



# Legacies

LIVING LEGACY CIRCLE NEWS

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## Pride in Catholic Education Motivates Couple



When **Patty and Paul Mendlik** look back on the things that have guided their decisions throughout their lives, they point first to their upbringing and education in their rural Nebraska and Iowa communities. Raised in Storm Lake, Iowa, Patty attended St. Mary Grade School and High School and Paul attended St. Wenceslaus Grade School and Dodge High School in his hometown of Dodge, Nebraska. Their shared Catholic faith is the common denominator that continues to guide them.

As they raised their three children, Jacque, Krista and Ryan, they volunteered and took leadership positions at their children's schools – St. Pius X/ St. Leo School and Skutt Catholic High School in Omaha. “We have always been strong believers in Catholic education from day one,” said Patty.

“We’re proud of how our children have gone on after their education in Catholic schools, and we feel like it has been a great thing that they could be well-rounded in their education as well as having Christ in their life on a daily basis.”

The couple has devoted countless hours to the Archdiocese of Omaha as well. Together they chaired the 2007 Archbishop’s Dinner for Education spearheading the creation of an endowment for an Administrator of the Year award funded by past dinner chairs. Through their efforts, more than \$100,000 was raised to provide a \$5,000 grant each year to the award winner.

Paul serves on the Catholic Futures Foundation of Northeast Nebraska (formerly the Omaha Archdiocesan Educational Foundation/Parish Foundation) Board of Trustees and is its current president. Through his decades-long work on the Foundation, Paul sees how vital its job is to the future of Catholic education and parish vitality. “I’ve been involved with the Foundation for over 25 years. I can attest to the strength of the leadership that exists within the Foundation. The strength of the management team and the oversight that exists over the money that’s in the Foundation is top-notch. It’s wonderful,” Paul said.

Two of Paul’s greatest role models were his parents, Norman and Verena Mendlik. In 2015, not long after his wife’s death, Norman fulfilled the intentions of the couple by establishing The Norman and Verena Mendlik Endowment Fund to help children in their hometown of Dodge attend Catholic school. When they discussed where the

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donor-named fund should be facilitated, Paul said the Catholic Futures Foundation (the OAEF at the time) was “the best place because it provided for ongoing professional management.”

Like his parents, Patty and Paul also made a tangible commitment to the future of Catholic schools. In 2014 they created the Paul and Patricia Mendlik Family Scholarship Endowment Fund to benefit students at V.J. and Angela Skutt Catholic High School in Omaha. The donor-named fund is held with the Catholic Futures Foundation.

As Catholic education’s cost continues to rise, Paul said it is becoming harder for families to afford. “We are hoping that we can help bridge the gap a bit for some parents. By establishing a fund that provides a scholarship each year, it might make a difference for one more student to receive a Catholic education.” Since its inception, the Mendliks have added to their fund and plan to continue to in the future.

“There’s a saying – the children are our future. We just want to be a small part of some of these kids’ lives and help them have a great education like we did through Catholic schools,” said Patty. “The things we are doing today are aimed at providing for the future of Catholic education.”

To transform lives far into the future, the Mendliks also remembered the Catholic Futures Foundation in their estate plans through a bequest that will ultimately benefit specific Catholic schools and organizations. Upon learning of their planned giving intentions, the archdiocese invited Paul and Patty to join the **Living Legacy Circle**, a recognition society for individuals and families who include the Catholic Church in their estate plans.

Even after his passing, Paul’s father continues to influence his priorities. “My dad was in the life insurance business. The motto that he lived by was, save and have. I think save and have is really what the Foundation and gifts of this type are about,” said Paul. “I’m a firm believer in saving for the future partly because of the financial growth that happens from an investment in a foundation, but also for the future benefits that it brings to so many people.”

“If you make a gift, you want to have comfort and trust in who is going to manage that money and who is going to make sure your wishes are fulfilled in the future. And the Catholic Futures Foundation is built for that,” said Paul.

# YOUR SAVINGS, YOUR LEGACY.



## Create Your Legacy With An IRA Charitable Rollover Gift

If you are 70½ or older, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to support the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Please call or visit our website to learn about how you can create your legacy by making an IRA charitable rollover gift this year.

### Benefits of Making an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift to Support the Archdiocese



Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.



Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts.



Use your rollover to make payments on an existing pledge to us.

## Transformative Change Comes to Archdiocesan Foundation!

There are many exciting changes happening at the Archdiocese of Omaha’s Foundation, formerly the Omaha Archdiocesan Educational Foundation/Omaha Archdiocesan Parish Foundation (OAEF/OAPF). The organization continues to focus on the future as it moves into a new era, bringing both entities under a single name: Catholic Futures Foundation of Northeast Nebraska.

The new name and branding reflect an invigorated mission that seeks to serve the archdiocesan community in meaningful ways. What remains constant is the commitment to serve the members of our archdiocese by remaining faithful stewards of all gifts and manage funds with integrity.

To learn more about the planned giving options available with the Catholic Futures Foundation please contact Tim Bogatz, Foundation Officer, at 402.557.5650 or [tgbogatz@archomaha.org](mailto:tgbogatz@archomaha.org).



Catholic Futures Foundation  
of Northeast Nebraska

There is a way to make a meaningful gift to support the archdiocese this year - the IRA Charitable Rollover.

### It’s Easy To Do!

Instruct your retirement account custodian to send any amount (up to \$100,000) to us this year. Because our charity is tax exempt there is no tax paid on the transfer. The money goes straight to work toward our mission.

## IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

70½  
OR OLDER

DIRECT UP TO  
**\$100,000**

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

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## Coming to a Parish Near You!

The Stewardship & Development office tries to schedule at least 12 Sunday Mass intentions per year for living and deceased members of the Living Legacy Circle. Legacy Planning Officer, Tony LaMar, attends every Mass that weekend and speaks at each one to inform parishioners about this recognition society and to encourage this type of charitable giving.

The Living Legacy Circle's living and deceased members will be remembered in prayer during the following Masses held throughout the archdiocese:

### Scheduled for 2020

Parish	Date
Sacred Heart - Omaha	Nov. 21/22
Mary Our Queen - Omaha	Dec. 5/6
St. Wenceslaus - Omaha	Dec. 12/13

### Scheduled for 2021

Parish	Date
St. Margaret Mary - Omaha	Nov 7/8

### In Memoriam

#### Recently Deceased Living Legacy Circle Members

Mr. Reynold Vering	5/2/20	Ss. Peter & Paul, Howells
Rev. James F. Schwertley	7/8/20	Archdiocesan Priest
Rev. John O. McCaslin	9/24/20	Archdiocesan Priest

## Mass Intention for Deceased Living Legacy Circle Members

When one of our Living Legacy Circle members passes away, the Legacy Planning office contacts his or her parish and requests a Mass intention for the repose of their soul. Below is a list of those Masses that were said in the past, as well as those that will be said in the near future. If you can, please come and pray for someone who made the Church a part of his or her lasting legacy.

#### Previous Living Legacy Circle Member Mass Intentions

Rev. James F. Schwertley Tuesday, August 18, 2020  
at 11:15 am - St. Cecilia - Omaha

Mr. Reynold Vering Sunday, October 11, 2020  
at 5:00 pm - Ss. Peter & Paul - Howells

Rev. John O. McCaslin Monday, November 23, 2020  
at 11:15 am - St. Cecilia - Omaha

## Legacy Seminars

Many parishes in the archdiocese have hosted seminars or are actively working with the Legacy Planning Office to implement Tony LaMar's seminar guidebook and its easy step-by-step plan. If interested in hosting a seminar at your parish or school, contact Tony LaMar whose contact information is below.

These parishes and schools have hosted Legacy Planning Seminars with the assistance of the Archdiocese of Omaha Stewardship and Development Office:

Parish/School	Date
St. Columbkille - Papillion	9/9/18
Hartington Cedar Catholic High School - Hartington	9/19/18
Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church - Bow Valley	10/14/18
St. John's Hall - Fordyce	11/4/18
St. Patrick - O'Neill	9/8/19
St. Stephen the Martyr - Omaha	10/3/19
St. Frances Cabrini - Omaha	11/7/19
St. Pius/St. Leo - Omaha	1/26/20
St. Bernadette - Bellevue	3/8/20
St. Phillip Neri/Blessed Sacrament - Omaha	11/15/20

# The Living Legacy Circle



The **Living Legacy Circle** is a special way to recognize individuals who have made provisions in their estate plans for the Archdiocese of Omaha and its parishes, schools and other Catholic ministries. The **Living Legacy Circle** offers a unique opportunity for those who want their giving to transcend their own lifetimes. For information about membership, please call Tony LaMar, Legacy Planning Officer, at 402-557-5650.



**Tony LaMar**  
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