

*Your legacy sows the seeds
of faith in perpetuity*



Your Legacy of Faith

A GUIDE TO LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

Leaving a gift in your Will to the Diocese helps create parishes where everyone thrives in discovering their faith.

What is a Legacy?

A legacy, or bequest, is a gift detailed in your Will. It is a simple way of giving that costs you nothing in your lifetime – but these thoughtful and enduring gifts make a lasting difference.

It can be as little or as large as you want and not necessarily monetary. By making a gift in your Will, you decide how you would like your generosity allocated.

Leaving a gift in your Will is a special and personal decision. It reflects the people, causes, and values closest to your heart. Giving in this way allows you to continue providing support to the ministries, parishes, and charities that have mattered most to you long after your life's journey reaches its fulfillment.



How Your Gift Will Help

Understanding why you want to leave a gift to the Diocese will help you decide what kind of gift you want it to be. You may choose to leave a piece of property, shares, cash, or a percentage of your estate as a bequest. Regardless of size, your gift will support the faith of future generations.

You can indicate how you would like your gift to be used. This could be for any of the following areas.

GENERAL PURPOSES

If you are happy that your gift is used where the need is greatest, a gift given for 'general purposes' will maximise your impact. The area of greatest need could be social assistance, Catholic education, support of clergy, parishes, or other purposes.

REBUILD AND RESTORATION

You will help strengthen and build churches for future generations by giving a gift for the Cathedral or a specific parish. Allocating your generosity to rebuilding and restoration helps to ensure that those who come after you can continue to take part in the sacraments, ministries, and celebrations in our beloved churches.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

A gift given for youth ministries supports the Catholic Youth Team and their mission to connect with the young people of the Diocese - preparing, teaching, and empowering them for Mission as Disciples of Jesus Christ.

TRAINING OF SEMINARIANS

A gift given for training of seminarians in the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch will support the formation of future diocesan priests, preparing them to meet the spiritual needs of the communities they serve.

CARE OF CLERGY

Our priests dedicate their lives to serving God and the spiritual needs of the community. They are there for the key moments of our lives. A gift given for the care of our clergy helps look after the health and housing of those who have guided us in our faith when they retire from their service.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

By giving a gift for Catholic education, you support the needs of the Diocese for classrooms, libraries, learning support, and bursaries. We want our young people to have the best education in faith and Catholic identity.





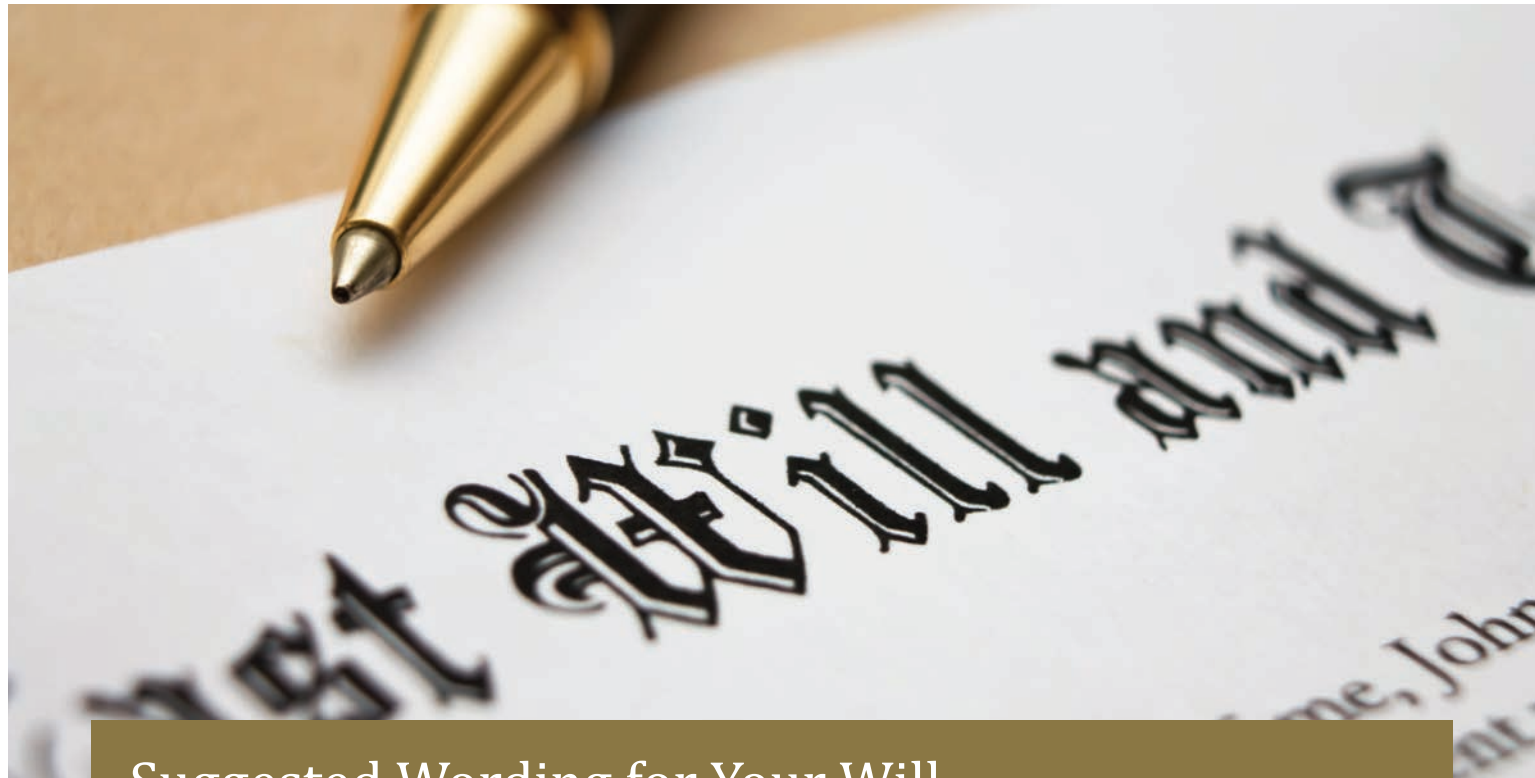
Planning Checklist

When preparing your Will, decide who will be your beneficiaries (family, friends, and charities), how your assets will be divided, and what amount or proportion will be distributed to each. Keeping a checklist is a good way of ensuring that, when the time comes, everything is in order for your Will to be prepared according to your wishes.

Here is a personal checklist you may wish to use in your legacy planning:

- Discuss plans and concerns with your solicitor
- List assets and approximate value for each
- Make a list of any major debts or liabilities (mortgage, loans, etc.)
- Consider carefully whom to assign as executor/s (non-beneficiary) and make sure to discuss with them prior to drafting your Will
- Make sure to keep adequate provisions for your loved ones and those dependent on you
- Keep a list of the gifts you wish to make in your Will
- List the full names and addresses of the people and organisations whom you wish to benefit from your assets
- Determine what type of gift you wish to leave each beneficiary in your Will
- Have your Will signed and attested by two witnesses who are over the age of 18 and are not beneficiaries of your Will
- Advise your executor of the location of the original Will and give them a copy.

This brochure is designed to give you general information about leaving a gift in your Will to the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. Before making a gift in your Will to the Diocese we recommend that you seek professional legal advice.



Suggested Wording for Your Will

Your Will is an important legal document. To make a gift in your Will to the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch, it is important that your solicitor uses the right terminology. We recommend this clause for your Will:

*I give and bequeath to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Christchurch Diocesan Trust
(Charity No. CC33341) the following:*

[Indicate here a specific sum of money, a specific asset or assets, a portion of your estate, or your residuary estate after distributions are made]

to be used at the Trustee's discretion, and express my wish for funds to be applied to its general purposes (OR for the specific purpose of... [insert your choice here])*

*Choose from: ■ Church/es in the Parish of... ■ The Cathedral ■ Youth Ministries
 ■ Training of Seminarians ■ Care of Clergy ■ Catholic Education

and declare that the receipt of the Secretary of the said Trust shall be full and sufficient discharge of my Trustees.

I declare that if the charity I have nominated has been amalgamated with another charity or has changed its name then such trust shall not fail but my Trustees shall transfer it to the charitable organisation which my Trustees consider most nearly fulfils the objectives I intended to benefit. The decision of my Trustees in this regard shall be final and binding.

Please let us know of your decision to leave the Diocese a gift in your Will. It will give us the opportunity to thank you for your generosity, and to discuss with you what you hope your gift will accomplish. Rest assured that we understand that your Will is personal and private. We will respect your wishes in terms of how we contact you.



Acknowledging Your Generosity

The Catholic Diocese of Christchurch invites donors who have remembered the church in their Will to join the Rejoice Always Society. This society is our way of thanking those who have made a special commitment to the future of the Diocese.

Members of the Rejoice Always Society receive:

- An invitation to the society's annual Mass and luncheon
- Regular updates from the Bishop and the Diocese

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MICHAEL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is comforting to realise that the challenges we have faced in recent years, the impacts on our lives and livelihoods, would be reminiscent of the practical struggles our forebears faced and overcame as they laid our diocesan foundations in the 1880s.

Our Catholic Diocese of Christchurch has come to exist with a rich tapestry of history. I remain eternally grateful for the generosity of those who went before us. Those who built our churches and sacrificed for our schools so that today we have places to worship and honour God.

Our faith provides an opportunity for our children and grandchildren. The hope this provides remains as important today as it was in the late 1800s. Our faith is a gift. Our gift to pass on can be to ensure the work of Jesus is available to those who follow us.

I ask that you reflect on those who have



inspired your faith. How that has carried you through your life. Like our forebears, we need to imagine the projects, the parishes, the ministries that are to be enriched, to be maintained and re-established, so that our faith can flourish for generations to come.

Your willingness to consider supporting our Diocese is deeply appreciated. Any gift, no matter the size, enables us to care for future generations, spread the Gospel and continue the works of the Lord. I am profoundly grateful for your consideration in supporting the future of our Diocese.

Blessings to you,

+ Michael Gielen
Bishop of Christchurch



"I want to build upon the history of my family as benefactors, givers, and volunteers to our church. This is a part of our family's tradition."

- Linda O'Brien, bequest donor, Christchurch East Parish

"I think everyone should have a Will. I'm in my 30s and I have one. Gifts in Wills are not just for retirees. I feel leaving a gift in your Will is a great way to support the Church, especially if you haven't had the funds to do it earlier on in your life."

- Hurunui parishioner

"I am inspired to give to the Church because of the history of our families here in Akaroa. My grandchildren are the seventh generation to be part of this parish. I give to honour those who came before us, and to demonstrate our willingness to give to those still to come."

- Ged Foley, bequest donor, Akaroa Parish

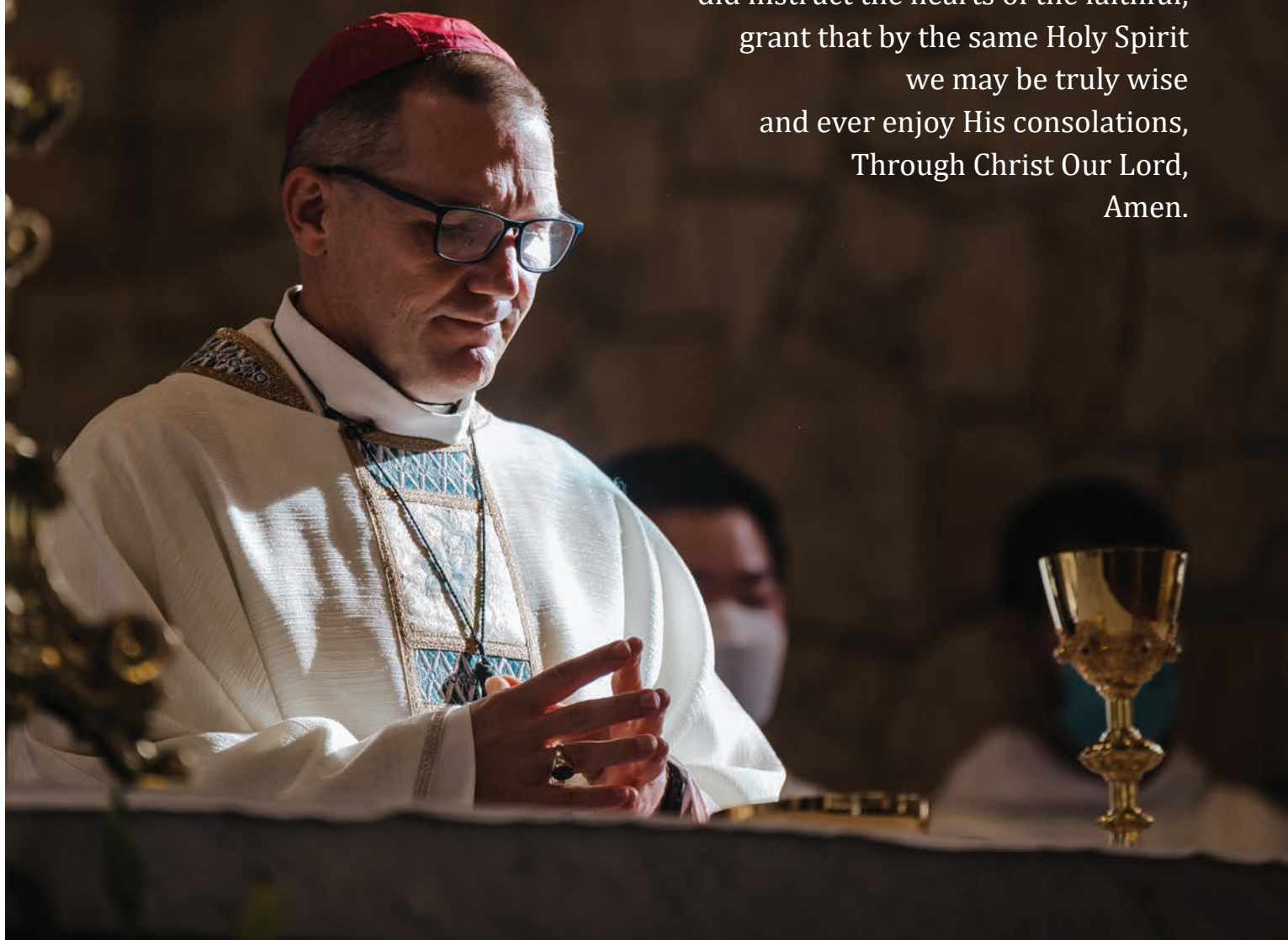


"Having a faith and attending church has always been a focus of my life, it was something I was taught from a young age. Therefore, it is important for me to leave a gift to my parish in my Will. It enables me to not only leave behind something for my family, but to help the Church continue its mission after I am gone."

- Christchurch West parishioner

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful and
kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.
O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise
and ever enjoy His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord,
Amen.



CONTACT US

For more information about building your legacy through a gift in your Will,
or to arrange a complimentary solicitor's appointment
through the Church, please contact:

Catholic Diocese of Christchurch

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legacies@cdoc.nz



 catholic diocese
of christchurch
to sanctify - to teach - to care for