



**MAY  
2025**

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**Month for Mary: A Model of Faith and Hope**

As spring blossoms around us in the month of May, we are called to open our hearts to the spiritual growth that Mary, our Blessed Mother, inspires. As a Foundation rooted in Catholic values, we look to Mary as a model of unwavering faith and hope.

This year, the month of Mary arrives during a moment of profound transition for the Church. We mourn the passing of Pope Francis, whose life of humility and compassion left an indelible mark on the world. At the same time, we welcome the election of Pope Leo XIV, praying that the Holy Spirit will guide him as he shepherds the faithful with wisdom and grace.

Mary's example is especially poignant in this time of change. From the Annunciation to the foot of the Cross, she remained steadfast in her trust in God—reminding us that even in the darkest moments, He has a plan. These are the qualities that continue to inspire and guide us.

This month, let us deepen our devotion and reflect on her example through prayer, acts of charity, and service to others. May this season of honoring Mary remind us of the power of faith-filled giving and the enduring hope that springs from entrusting our lives to God, just as she did.

Together in Christ,



Madelyn T. Weed, CFRE, CAP®

Interim CEO



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

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### *Habemus Papem!*



Unite with us in prayer for Pope Leo XIV as he leads the Church with the heart of Christ. [Click here](#) to read Bishop Noonan's Statement.


### *Marian Essay Contest Winners*


**Marian**  **Essay Contest**  
2025



**\$1,000 Scholarship**

This year, 448 faith-filled entries were submitted from middle school students discussing how we can be a pilgrim of hope and trust God, like Mary. The 2025 contest winner is Adam R. from Holy Family Catholic School. [Read More...](#)






# *Did You Know?*

Does your charitable giving fall below the standard deduction threshold?

Donor Advised Funds (DAF) are a simple giving tool that allows you to earn your charitable giving income tax deduction while maintaining your usual annual philanthropic contributions.

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*The Women's Giving Circle  
Endowment Match Achieved!*



Thanks to your generosity, we reached our **WPGC Endowment Match** goal! Your impact was **tripled** by \$20,000 matches from **The Meier Legacy Fund** and an **anonymous donor**. We're deeply grateful for your support!

*Philanthropy Moment: How to Grow a Successful Reserve Fund*



Nia Herald, CAP® Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, discusses how The Catholic Foundation assists you in establishing and growing your Reserve Fund. [Click here](#) to watch.

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## Monthly Legacy Reflection

**How often have you spoken with your loved ones about what you want to be remembered for?**



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### ***St. Faustina Legacy Seminar Recap***



On April 5<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated our first Lake County Legacy Planning Event of 2025 at St. Faustina parish in Clermont! [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Book a Legacy Seminar Today!***



Are you interested in hosting a Legacy Planning Event at your parish? Dates are available for Summer 2025 – [click here](#) to get started!

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# Ordination to the Priesthood

10 a.m. | Saturday, May 24th, 2025 | St. James Cathedral, Orlando

  Livestream @orlandodiocese



With gratitude for your generous support of our seminarians, we joyfully invite you to join us (in person or via livestream) in celebrating the **Ordination to the Priesthood** of Deacon John Triolo and Deacon William Burns on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at St. James Cathedral.

Your prayers and generosity have helped make this moment possible. Please come share in the joy of this sacred occasion. [Read More...](#)

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*[Market Highlights from Our Trusted Partner The Concord Advisory Group, Ltd.](#)*

*["More Than Just The Mean"](#)*

**THE CONCORD ADVISORY GROUP, LTD: APRIL 2025 MARKET HIGHLIGHTS**  
**COMMENTARY: "MORE THAN JUST THE MEAN"**

One of the most popular datapoints in markets is the Fed Funds Futures estimate of the number and size of Fed interest rate hikes or cuts. The average estimate is about four rate cuts in 2025, with an expected year-end Fed Funds rate of 3.4%. This market-implied base case scenario is one that investors will probably find favorable.

Possibly more important is the distribution of the Fed Funds Rate expectations. In the chart below we use options prices to estimate the market's implied distribution of outcomes. This leads to a few important observations:

- Options markets imply large variability around the base case.
- Options prices imply a sizable probability that the Fed does not cut interest rates at all in 2025 and may even be forced by higher prices to raise rates
- Options markets also show a sizable chance that the Federal Reserve will need to aggressively cut rates this year, implying disappointing economic growth.

The mean expectation instructs on the base case, but it does not provide context around the risks to the base case. In finance and for investment strategy, thinking probabilistically about the size and shape of the distribution of outcomes compliments knowing the mean expectation. This is especially important today, given the significant probability that the base case may be wrong.

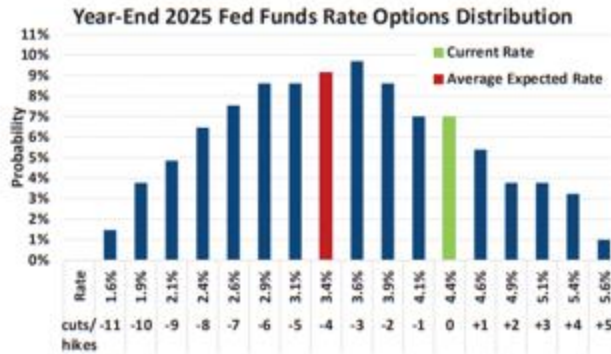


Chart Notes: Distribution created using butterfly spreads on Fed Funds Options, sourced from the CME Group, based on settlement prices on 4/26/2025.

The Concord Advisory Group, Ltd.

One of the most popular datapoints in the market is the Fed Funds Futures estimate of the number and size of Fed interest rate hikes or cuts. [Read more...](#)



[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***



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of Central Florida**

Inspire Giving. Fund God's Work.

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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.



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