

# **STELLA MARIS PARISH 'STAR OF THE SEA' ENDOWMENT**

*"Tomorrow depends on the steps we are willing to take today...it's our turn now"*

## **Frequently Asked Questions for Stella Maris "Star of the Sea" Endowment**

### **Where do I find more information about the endowment Stella Maris has established?**

Our website [www.stellamarisparish.com](http://www.stellamarisparish.com) has a copy of the Case Statement and Brochure where you can read about the purpose for the endowment as well as ways to contribute. This information can also be sent to you by calling the Stella Maris Parish office 920-868-3241. If you would like to speak to someone regarding the endowment, we will have a member of the Endowment Team contact you.

### **How do I make a contribution?**

Contributions can be made directly online with the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay (who is managing the endowment for our parish) at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org). Click on "Give to Endowments" on the left side of the page and scroll down to the ministry endowment "Stella Maris 'Star of the Sea' End." If you prefer to send a check, please send your contribution to:

CF/Stella Maris Parish "Star of the Sea" Endowment Fund  
c/o Catholic Foundation  
P.O. Box 22128  
Green Bay, WI 54305-2128

Contributions in the form of a check made to **CF/Stella Maris "Star of the Sea Endowment"** can also be mailed to the Stella Maris Parish, PO Box 49, Egg Harbor, WI 54209 or dropped in the collection basket at Mass.

### **Are there any guidelines for giving available?**

Individuals can make a meaningful contribution by a various means such as a one-time cash contribution, contributions over a time period, bequests through estate planning, and stock contributions. A combination of these methods may also be effective.

### **How do I make a contribution of stock or include Stella Maris in a will?**

Contributions of stock can made directly at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org). Click on "make a gift" and click on "how to donate stock" on the drop-down menu to fill out a stock transfer form. The Green Bay Catholic Foundation and your broker can help you with the stock transfer. Please be sure to indicate the purpose of your stock transfer is for Stella Maris "Star of the Sea" Endowment. If you have further questions or need assistance with a stock transfer or how to include Stella Maris in your will, please contact the office and we will have an Endowment Team member assist you.

### **Do you have a form I could send in with my payment or commitment?**

We have a commitment pledge form or a brochure we could e-mail or send you especially if you wish to contribute over a number of years or to direct us regarding your contribution.

### **Will I/we be recognized for our gift? Or, can our contribution remain anonymous?**

We will recognize your gift only with your permission. Currently, the form of recognition is acknowledgment of your gift from the Green Bay diocese and from the parish. Please inform us

with your contribution whether we have your approval to publicly recognize you or whether you wish your contribution to remain anonymous.

**I put my envelope in the collection basket every week. How is the endowment different?**

Your weekly and ongoing contributions are critically important to the operations of Stella Maris and our ability to offer sacramental, educational, and outreach care to you and our northern Door County community. This endowment fund will make sure that generations after us will have that same privilege of finding a Catholic worship presence in Northern Door County.

**How does the endowment work?**

An endowment is an investment fund that retains the amounts contributed and uses the earnings to fund the annual spending requirements, leaving the principal untouched. Once the endowment principal has grown to at least one million or more dollars, we expect that an annual distribution of the earnings of 4% to the parish will fund the ability to have Catholic worship in northern Door County. Since the principal is not touched, it provides this perpetual source of income to Stella Maris Parish for this purpose. The fund is managed by the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay, Inc. which is a separate legal agency from the Diocese. Your contribution to the principal ensures this legacy.

**Will we be assured that the endowment is shielded from parties that may have a legitimate legal claim against the parish or Diocese?**

The parish's endowment is held by the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay. The Catholic Foundation was established as an entirely separate corporation from the diocese and is governed by an Independent Board of Directors. Neither the local pastor nor the Bishop can access the funds established in the numerous individual trusts in the Foundation. Each trust is governed by the same terms yet retains its unique purpose specific to the donor.

**What happens to the 4% distribution to Stella Maris in years when we are financially doing well and are supporting our worship functions?**

Stella Maris has the option every year to accept the distribution or to not accept the distribution and keep the funds in the endowment. Every year that we accept the distribution, even in years when the parish is doing well financially, the boost to the parish of the 4% annual distribution targeted for worship can add stability to our finances while allowing the Parish to allocate resources to new initiatives and emerging priorities.

**Thank you for your consideration in giving generously to the Stella Maris “Star of the Sea” Endowment Fund. Every gift is important to us today, but especially for those who will come after us!**