMU endowment fund, I knew that a bequest to it was the perfect fit for me, just like Northern and



*Eryk and Hilda*

CCM-NMU were the perfect fit for Eryk," said Hilda.

Hilda's legacy gift allows her to express her gratitude and continue to spread the faith to future generations. Hilda believes that their story and her future gift to CCM-NMU will help provide mothers, fathers, sons and daughters an opportunity to grow in their faith and love for Jesus.

# Important Year-End Considerations

**W**e know that your decision to support the Diocese of Marquette comes from the heart. Every gift you make to us helps others to experience God's goodness. An added bonus is that your gift may also qualify for a tax break this year when you itemize deductions on your federal income tax return.

## Assets You Didn't Know You Had

Here are some assets you may not have considered and the impact they can have on your taxes when you use them charitably.

## IRA Distribution

If you are 59½ or older, you can take a distribution from your IRA and then make a gift to the Diocese of Marquette without penalty. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the amount.

If you are 70½ or older, you can give any amount up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to the Diocese of Marquette. You will not pay income taxes on the transfer. If you are 72 or older, you can use this transfer to satisfy your required minimum distribution.

**To do:** We must receive your gift by Dec. 31 for your donation to qualify this year. If you have check-writing privileges on your IRA, please mail your check by Dec. 18 to allow time to process your gift.

## Appreciated Stock

You may enjoy two tax benefits with a gift of appreciated stock: Avoid paying taxes on the appreciated value, and qualify for an income tax charitable deduction based on today's market value, when you itemize.

**To do:** Complete all transfers by Dec. 31. This includes electronic transfer, hand-delivery of the securities or mailed stock and stock power (mailed separately for security).

## How to Make a Tribute Gift

If you know someone who values the meaningful work we do at the Diocese of Marquette, consider making a donation in their honor. These tribute gifts are also a great way to remember loved ones who are no longer with us.

## Who's on Your List?

As we approach the end of the year, we're happy to help ensure that you can support our mission and also get the most benefit. Please feel free to contact Terri Gadzinski for free resources.

**FREE RESOURCE** Because you're an important part of our work, we want to give you a tool that can help you organize your assets and plan ahead. Use the enclosed card to request your copy of *Know Your Worth* and see the three essential steps for creating your estate plan.



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## Our Mission

We, the Diocese of Marquette, united in Word and Sacrament and in communion with the universal Catholic Church, witness to and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ for all the people in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

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# Tell Me More

Please click [here](#) to submit the reply card

- Please send me my FREE guide ***Know Your Worth.***
- Please tell me how I can make a meaningful impact at the Diocese of Marquette with my estate plan.
- I've included the Diocese of Marquette in my estate plan but haven't yet notified you.
- I would like to learn more about planning my Catholic funeral.



***On the back of this reply card, please tell us what inspires you to support the Church. Thank you for supporting the Diocese of Marquette!***

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Name *(please print)*

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City, State ZIP

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