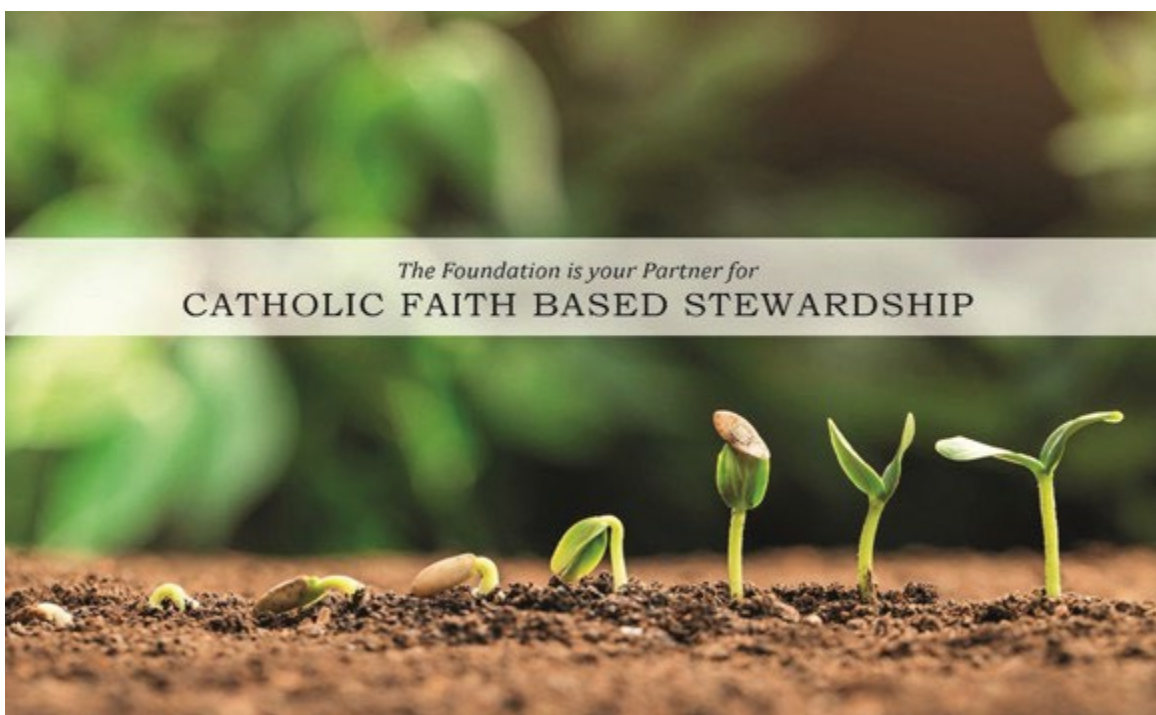


# STEWARDING YOUR LEGACY

Sharing & Growing Your Gifts

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**DAWN M. STARK**

I hope this finds you well. For this summer edition of the newsletter, I'd like to share something a bit more personal and vulnerable. Back in the winter of 2023, my dad was going through some health issues. During that time, I made a promise to him that when he got well, we would take a trip together, a trip that had been on his bucket list, to South Africa.

The planning began with a hope to travel in the summer of 2024 celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Life happened and a move to Raleigh was in store for me, so the trip was postponed a year.

Leading up to the trip, fear took over me. I just kept praying to God that my dad would remain healthy enough to make it on this life changing adventure. With God's grace, we were able to celebrate his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday while on safari in the Sabi Sands Private Game Reserve.



My recent trip to South Africa made me reflect on so many things...

1. The Circle of life and how we are just a tiny blip in this universe.
2. Giving ourselves permission to checkout and recharge is not only necessary, but imperative for creative growth.
3. It's a small world. At the Fairview winery just north of Cape Town, I looked over and there was a former campaign chair and his wife I had worked with in Atlanta in 2008.
4. Never miss an opportunity to take someone on a bucket list trip. The memories will last a lifetime.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

*Dawn M. Stark*

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### **Bishop Luis's Summer Food & Drink video series**

Please take a moment to view a lighthearted message from Bishop Luis regarding the simple pleasures of summer - whether it be cold drinks to refresh from the heat; warm grills that cook our food; or long conversations with family and friends. Let this be a season of continued gratitude.

[Bishop Luis's Summer Message about Food and Drink](#)

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### **Seminarian Impact**

About this time last year, we received a call from the nephew of Mildred Hanson. He was hoping to touch base with the three nonprofits that Mildred had left her estate to, in order to get permission to go into the home and retrieve some personal items. The Foundation was one of the three nonprofits. We learned that day, a percentage of her estate would be received to the Diocese via The Foundation for Seminarians.

Just last month, we received the \$254,000 gift that Mildred left to go into an Endowment for seminarian support - what incredible philanthropy.

Additionally, in May we received a gift of \$270,000 from the irrevocable trust of Rita W. Foye for Seminarians.

Finally, we were made aware of another sizable gift from the estate of Louis G. Foye that we approximate will be \$800,000 that will benefit our Seminarians.

The Office of Vocations is incredibly grateful for this generosity and well thought out planning and support.

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### **Good Sheperd Impact**

Good Sheperd Catholic Church recently received a \$300,000 estate gift that will be used for new HVAC systems on their campus. Another valuable testament to Catholic legacy planning that leaves an incredible impact.

**Your planning is a final GIFT**  
**to your family**  
**and your LEGACY has impact.**

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## Coming Up:

**The Fr. Thomas Price Legacy Society...** Save the Date postcards (*invitations to follow in early September*) have been mailed for the Fr. Thomas Price Legacy Society Mass and Lunch with Bishop Luis. If you have any provisions for any entity in the Diocese noted in your estate plans - Parish, School, Diocesan ministry, and/or Catholic Charities, please let us know so we can ensure you are included - [Let us know.](#)

If you have a gift planned and do not receive an invitation to the Mass and lunch, please email [Kelley.karpinski@raldioc.org](mailto:Kelley.karpinski@raldioc.org) to make us aware and we will update our records.

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