

SANCTUARY LIGHT

Forever Faithful. Always Illuminating.



The Official Newsletter of the Catholic Legacy Foundation of Acadiana

October 2025

A Home for Every Generation



Like so many people during the COVID shutdown of 2020, I found myself with lots of time on my hands. So I took up a new hobby—genealogy—and began to trace online the roots of my family and my husband's. What was so amazing to me was the records I uncovered that brought the past to life. Long before birth certificates were required, it was sacramental records that revealed so much about my ancestors and how my family came to the Catholic faith.

For generations, our Catholic parishes have been the spiritual home where life's sacred moments are marked and shared. From baptism to First Communion, Confirmation to marriage, and the final commendation at life's end, the Church is present to celebrate our joys and to sustain us in sorrow. It is where faith is handed down, families are united, and hearts find comfort and strength. In good times and in bad, our church parishes stand as a constant, welcoming us home to God's enduring love.

As we reflect on the role our church parish has played in our lives, it is fitting to consider how we can ensure that it remains a source of faith and comfort for generations to come. One meaningful way to do this is by remembering your parish in your estate plans—through a gift in your will or by naming the parish as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. Such a legacy gift is a powerful expression of gratitude and faith, helping to sustain the Church that has accompanied you throughout life’s journey.

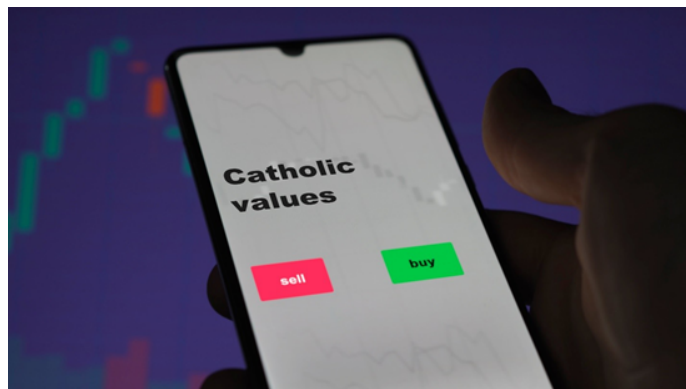
Shining Forth



Lifelong friends and retirees Martha Duncan and Mary Ann Medica combined their households in Lafayette after raising their own families in Alexandria and Pineville. Both retirees found a wonderful church home in St. Edmond’s Catholic Church within walking distance of their residence. In formulating their estate plans, their attorney had suggested a possible bequest to their parish as part of their wills. They did so, but as they became more educated about planned gifts, they realized they could also make a gift in the present by establishing an endowment for St. Edmond’s with the Catholic Legacy Foundation.

Notably, this new endowment is a first for St. Edmond’s, and it stands as a beautiful witness to the Gospel call to stewardship—sharing God’s blessings in ways that continue to bear fruit long into the future. Through careful management and investment aligned with Catholic values, the Foundation will ensure Martha’s and Mary Ann’s gifts continue to grow and serve the mission they hold dear.

Why Catholic Investing Matters



The way we invest reflects what we value. We invite you to consider the commitment of this Foundation to 100% Catholic investing in ALL our portfolios. It’s not just a slice of what we do. It’s everything! Catholic investing recognizes that your financial resources are more than numbers on a page—they are instruments of mission. So their care is important to enable these dollars to impact as many people as possible.

By aligning our investments of all donations with Catholic teaching, we affirm the dignity of every human person and uphold the values of our faith. Catholic investing not only avoids support for activities that contradict Church teaching, it also actively seeks opportunities that influence and foster human flourishing, strengthen communities, and protect God's creation.

Catholic investing is a powerful way to ensure that the resources entrusted to us work for the good of others, not just for financial return. In this way, our stewardship becomes a witness—a living expression of faith that continues to do good long after the initial gift is made. Catholic investing is not just about *how much* we give, but *how* our giving and investing help build the Kingdom of God.

Call us at 337-261-5642 or email mtrahan@clfainc.org to learn how the Catholic Legacy Foundation of Acadiana can make a difference in the impact of your estate plans or in your legacy giving.