



HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

A semiannual publication of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington

FALL 2016



*Funding Priestly Education
for the **Future Of Our Diocese***



"I am deeply grateful for our generous faithful who support our seminarians through every step of their formation." - Fr. J.D. Jaffe, Director of the Office of Vocations

Please Help Support Our Seminarians!

The mission of the **Seminary Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)** within the Foundation for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington is to receive and safeguard gifts in support of priestly education in the diocese.

A Worthy Investment....Each year our diocese invests an average of almost \$40,000 to educate each seminarian.

The **SEEF** provides a charitable vehicle whose assets are professionally invested with a Catholic conscience. As a permanently restricted endowment, **SEEF's** income will provide for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance, and books; which total approximately \$40,000 per seminarian per year. That equates to an average education cost per newly ordained priest of almost \$250,000. Through the generosity of the faithful, this fund has grown to over \$850,000 which helps support the current 43 seminarians at various levels of study in the Diocese.

Giving to the Fund

Donations to **SEEF** will ensure a legacy of support for current and future generations of seminarians within our diocese. Please give prayerful consideration in making a

donation today or naming the **SEEF** in your estate plans. To make an immediate donation, please make checks payable to the Foundation for the CDA and note "**SEEF**" on the memo line and mail to the diocese using the enclosed envelope.

Matching Gift and Fund Raising Opportunity

You may also wish to take advantage of a \$100,000 matching gift program currently underway by directing parish tithing and/or second collections to the fund. The matching gift also makes the **SEEF** a particularly great choice for confirmation and other service projects for parish school and religious education students. For more information on **SEEF**, please contact r.mueller@arlingtondiocese.org.

Lastly, in addition to your financial support, our seminarians need your prayers. Please pray daily for our seminarians, our priests and for an increase in vocations.

"The generosity of the people of the Arlington Diocese always amazes me! Because of their faith, prayer, and financial support, my five years of seminary have been stress-free and joy-filled. I look forward to the day when, as a Priest, I can return the gift, even if only in a small way. May God continue to bless our Diocese!" - Rev. Mr. Stephen Vaccaro

In This Issue...

- Ordinations to the Priesthood
- Directors Corner – a "Final Act of Stewardship"
- CHC Fall Events
- Tirella Endowment

2016 Ordinations – Our Newest Priests

“Do not fear. Give yourself over to prayer.....concerns and troubles will work themselves out in ways you could not predict.”

These are the words of encouragement that Father Joseph Rampino gives to those discerning their vocation. On June 11, at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Joseph Rampino and Colin Davis were ordained priests for the Diocese of Arlington by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services. Bishop Loverde, recovering from back surgery, was unable to serve as the ordaining prelate. Father Rampino and Father Davis were joined by many family members and friends who were in attendance to witness the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Both men took a different journey through their process of discernment and studies. After graduating from high school, Father Davis spent several years in formation with the Legionaries of Christ where he then entered formation with the order. He eventually discerned his calling as a diocesan priest and spent six years of study and prayer at the Pontifical College Josephinum and the Theological College at Catholic University. Father Rampino attended St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania for four years and then continued his studies at the Pontifical North American College (PNAC) in



Father Joseph Rampino, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, Father Colin Davis

Rome. A special highlight of his experience at PNAC was singing in front of Pope Francis during a vigil Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica.

The discernment process for both men was fostered and supported through the Vocations Program of the Diocese of Arlington. The Diocese is expected to have 50 seminarians this upcoming academic year. We congratulate Father Rampino and Father Davis on their ordination into the priesthood and thank them for accepting the call to serve Christ and to serve others. Father Davis offered this reflection on his first few weeks as a priest, *“I have found working with parish families, in the very “intimate” way that a priest does, to be really life-giving and a real source of grace for me and hopefully for them as well.”*

A Final Act of Stewardship & a Proper Estate Plan

by Bob Mueller

Often times when I talk with individuals and families on the importance of having a proper estate plan, I hear phrases like...“My children will know what to do when I pass away” or “I don’t own anything, what’s there to fight over?!” or even, “I don’t want to pay an attorney to draft a will, it’s too much money!” Although very common, these statements can be misunderstood and sometimes are incorrect.

A common mistake families make is that they assume their surviving relatives will all agree on how to handle their estate and funeral arrangements. When a family member dies, the following few days and weeks can be over shadowed by the stress and business that comes with arranging the funeral Mass, burial, and final resting place. With good intentions, it is not uncommon for siblings and relatives to disagree on these details. If not properly outlined, these family members may have different opinions of how mom or dad, or any other loved one,

wanted these final decisions to be made. In addition, we all have possessions or small items in our lives that will need to be distributed. Also, the cost of hiring an attorney to draft a will or trust is much less than the hardship of allowing the state decide on how your estate and possessions will be distributed. Save your loved ones the time and money in court proceedings by having a proper estate plan in place. In the next page we detail the three documents you should consider to complete your plans.

By having a proper estate plan in place you are providing a tremendous gift by allowing your family and friends to grieve your loss and celebrate your life in the days following your passing. In many ways this is your “final act of stewardship” and a gift to your surviving loved ones. Please know that we are praying for you as you begin or renew this process of planning your estate and that we are here to assist throughout the process.

Planning for the Future: Three Key Documents That We Can't Live Without

by Bob Mueller

A common question that we hear at our Catholic Estate and Personal Planning Seminars is “what documents must I have to create an estate plan?” My first answer is to work with a qualified estate planning attorney who can assist you in determining the best documents for your estate. Knowing that you are probably reading this article to get some sound ideas, allow us to share with you the three documents that are a foundation for a comprehensive estate plan.

1. **Will or Trust** – a will or a trust is the legal document that outlines how your estate is to be distributed upon your death. By having a will or trust in place, you determine how your possessions are distributed. By NOT having a will in place, the state may determine how your possessions are distributed. To understand which document would serve you best, you should speak directly with an estate planning attorney.



2. **Advance Medical Directive** – an Advance Medical Directive (AMD) is the legal document that makes known what type of health care you would or would not want should you become incapacitated or unable to express these wishes for yourself. This document will guide your health care “agent” on how to administer your health care in this instance (or instances). Your attorney may draft this document for your or you may utilize the AMD that is provided by the Diocese of Arlington which once completed and signed by two witnesses, will serve as your official AMD. Would you like a copy of our Catholic Diocese issued AMD? See below on how to request this document and other helpful planning resources.



3. **Power of Attorney (POA)** – this document authorizes another person to act on your behalf in personal, medical, business, and/or financial affairs. Traditionally, a Power of Attorney may become active once an individual becomes incapacitated. Depending on the health status of the individual, the POA would remain in place to carry on the everyday medical/financial affairs of the individual such as paying bills, operating a business, etc.

Start your Estate Plan By Requesting these helpful resources...

- A Catholic Estate and Personal Planning Workbook
- A Catholic Advance Medical Directives Booklet
- A free, no-obligation proposal of the benefits of creating a Charitable Gift Annuity
My/our date(s) of birth : _____ / _____ (suggested age: 65 & older)
- I am considering a bequest to my parish and/or the diocese and request approved bequest language
- I have already made provisions in my estate or a bequest to my parish and/or the diocese and would like information about membership in the *Catholic Heritage Circle*
- Information on establishing a Donor Advised Fund within *The Foundation for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington*
- I have already made provisions in my estate plans for a bequest to my parish and/or the diocese.**



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Tirella Endowment Fund Seeks to Support Students with Intellectual Disabilities

Earlier this year, Mr. Joseph Tirella, a long-time resident of Alexandria, established the Tirella Endowment Fund which, upon maturity, will help support students with intellectual and developmental disabilities attending Catholic schools in our Diocese. Mr. Tirella's motivation came from his deep-rooted belief that a Catholic education should be affordable and accessible to all students regardless of their intellectual levels; particularly those who struggle with learning and other physical or mental challenges. "From my own personal experience, I understand the best chance a child has to succeed when they have a learning disability is to support them at an early age," remarked Mr. Tirella. "My hope through the Tirella Endowment is to support children that struggle with learning disabilities while still giving them a chance to attend a Catholic school that offers these programs."

The Tirella Endowment Fund will primarily be funded through an estate gift from Mr. Tirella. Through prayer and thoughtful planning, donors can establish an Endowment Fund which they can contribute to during their lifetime and through their estate to ensure the future of the Diocese or a specific ministry. We are grateful to Mr. Tirella for his generosity and for remembering the Diocese in such a thoughtful manner. For more information about creating an Endowment or Donor Advised Fund, please complete the form below.

Save the Dates:

Estate Planning Seminars

Wednesday, November 9 St. Mark Church

The seminars are 90 minutes and offered at 9:30 am & 7:00 pm

Annual CHC Dinner

Saturday, November 19 ... St. Thomas More, Burke Hall

The Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF) Aims to Surpass \$1 Million by 2017!

To donate to SEEF, make checks payable to:
Foundation for the CDA

Mail To:

Foundation for the CDA
200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811
Arlington, VA 22203

Please indicate SEEF on the memo line.

Questions regarding Planned Giving, contact Bob Mueller.



*Bob has over 25 years of experience
working in Catholic Church Development.*

*Bob Mueller
Director, Office of Development
(703) 841-2545
r.mueller@arlingtondiocese.org*

*Please tear off and return in the enclosed envelope. (Fall 2016)
(Please see other side)*

Please contact me (us) via email. The email address is: _____

Please contact me (us) by phone at: _____

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail this form to: The Catholic Diocese of Arlington, 200 N. Glebe Rd., Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203