

Why Endowments are Important

Endowments are essential to the long term stability and future growth of every parish. The Cathedral is better able to focus upon fulfilling its mission when receiving support from its endowment. Reserved funds allow long-term planning, stability and insulation from unforeseen economic, social or political circumstances. Endowments sustain in perpetuity ongoing programs of service to the community.

The Annunciation Cathedral Legacy & Endowment Society

Parishioners and friends of Annunciation Cathedral, who have remembered the church in their estate plans or who have made provision to do so, are honored as members of the Legacy and Endowment Society.

The Annunciation Cathedral Legacy and Endowment Committee does not actually manage the endowment. They set policies and work with a professional investment company to manage the money for us.

There are two endowments. One is called the Programs and Ministries Endowment. It is earmarked for programs, services, activities and initiatives that fulfill the mission of the Cathedral above and beyond the operating budget. The present policy is to withdraw not more than 4% of the value of this endowment each year.

The second endowment is called the Capital Needs Endowment. The funds in this endowment, including the principal, may be utilized for property acquisition, new construction and major renovation projects.

How to Give from One's Estate

Many people have found a unique way to make their estate planning reflect their faith by leaving all or a portion of their estate to the Cathedral. This can be done by asking their insurance or investment advisor to designate Annunciation Cathedral as a beneficiary of their life insurance or investment. Or they can ask their attorney to make or revise their Trust or Will to designate Annunciation Cathedral as a beneficiary.

~ Life Insurance ~

Ask your Agent for a change of beneficiary form to name Annunciation Cathedral as a full or partial beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

~ IRA or Tax Qualified Retirement Plans ~

Ask your Broker for a change of beneficiary form to name Annunciation Cathedral as a full or partial beneficiary of your IRA or other retirement plan. Unlike an individual beneficiary, the Cathedral will pay no taxes on this gift.

~ Other Investments or Accounts ~

For accounts which do not have a beneficiary such as Certificates of Deposits, Checking/Savings Accounts, Mutual Funds, Stocks, etc, ask your representative for a "Pay-on-Death" or "Transfer-On-Death" form to leave a portion or all of that asset to Annunciation Cathedral of San Francisco, California.

~ Outright Bequest– Set Sum ~

I give and bequeath to Annunciation Cathedral of San Francisco, California, the sum of \$ _____.

~ Outright Bequest - Specific Property ~
I give, devise, and bequeath to Annunciation Cathedral of San Francisco, California, the following property: (enter specific description of property).

~ Bequest Percentage of Estate ~

I give, devise, and bequeath to Annunciation Cathedral of San Francisco, California, ___ percent of my net estate.

~ Bequest of Residuary Estate ~

I give, devise, and bequeath to Annunciation Cathedral of San Francisco, California, all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, of whatever kind and wherever situated, which I may own or have the right to dispose of at the time of my death.

~ Contingent Bequest ~

In the event that any bequest of any portion of my estate shall lapse or fail for any reason, I give, devise, and bequeath that portion to Annunciation Cathedral of San Francisco, California.

~ Trusts ~

Significant tax advantages are available through charitable remainder trusts. Annunciation Cathedral encourages parishioners to explore this method of giving, which allows lifetime income to named beneficiaries, a major charitable deduction at the time of establishing the trust and eventually a major gift to the Cathedral towards the endowment.

~ Important ~

All gifts establishing endowments should include the following text: If the purpose for which the endowment gift is established is no longer viable, I entrust the Cathedral Parish Council to utilize the endowment gift in the way deemed most helpful to the fulfillment of the mission of the Cathedral.

*Message to My Loved Ones upon
Making a Charitable Bequest
to the Church*

Knowing that I will one day be called to return to God from whom I came, I now publicly give thanks for all the gifts God has given me: my life, my family, my work, my friends, and all my earthly possessions. I am particularly grateful for the Holy Orthodox Faith, which has sustained me, and taught me to cherish, nurture and share these gifts. I assure those whom I must leave behind of my continuing love for them, and in order to discharge my responsibilities as a faithful steward, I give these instructions for the distribution of the goods God has given to my care...



Bequests and the Church

St. Constantine the Great first legalized bequests to the Church by individuals in 321 AD. This enduring tradition provided the Church with future financial security. At the end of his life St. Constantine left all of his estates and wealth to the Church. It remains the largest gift ever made to the Church in Christendom.

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*Annunciation Greek
Orthodox Cathedral
Legacy & Endowment
Society*



*"A grain of mustard seed, which,
when sown upon the ground, is the
smallest of all the seeds on earth;
yet when it is sown it grows up and
becomes the greatest of all shrubs"
Mark 4:31-32*