

in Ministry Today

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FALL 2006

Acting to shape the future is the basic purpose of the Adrian Dominican Sisters Ministry Trust Fund. The recent appeal for the Trust continues to greatly impact how **we plan for the future**. The increased grant-giving capacity of the Trust now allows for an additional eight grants in 2006-2007. Of the 28 grants awarded, 16 are new grants.

Many of our friends want to further the work of the Adrian Dominican Sisters by making a substantial bequest for charitable giving. That means a will or a trust. Through a will or a trust and taking advantage of important tax deductions, you create future funds to partner in the work of the Adrian Dominican Sisters. That gift could be far larger than any affordable outright gift you could make during your lifetime.

Planned Gifts

The following information will begin to answer questions about **legacy planning**, which requires the assistance of a legal or financial advisor. Most planned gifts are deferred gifts, promising future support of the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Charitable Bequests

A charitable bequest supports the work of the Adrian Dominican Sisters after one's death. It may be included at the time a will is written or it may be added later by a codicil. A bequest does not affect current income and may favorably impact the estate taxes owed.

Insurance Policies

A review of insurance needs might disclose that some policies are no longer as useful as they once were. The cash value of a policy that is no longer needed could be transferred to the Adrian Dominican Sisters. It is also possible to name the Sisters as a beneficiary of a policy or to assign dividends to the Sisters as current, tax-deductible gifts.

Charitable Gift Annuities

This plan allows the donor to make a gift to the Congregation and receive fixed annual payments for life. The percent of the payment depends on the age(s) of the recipients at the time of the gift. The donor receives a tax deduction for a portion of the gift. If stocks or other properties that have increased in value are given, the realized capital gains are reported over a number of years. The gift annuity agreement can be easily completed by mail. (Note: Congregation policy states that \$10,000 is a minimum for a gift annuity.)

Charitable Remainder Trusts

Charitable remainder annuity trusts (income is a fixed amount) and charitable remainder unitrusts (income is a fixed percentage of the trust's present annual value) are irrevocable gifts to the Congregation that provide annual income to the donor. A portion of the gift provides an income-tax deduction and any capital gains taxes on appreciated property are deferred or, in some cases, avoided. Trusts can also benefit estate plans.

Retirement Plans

Since there are substantial tax penalties for having too much money left in a retirement plan, naming a non-profit organization could be beneficial. The Adrian Dominican Sisters can be named first, second or last beneficiary for part or all of a plan.

How to Give

Use the name "Adrian Dominican Sisters" in your gift planning. As acknowledgement and recognition, your name will be listed as a member of the Adrian Dominican Heritage Society and published in the annual report. For more information about these or other ways to make a contribution, please contact the Office of Development at (313) 882-6307. For advice and assistance in making a planned gift, consult an attorney or another professional advisor. State laws affect wills, trusts and charitable gifts made in contractual agreement.

The explanatory material given in this bulletin is not meant to offer legal or tax advice.

Comments From Friends and Relatives Who Are Planning and Shaping the Future

Shirley Batche

Teacher, comforter, counselor, friend, leader and encourager. This is a summary of what the Adrian Dominican Sisters have meant to me.

The one thing that impresses me the most is how the Congregation cares for its retired sisters. The programs that have been developed for them now and will continue in the future are quite impressive and effective. It pleases me that my planned gift will be part of the support given to the retired sisters.

Thank you for being all that God has called you to be. You are truly appreciated.

Joey Dillon

As the need for security became more evident, I found myself without a retirement program that would carry me comfortably through my senior years. While I still had the means, I searched for ways to help others as well as myself.

Charitable annuities are like building one's own retirement for life.

Consider the tax benefits as well as the good works derived from the dollars contributed. It's a well-balanced agenda with a good interest-return for life (God willing), and no stock market volatility!

I am a Dominican High (Detroit) graduate; my deceased sister was an Adrian Dominican Sister. To this day, I am in contact with many of my Dominican friends. I am glad to be part of the Congregation through my annuities.



Joseph DeCanio

My exposure to the Adrian Dominican Sisters started many years ago when I was an elementary student. I was taught, and taught well, by the Adrian Sisters.

An even stronger impression of these noble women was when I watched them enter our church through a side door, strong in number and vibrant in their spiritual commitment.

Through some good fortune I was blessed with financial well-being. I asked my sister — Adrian Dominican Sister Therese DeCanio, OP — if there might be some special area in which the Adrian Dominicans are involved that could use some financial aid to assist the work.



The Aquinas Literacy Center in Chicago was mentioned and, after hearing its specific goals, I decided to financially assist the sisters in that effort. I also began an annuity with the Adrian Dominicans because I admire their work in many good and noble endeavors.

Gene Schayer

In 1999, I sold the business that I had started 17 years earlier, and I faced a large capital gains tax situation. My financial advisor told me about Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRT), and the elimination of the capital gains tax if adopted.



My first thought was to pay the taxes and keep the balance. However, after thinking and praying, I realized that I owed the Lord a real debt because it was He who guided me through decisions that resulted in a successful business. The blessings that I had received had placed me in the position of being able to “pay back” the Lord. The CRT was the answer.

Tax law stipulates that the beneficiary must be a charity or non-profit group. After more time and prayer, I decided on two entities, the primary being the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

When I was nine years old, my father passed away. My mother placed me and my brother in Bishop Quarter Military Academy in Oak Park, Illinois, which was run by the Adrian Dominicans.

To say it was difficult is an understatement. I needed the discipline that was meted out at that age, but I despised every bit of it. I spent four long years under the wise eyes of the Adrian nuns. Now I look back and realize the crossroad that I faced and how these nuns pushed me onto the right road. They were there when I needed them; now I want to be there when they need someone.

As long as one person can benefit from the funds that I entrust to these sisters, I believe that I will have provided my payback to the Lord.