



HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

*A semiannual publication of the Development Office
of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington*

FALL 2017

A Journey of Faith

Marilen and Pete Recinto consider St. Ambrose Parish in Annandale their second home. They currently attend daily Mass and participate in several parish activities: the knitting club, bible study, rosary making, Knights of Columbus and Women of St. Ambrose. Their faith, joy and gratitude are infectious.

When Marilen and Pete met Father “Tuck” Horace Grinnell, he told them he couldn’t have pursued his dream to serve the Lord without the financial assistance he received from the Bishop’s Lenten Appeal (BLA). Upon hearing that, the Recintos’ began annual support of the BLA and are considering including a gift to the diocese to support vocations in their Will.

Almost 30 years ago, Marilen suffered a stroke. Marilen used her stroke as an excuse not to attend Mass, though her devotion to Mary continued with the daily rosary. Before she knew it, more than 28 years had passed without going to Mass.

In 2015, Pete and Marilen participated in the CHC annual pilgrimage to the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Mount St. Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, MD. While praying at the Grotto, Marilen had no inkling that her faith was about to change and multiply.

After they returned home, the first change occurred when Marilen felt inspired to go to Church. She asked Pete “what time are we leaving for Mass” and since that moment has not missed daily Mass.

The second change was more unexpected. A fellow parishioner invited Marilen to submit an application to join the Order of Malta on their annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, France which is where the Virgin Mary revealed herself to Bernadette 18 times. During one apparition, Bernadette was instructed to dig in the mud until she discovered water and bathe in it. These waters are known to have miraculous healing powers for the sick and infirmed.

A self-confessed “type-A” personality, Marilen relinquished her worries and need for control on the pilgrimage. She truly felt free and let the peace of Lourdes seep through her. She knew she was on sacred ground and was happy there were no daily distractions. Since the caregiving duties for Marilen were taken care of by the Knights and Dames of the Order of Malta, Pete was able to more fully participate and enjoy the pilgrimage too.



During this journey, Marilen realized that each person at Lourdes, whatever their role, had their own cross to bear. She felt less alone in her suffering and welcomed feelings of humility, compassion and empathy. Marilen said she “brought Lourdes back with her,” and is now more able to share in the sufferings of Christ.

After 48 years of marriage, Marilen and Pete are proud of their two children and five grandchildren. Growing up in the Philippines, they never could have imagined where the will of God would take them geographically or spiritually. They are happy and grateful their destination was the Diocese of Arlington!



Bishop Burbidge's First Year

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On December 6, I will celebrate the one year anniversary of my installation as the Bishop of Arlington. Since my arrival, I have had so many wonderful encounters with the People of God throughout the Diocese. As I approach my second year as Bishop, I renew my commitment to serve you to the best of my ability ever dependent on God's grace.



The ordination of three new priests for the Diocese of Arlington on June 10 was a highlight of my first year. Our Diocese is richly blessed by the priests who serve us, and we also count as a

blessing the 46 seminarians currently in formation for the priesthood. I ask you to join me in praying for our priests, our seminarians and for all men and women contemplating a vocation to the religious life.



I have been inspired by all the ministries and programs in our Diocese including those of our Office of Youth, Campus and Young Adult Ministries, which invite our young people to live their

Catholic faith with joy and zeal. When I visited our Annual WorkCamp this summer, I encountered over 1,000 high school students and adult volunteers repairing and

renovating the homes of those in need. I will not forget the vibrant joy of the young people united in faith and service.

Another Diocesan ministry for which I give thanks is Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, which extends pastoral and compassionate outreach to those in need throughout the Diocese with a wide range of services. Their ministry is the embodiment of our mission as Christian disciples to love God and neighbor.



I am grateful for your prayers and I ask that you continue to pray for me and the Diocese of Arlington. Please be assured of my prayers for each of you and your intentions. May Our Lord Jesus bless you and give you His peace.

Sincerely in Christ,

Michael F. Burbidge

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

Common Duties For an Executor of a Will

- Obtains a copy of the will and files it with the probate court
- Notifies banks, credit card companies and government agencies of the decedent's death
- Establishes a bank account for consolidating all assets and to pay ongoing bills
- Files an inventory of the estate's assets with the court
- Maintains properties until they can be distributed or sold
- Disposes of other properties
- Pays the estate's debts and taxes
- Distributes assets based on the instruction of the will
- Represents the estate in probate court

These are the most common executor duties. Depending on the size and complexity of an estate, there may be additional duties required. Please consult your attorney or tax advisor when naming your executor.

Making A Gift Through Your Will



Gifts in wills known as bequests are the most common type of planned gift received by our Diocese.

- Bequests are revocable allowing you to modify or remove them if your circumstances change.
- A gift to the Church or your parish allows you to include charitable intentions without depleting assets you may need during your lifetime.

When considering a gift in your will, there are different types to consider depending on your situation:

- A general charitable bequest is used to give a specific dollar amount.
- You can choose a percentage of an asset or the percentage of your total estate.
- Another option is leaving the residue or remainder of your estate to the Church after all of your obligations are met.

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- Enclosed is a gift for the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

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 have already made a provision in my estate plans for a bequest to my parish and/or the diocese and would like information about membership in the Catholic Heritage Circle.***
- I am considering a bequest to my parish and/or diocese and request approved text
- Information on establishing a Donor Advised Fund within *The Foundation for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington*



Write Your Will

1. Call your attorney to schedule an appointment. If you need a referral, ask a friend or call the Diocese for a list of attorneys.
2. Prepare before you see an attorney.
3. Make a list of assets, obligations and instructions.
4. Consider a gift to the Diocese or your parish.
5. Keep your appointment and complete your planning and documents.

Your wishes will then be recorded. Your family will not be burdened with indecision since you have a valid Will.



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Gift of Appreciated Stock is a Smart Thing to Do!

If you have highly appreciated securities and are reluctant to part with them, here are a couple of tax savings benefits to consider as you make your year-end gifts:

Tax Savings

If you are considering a cash gift of \$5,000 to the Diocese or your parish, consider giving \$5,000 worth of stock that you originally paid \$1,000 for. You then could use the \$5,000 cash you did not donate to repurchase shares in the same company.

By making a \$5,000 tax-deductible stock gift, you get an immediate tax deduction and avoid capital gains tax on the \$4,000 of appreciation. By repurchasing the stock you will maintain ownership but with a higher cost basis of \$5,000. If the stock increases in the future you will have less reportable gain, if ever sold.

Donor Advised Funds and or Gift Annuities

Another option for gifts of appreciated stock is to fund a **donor advised fund** which allows you to make a gift this year and then direct grants to charities in future years.

Or, you can fund a **charitable gift annuity** which provides guaranteed, fixed income for life based on your age.

For more information on the tax benefits of charitable gift annuities or to request a gift annuity illustration please call Gretchen Koch at (703) 841-3819 or g.koch@arlingtondiocese.org.



Bishop Burbidge at annual Serra Club Thanksgiving Mass and luncheon for seminarians in August.

The Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF) surpasses \$1 million

To support the future of the priesthood, please make check payable to:
Foundation for the CDA

(include SEEF on memo line)

and mail to:

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington
200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811
Arlington, VA 22203

or use the enclosed envelope. Thank you.

Questions regarding Planned Giving, contact Gretchen Koch.



Gretchen Koch
Director of Planned Giving
Diocese of Arlington
(703) 841-3819
g.koch@arlingtondiocese.org

*Please tear off and return in the enclosed envelope. (Fall 2017)
(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