



"I wish I could give more." This is a frequent statement made by many people who are committed to an organization's mission, but feel they are not in a position to donate more than what they are currently giving. Their life circumstances may inhibit them from committing to a "large donation".

The meaning of a "large donation" is relative to the person making the gift. All donations made by our Carmel community are welcome no matter what size. There are many donors who have contributed amounts of \$25, \$50 or \$100 each year to the Annual Fund for as many as 15 consecutive years. Each donor gives according to his or her individual capabilities. Each individual donation has a collective positive impact on our Carmel Catholic students.

Our Carmel Catholic community members come from diverse backgrounds. Some can give more than others during their lifetime. However, many people have the potential to give the gift of a lifetime through a planned gift. Planned gifts can be either as simple as making a bequest to Carmel Catholic as part of your will to more complex planned giving financial vehicles. Planned gifts are typically the largest gifts that an organization receives. Many donors are better able to make significant gifts through their estate plans.

If you have not created a will yet, I hope you will create one to make plans for the distribution of your estate whether you feel your estate is large or small. You will save your loved ones time, expense and sometimes conflict when they settle your estate. If you have not reviewed your will for 10 years or more, perhaps now is a good time to make revisions because of life changes. When you begin the process of creating a will, you might be surprised with what you do have when you conduct an asset inventory as part of your estate planning process. Some common assets are cash, securities, real estate, life insurance policies, retirement accounts, US Savings Bonds, collectables and jewelry.

For example, if you have worked for a publicly traded company for many years and consistently bought its stock, you might realize that the stock has greatly appreciated. When you try to sell it or distribute it through your estate, your estate could be assessed a hefty tax because of large capital gains on the stock. Depending on the amount of stock, donating all or a portion of the stock might be a good option. After all, you can give your money to the government through taxes and not have any say in how it is spent. Or, you can control how this "tax money" is spent. Donate this "tax money" to organizations that are important to you because they have made a difference in your life and support your values.

I would like to become a resource for you as a part of this important process. We have just launched Carmel Catholic's redesigned website at www.carmelhs.org. If you are interested in learning more about planned giving, click on "Support". Then pick "Planned Giving" on the menu to view our planned giving program.

I have several useful brochures describing how to create a will and a planned gift you might be interested to read.

- "Questions and Answers About Wills"- You will learn the basic steps you need to take and know about as part of creating a will "21 Ways To Make a Difference" – Learn in more detail about assets and planned giving vehicles you can use to create a planned gift.
- "Memorials and Endowments" – Learn how you can create a legacy gift that will span generations.
- "Charitable Gift Planning Guidelines" – Learn in greater detail about planned giving vehicles and how they benefit you with income and tax reductions. This brochure would be very useful for financial planners and advisors.
- "2007 Federal Tax Pocket Guide" – This is a handy reference guide for financial planners, advisors, accountants and attorneys. You will have an easy to read reference guide with Federal Income Tax tables and information about calculating taxes for the Federal Gift Tax Formula, Federal Estate Tax Formula, transfer tax and Federal Income Tax Charitable Deduction as well as a listing of common planned giving vehicles.

If you call me at 847-388-3338 or email me at mlooby@carmelhs.org, I will send you one or more of these brochures without obligation or commitment to make a gift. Brochure quantities are limited. If you are not currently receiving our Kelly Circular planned giving newsletter but would like to receive future editions, please contact me and I can put you on our subscription list.

If you find yourself saying, "I wish I could give more", perhaps you can through a planned gift. Taking some extra time to become more aware of estate planning can be a rewarding process for you. We all need to reflect on our life experiences and understand what organization or person helped a loved one or us achieve success. The more you understand the estate planning process the more satisfied you will feel that you have done your best to support people and organizations who matter to you the most. Perhaps you will discover that you can give more than you first thought!

Let Us Say Thank You!

If you have created a planned gift for Carmel Catholic but have not let us know of your intent, the Carmel Catholic community would like to say thank you for your gift and commitment to our community.

Perhaps you did not realize you created a planned gift. If you did any of the below as part of a will or estate planning, you have created a planned gift. Generally, planned gifts are:

- A bequest in your will directing cash or assets, such as real estate, securities or retirement accounts, to Carmel Catholic either as a direct beneficiary or as a contingent beneficiary.
- A life insurance policy that you have named Carmel Catholic as beneficiary or as a contingent beneficiary.
- A planned giving financial vehicle such as a Charitable Trust that names Carmel Catholic as beneficiary.

Why inform Carmel of your intent?

- Knowing how many people have included Carmel Catholic in their estate plans and the type of planned gift allows for more effective planning.
- Sometimes, upon further review of your gift, a different financial vehicle could be suggested that could be a better fit for you and Carmel Catholic.
- Carmel Catholic enforces a gift acceptance policy. Please have your legal representative contact Carmel Catholic to make sure Carmel Catholic can accept your planned donation of real estate and other assets or planned intent for funding a capital project or endowment.

Most importantly, we want to welcome you as a special person who has made a significant contribution to the long-term health of Carmel Catholic. When you let us know of your planned gift, you become a member of the Kelly Circle.

Kelly Circle members receive this commemorative Planned Giving Certificate of Membership enclosed in the official CCHS diploma cover.



Kelly Circle members also receive:

- Recognition on our Honor Wall of Donors located on the main lobby of Carmel Catholic
- The Kelly Circular newsletter, for on-going knowledge about planned giving opportunities
- Special invitations to Carmel Catholic events.



"...we hope and pray that the lives and influence of our graduates will continue to have an impact for good as they fulfill our hope of giving service to God and society as responsible, spiritually-minded and well-informed citizens, who practice the Christian virtues and social principles that were taught to them during their years at Carmel."

- A reflection by Sr. Mary Cecil Kelly, BVM on the 25th anniversary of Carmel Catholic High School

Call Mike Looby '75 at 847-388-3338 or email him at mlooby@carmelhs.org to let him know about your planned gift to Carmel Catholic. If you would like to consider making a planned gift to Carmel Catholic, Mike can help you get started to make a gift that could keep giving for generations to come.

When you call or email, Mike will send you the brochure "Your Personal Guide to Planned Giving" and "Charitable Gift Planning Guidelines". You will read about the variety of gift planning options available and how a planned gift can benefit Carmel Catholic and you.