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

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Newsletter

JANUARY 2026

<u>Start the Year Rooted in Faith: Enduring Commitment to Catholic Schools</u>

Catholic Schools Week, observed **January 25–31**, offers a special time to reflect on the impact Catholic schools have on students, families, and our broader community. This year's theme, *"United in Faith and Community,"* highlights the vital role our schools play in forming young disciples who live their faith with integrity and compassion.

The Catholic Foundation invites you to join us in celebrating the lasting gift of Catholic education in our Diocese. We give thanks for the incredible faculty and staff who faithfully serve in our Catholic schools each day. Through their vocation as educators, mentors, and witnesses to the faith, they form students in knowledge, character, and discipleship. We also give thanks to the donors who support the ministry of education through faithful stewardship and the strengthening of endowment funds which provide permanent support for Catholic schools, ensuring students are formed in faith, knowledge, and service for generations to come.

Rooted in a mission to educate the whole person- mind, body, and spirit - Catholic schools in the Diocese of Orlando flourish through academic excellence, spiritual growth, and servant leadership. Endowment funds are essential to sustaining this mission, providing long-term resources for tuition assistance, classroom support, faith formation, and innovative programs.

We invite you to explore stories of endowment funds that are actively supporting Catholic schools. These testimonies reveal how a single act of planned, purposeful giving can shape countless lives.

Madelyn

Madelyn T. Weed, CFRE, CAP®

President & CEO

In This Month's Newsletter:

*Start the Year Rooted in Faith: Enduring Commitment to Catholic Schools

*The Foundation and WPGC Bring Christmas Joy to Refugee Youth

*Faces of Philanthropy: Meet PGAC Member Darrell DeVaney

*Monthly Legacy Reflection

*Now Online: Build Your Parish's Endowment Fund

*Spring/Summer Event Sponsorship Application Now Open!

The Foundation and WPGC Bring Christmas Joy to Refugee Youth

Faces of Philanthropy: Meet PGAC Member Darrell DeVaney

The Catholic Foundation's staff, alongside members of the Women's Philanthropic Giving Circle (WPGC), partnered with Catholic Charities of Central Florida (CCCFL) this Read more...

Past PGAC Chair and DAF Fundholder, Darrell DeVaney, is Co-managing principal at 55 North Private Wealth and has been in wealth management for 26 years. Darrell and his wife Katie have 3 Read more...

Monthly Legacy Reflection

How do you define “enough”? How do you determine what to do with excess?

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[Now Online: Build Your Parish's Endowment Fund]

The primary purpose of this page is to showcase the wide array of permanent funds established through generous donations to secure the long-term future of Read more...

[Spring/Summer Event Sponsorship Grant Application Now Open]

Event sponsorship grants support diocesan organizations as they spread the good news of their ministry, strengthen donor relationships and raise funds to Read more...

Our New "Seeds of Faith Funds" Brochure!

Our New "Gift in Your Will" Brochure!

We are excited to share our new “Seeds of Faith Funds” brochure. An easy guide to the different funds The Catholic Foundation can assist you with. [Click here] to see!

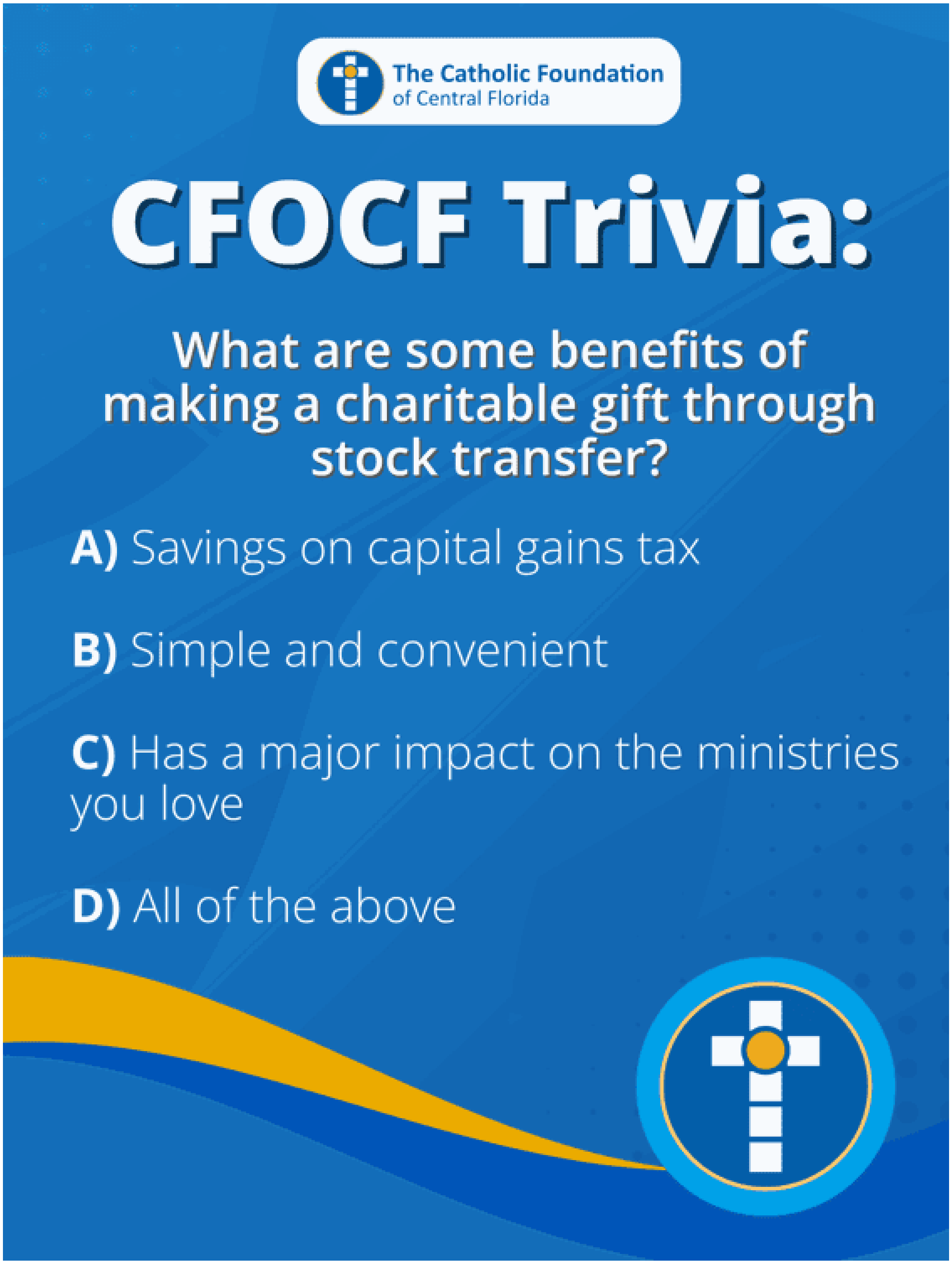
We are excited to share our new “Gift in Your Will” Brochure. An easy guide to envision the impact of your legacy by partnering with The Catholic Foundation. [Click here] to see!

[*Join Us for Our Next Legacy Seminar at St. Patrick, Mt. Dora*]

Learn how to create (or update) a plan that protects your family and aligns with your Catholic values. RSVP by sending an email to info@stpatrickmtdora.org or call the parish office at (352)-383-8556.

[*Philanthropy Moment: Avoid Probate with Beneficiary Designation*]

Sara Pinto, CFRE, CAP®, Director of Philanthropy, covers why keeping beneficiary designations up to date is an important step in avoiding probate and ensuring assets pass directly to loved ones or charity. Click here to watch.



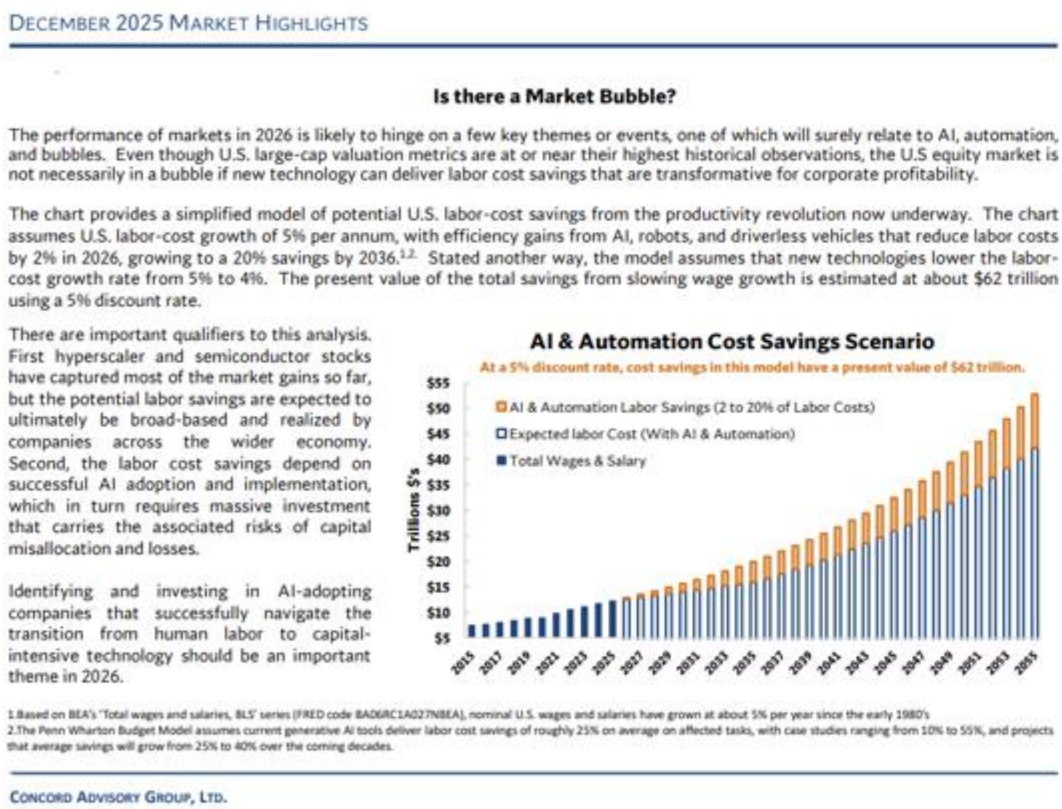
D. All of the above

[WPGC Grant Impact: Brother's Keeper]

With the support of the Women's Philanthropic Giving Circle, Brother's Keeper is assisting mothers and families by providing diapers and alleviating financial needs. Watch here.

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

"Is there a Market Bubble?"



Is there a Market Bubble?

The performance of markets in 2026 is likely to hinge on a few key themes or events, one of which will surely relate to AI, automation, and bubbles. Even though U.S. large-cap valuation metrics are at or near their highest historical observations, the U.S equity market is not necessarily in a bubble if new technology can deliver labor cost savings that are transformative for corporate profitability.

The chart provides a simplified model of potential U.S. labor-cost savings from the productivity revolution now underway. The chart assumes U.S. labor-cost growth of 5% per annum, with efficiency gains from AI, robots, and driverless vehicles that reduce labor costs by 2% in 2026, growing to a 20% savings by 2036.[1,2] Stated another way, the model assumes that new technologies lower the labor-cost growth rate from 5% to 4%. The present value of the total savings from slowing wage growth is estimated at about $62 trillion using a 5% discount rate.

There are important qualifiers to this analysis. First hyperscaler and semiconductor stocks have captured most of the market gains so far, but the potential labor savings are expected to ultimately be broad-based and realized by companies across the wider economy. Second, the labor cost savings depend on successful AI adoption and implementation, which in turn requires massive investment that carries the associated risks of capital misallocation and losses.

Identifying and investing in AI-adopting companies that successfully navigate the transition from human labor to capital-intensive technology should be an important theme in 2026.

1.Based on BEA's 'Total wages and salaries, BLS' series (FRED code BA06RC1A027NBEA), nominal U.S. wages and salaries have grown at about 5% per year since the early 1980's
2.The Penn Wharton Budget Model assumes current generative AI tools deliver labor cost savings of roughly 25% on average on affected tasks, with case studies ranging from 10% to 55%, and projects that average savings will grow from 25% to 40% over the coming decades.

The performance of markets in 2026 is likely to hinge on a few key themes or events, one of which will surely relate to AI, automation, and bubbles. [Read more…]