



ANNUAL APPEAL 2016

THE GIFT OF FAITH

Central Washington CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

Fundación Católica de Washington Central

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Dear Friend,

Blessings to you this Advent Season!

The gift of faith is transformative and your commitment to supporting Catholic education is changing lives! Children and parents are eager to find a sense of purpose and to be filled with hope for the future. As we enter into the Christmas Season, I ask you to consider making a "Gift of Faith". It is faith that will provide our children with the hope and courage they need, and will prepare them to put on the Armor of God.

Most of the Catholic children in Central Washington are not enrolled in Catholic schools. The responsibility for teaching the faith rests on the shoulders of the families, along with our priests and religious educators. This past spring, I had the opportunity to see firsthand the impact your gifts are making during a visit to St. Mary Parish in White Swan.

I watched the children arrive for classes wearing their ties, shiny black shoes, and bouncy dresses; and listened to the buzz of the parents and small children as they settled into the parish gathering space. It spoke volumes to me about the value the families placed on the time spent in that sacred space. On the back of this letter, I have included more information about the blossoming religious education program at St. Mary's, and I invite you to watch the full video which can be found on our newly updated website at www.cwcatholicfoundation.org.

On the back side of this letter you will also find a list of the total support provided to our parishes, schools, and ministries through the Foundation this year — but I have to tell you, our work is not done. The need is great and we can do more. Today, I ask you to help further the mission of supporting Catholic education by responding to our Annual Appeal with a generous "Gift of Faith". In supporting one another, we realize the possibilities of what can happen in our own communities and we can better appreciate the blessings we have already received.



Religious Education
St. Mary Parish

It is through faith in Christ that one finds hope, compassion, and strength to face life's challenges. Your end of year gift during this season of hope will lead our kids to put on the Armor of God, fortifying them to stand against the many challenges they will face today and in the years to come.

May your joy be full this Christmas,
Kathleen Wilmes



Armor of God

Helmet of Salvation
Breastplate of Righteousness
Belt of Truth
Sword of the Spirit
Shield of Faith
Feet Protected by the Gospel

Ephesians 6:10-17
Christ the King School, Richland

"Put on the Armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the devil's schemes." Ephesians 6:11

Give the "Gift of Faith" Donate to the 2016 Annual Appeal today!

may you know
the comfort & joy
of God's
presence this
Christmas
season & always!

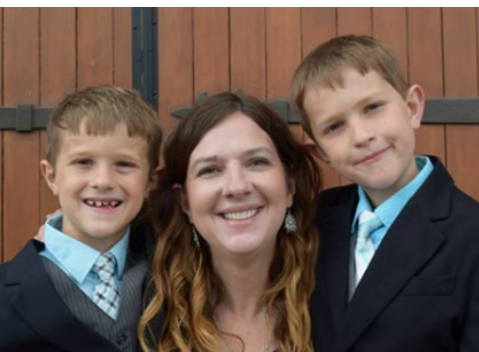
You are Fortifying our Communities of Faith

In the summer of 2013 the pastor of St. Mary Parish in White Swan, Fr. Bill Shaw, made a request to the Catholic Foundation to assist with their parish religious education program. Fr. Shaw assessed ordinary income for the parish that year at \$89,500. The application read as follows -



Fr. Bill Shaw, Pastor
St. Mary Parish, White Swan

"St. Mary's Catholic Church is located on the Yakima Indian reservation in the community of White Swan. White Swan is an unincorporated community with no local government or law enforcement. The only real community resources are the churches and the school. The community is faced with poverty, child abuse/neglect, drug and alcohol abuse, suicides and a sense of hopelessness. With the potential support from the Celebration of Faith Fund, our parish will be able to broaden our efforts in bringing a quality religious education program for our parish members and ultimately impacting the families of the greater community of White Swan. Any support that you can provide in this effort will be greatly appreciated." - Fr. Bill Shaw



Kelly Sauer, Religious Education Director
St. Mary Parish, White Swan

"All kids need love, and they need hope, and they need acceptance. So I am hoping that when they come in that's what they get. That they have hope for tomorrow, that they have love, they know they are going to be accepted unconditionally." Kelly Sauer, RE Director

Since that time, St. Mary Parish has received between \$3,900 and \$5,000 annually and the program has seen tremendous growth. The Sacramental classes have grown from 3 to 25 and additional classes have been added, with more than one class being held in the rectory.

Parent Perlita Rodriguez says that, *"The religious education classes here at St. Mary's have benefited the community and all the families around. A lot of the kids are eager to come to class and everybody keeps on coming back. The classes are growing and getting bigger. The kids are loving it!"*



Vacation Bible School
St. Mary Parish, White Swan

Make a **Gift of Faith**
today to ensure that all
kids have an opportunity
to **"Put on the
Armor of God"**

Sharing the Faith in 2016

The Catholic Foundation holds over \$4 million in 34 parish, school, and family endowment funds that support our institutions and various Catholic ministries.

\$120,000 distributed in tuition assistance to 103 students 100% of seniors graduated

\$10,506 distributed to 6 college students \$32,603 distributed to 6 schools

\$22,408 distributed to 6 parishes \$25,282 distributed to various ministries

\$26,000 distributed to 18 parishes for religious education

The next time you review your estate plans, please consider including a bequest to benefit Catholic education. The concern and generosity you now direct through your daily activities can be continued forever through a gift in your estate. Your legal advisor can show you how you can provide for your family as well as leave a legacy of faith.

Give the Gift of Faith with the IRA Charitable Rollover
ACT NOW! If you are 70 1/2 or older, avoid taxes on transfers from your IRA.