



The Catholic Foundation
of Central Florida
Inspire Giving. Fund God's Work.

Newsletter



JANUARY
2025

New Year, New Hope, New Plan

As we begin this season of Ordinary Time in our new liturgical year, it's an opportunity to pause, reflect, and set intentions for both our spiritual and everyday lives. We are called to deepen our faith, reflect on God's profound love for us, and share that love with others through our actions and service.

One powerful way to live out this calling is to consider the legacy we are building with our lives and the gifts that God has entrusted to us. I invite you to reflect on the story of your life and the new chapters ahead. Think about your faith journey, your values, and the impact you want to have on future generations. How can you preserve what has been most meaningful to you? Thoughtful planning is a way to ensure that your faith, your family, and the ministries close to your heart continue to thrive.

When we take the time to reflect and plan, we put God's love into action. By wisely stewarding the gifts He has entrusted to us—our family, our resources, and the causes that inspire us—we create a lasting impact for the generations that follow. This month's newsletter provides some resources to help you consider how you might strengthen your legacy through charitable planning, ensuring that God's love and the work of His Church in Central Florida continue to thrive.

Madelyn T. Weed, CFRE, CAP®

Interim CEO



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[New Year, New You, New Legacy](#)

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Drop your typical New Years Resolutions and focus on securing you and your family's future with thoughtful estate planning. When we reflect and plan, we put God's love into action. [Read more...](#)

[Philanthropy Moment: Who is at Your Planning Table?](#)



Our Interim CEO, Madelyn Weed, CFRE, CAP® went on the Power of Planning podcast, hosted by PGAC Member Vanessa Skinner, ESQ, to speak on the power of giving circles. The episode is available now on [Apple](#) and [Spotify](#).

[Women's Giving Circle 2025 Membership Drive](#)



Nia Herald, VP & Chief Financial Officer CAP® discusses the importance of contacting expert advisors when planning philanthropic goals. [Click here](#) to watch.



Join this great group of women who come together to strengthen our community through values-based strategic, engaged, and collective philanthropy! [Read More...](#)

[Catholic Schools Week](#)



Catholic Schools Week is January 26th to February 1st. Join us in celebrating and supporting your favorite Catholic School. [Learn more...](#)

[Collection for Seminarians](#)



Your gift can help support seminarians during their formation and discernment of the vocation to priesthood. [Click here](#) to learn more and donate.

Monthly Legacy Reflection

What impact, big or small, would you like to leave on the world?



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Team Members Are Recognized for Years of Service in the Diocese



Madelyn Weed, CFRE, CAP® Interim CEO and Susan Diaz, Executive Assistant, were honored at the annual Diocese Advent Retreat in recognition [Read more...](#)

Join Our Upcoming Complimentary Events!



The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida hosts several planning events across the Diocese of Orlando ministries as a complimentary service to [Read more...](#)

The Catholic Foundation Sponsors the Don Quijote Awards



The Don Quijote Awards recognizes Central Florida businesses and individuals who demonstrate his visionary and courageous characteristics. [Read more...](#)

Market Highlights from Our Trusted Partner The Concord Advisory Group, Ltd.

"A Diamond May Not Be Forever"

THE CONCORD ADVISORY GROUP, LTD: DECEMBER 2024 MARKET HIGHLIGHTS COMMENTARY: "A DIAMOND MAY NOT BE FOREVER"

In the late 1940s De Beers began using their iconic slogan, "A Diamond is Forever." For almost the entire 20th century the De Beers monopoly controlled 80 to 90% of the supply of diamonds. Even though diamonds are not rare and among the most common gemstones, De Beers' successful marketing campaign and limiting of supply kept diamond prices artificially high. In the 21st century, new diamond discoveries in Russia, Australia, Angola, and Canada disrupted the De Beers monopoly. Even worse for diamond prices, starting in 2018, FTC rule changes allowed lab grown diamonds to be marketed as real diamonds, chemically equivalent to the stones found in nature. While prices of just about everything have increased over the last 20-years, diamond prices are lower. Advancing technology, new regulation, changing sentiment, and a lack of adaptation doomed the De Beers' seemingly "forever" monopoly.

De Beers shows us that the current period of rapidly shifting technology and politics creates vulnerabilities for even the strongest monopolies. One word that best summarizes the outlook going forward is "disruption."

There are forthcoming events that could even challenge the near monopoly status that some of the big market winners of 2024 enjoy. In the coming years, AMD, Amazon, Alphabet, and Microsoft are poised to challenge Nvidia's estimated 70 to 90 percent market share in the artificial intelligence chip design market. In another example, scientists theorize that quantum computers, like the ones being quickly developed by Alphabet, could undermine the bitcoin transaction process and internet encryption protocols. Alphabet itself is facing antitrust challenges in federal court. Even on a personal level, many office workers are justifiably concerned about the potential for machine learning to disrupt their employment.

Because it is very difficult to foresee disruption and its impact, diversification of both personal human capital and investment capital will be more important than ever going forward.



Sources: Bloomberg

The Concord Advisory Group, Ltd.

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[Learn more about joining the St. Katharine Drexel Society](#)



St. Katharine Drexel is the patron Saint of Philanthropy. The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida strives to emulate her work by enhancing philanthropic impact which serves those who are most in need in nine counties of Central Florida.

Our Mission:

To inspire and increase giving, to prudently invest the resources entrusted to us, and to capably steward those charitable gifts to support the spiritual and corporal needs of the community of the Diocese of Orlando.

Returning God's Gifts



The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida

Inspire Giving. Fund God's Work.

Stay Connected With Us Everyday!



The Catholic Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation committed to fostering and stewarding philanthropy to address community issues and meet the spiritual and corporal needs of our community year-round. As a proven trustworthy philanthropic organization to give to and give through, we have received the Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency. Fully endorsed by the Diocese of Orlando and its Bishop, we work extensively with Catholic parishes, schools and nonprofit organizations aligned with Catholic social values to help inspire giving and secure resources needed to further their long-term goals.

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.

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