

THE *Perfect* FIT ENDOWMENT





Dear Friends in Christ-

May the peace of Christ be with you!

I am so grateful to those who gave sacrificially to the Perfect Fit Campaign and supported our successful move to the new Diocese of Crookston Pastoral and Retreat Center. We are so incredibly blessed by the new facility which is already serving as a home for spiritual retreats for all ages, from high school retreats to Cursillos, as well as gatherings of our priests and deacons. The spiritual benefit of these retreats will have a great impact on our diocese and will increase in the years to come. The staff and I feel very blessed to work in this beautiful space which we are grateful to share with the Sisters of Saint Benedict.

By the generosity of many we were able to raise the necessary \$12 million in pledges to purchase the Mount Saint Benedict Campus from the Sisters of Saint Benedict. It is a sign to us of God's goodness that we did this in slightly more than one year.

We knew from the beginning that we would need an endowment to run the retreat center and to afford the extra staffing this new building requires. I am writing today to ask you to consider a gift to the Perfect Fit Endowment (much like the Seminarian Education Endowment) which will provide for the running of the Pastoral and Retreat Center into the future. Our endowment goal is \$3 million which will be invested for the future care and maintenance of the facility. We planned this as part of our campaign so we would not have to raise Diocesan Annual Appeal goals nor raise assessments on our parishes to run the Pastoral Center. We want to build a permanent endowment that will provide the funding to do this without putting additional financial stress on our parishes.

This endowment is ideal for a legacy gift, whether planned giving or estate gifts. We have already had generous people like Deacon Courtney and Bernadine Abel, highlighted in this brochure, who have decided to leave a generous legacy to this endowment. Their gift and yours can provide spiritual benefit through our retreat ministry for generations to come. The plan includes opportunities for our donors to open individual burses or parish burses. The Diocese of Crookston Catholic Community Foundation, which has the sole purpose of supporting the needs of the Diocese of Crookston, will be responsible for managing this endowment so we can support the operations of the new Pastoral and Retreat Center. We hope this brochure gives you a sense of what a gift this new building is to us, and you will prayerfully consider continuing your support for the work we have begun together.

May God bless you for all you do for Christ and his Church.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Most Reverend Andrew H. Cozzens, S.T.D., D.D.
Bishop of Crookston



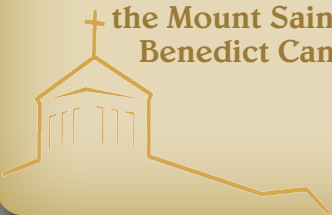
“And God is able to
make all grace
abound toward you;
that you, always
having all sufficiency
in everything, may
have an abundance
for every good work.”

2 Corinthians 9:8

CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$12,000,000

Funds raised to purchase
the Mount Saint
Benedict Campus



\$3,000,000

Endowment Fund



\$15,000,000

Campaign Total



Dear Friends of Mount Saint Benedict Monastery,

The Perfect Fit is ringing true, an (almost) perfect arrangement: the Diocese now owns the property at the Mount, and both the Monastery and the Diocesan Pastoral and Retreat Center are housed here. Before the sale, the diocese and monastery worked out a detailed Memorandum of Understanding to address a variety of decisions about how we would live together in one building. Still, we couldn't think of everything, and so about every other week some new question comes up—when to clear snow, which crib set to use in the chapel, how to schedule retreatants' meals and sisters' meals, etc., etc. But with a representative from each "community" (Cindy Gjerswold, Operations Manager, and Sr. Kathleen McGeary, OSB), we keep working out the details.

Meanwhile, we sisters are delighted not to be concerned anymore with maintenance, house cleaning, contractors, and so forth. It is a joy for us to see the retreat center up and running again. It is nice to have young people around, especially the polite, sincere youth who have shown up so far. Just inside our part of the house we have created an "oratory" (chapel), where we pray our Morning, Mid-Day, and Evening Prayer. Only occasionally have we had to close our "outside door" to block sounds from the retreat center.

It has been several months now since the diocesan staff moved their offices to the Mount. Their boxes having been unpacked, we are now getting to know one another. We have Eucharist together two or three times a week, taking turns providing the music and ministers. In November the staff invited us to a celebration of gratitude (and snacks), and during the Christmas season we hosted a pie break for them. And we have a sheet of head shots of one another.

There are some losses for us, letting go of some of the "way it used to be," but we have found it a great blessing that the diocese was in need of a building at the same time that we were in need of simplifying. God is with us.

Sr. Jane Becker, OSB

Sister Jane Becker, OSB
Monastery Administrator, 2020-2023



Sister Jane Becker, OSB
Monastery Administrator
2020 - March 2023



USING *The Retreat Center*

**The Pastoral and Retreat Center
can be used for any of the following:**

RETREATS

Cursillo
Confirmation Retreats
Deacons and Spouse Summer Retreat
Deacon Formation
Young Adult Singles Retreat
Retrouvaille
Padre Aplas Retreat
Principals Retreats
Pre-Marriage Retreat
Going Forth as Disciples
One Day Annual Retreat
Silent Retreats
Days of Reflection

TRAINING/WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Safe Environment Coordinators
Liturgists Workshops
Stewardship Workshops
Parish Staff Retreats
Teacher Workshops
Communications Workshops
Continuing Education and
School Retreats

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Knights of Columbus or Catholic Daughters
could use the Retreat Center for gatherings

CONSULTATIVE BODIES

Deans Meetings
Diocesan Priests Assignments Committee
Catholic Community Foundation
Board Meetings
Faith for Tomorrow Grants
Committee Meetings
Diocesan Finance Council
Priests Pension Plan Board
Presbyteral Council
Ministerial Review Board Meetings

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS

Tribunal

THE Perfect FIT ENDOWMENT



Catholic youth at retreat



Fr. Matthew Schmitz and 9th graders SHHS

Retreat Testimonial

“Being able to have an overnight retreat was a game changer for our students. Their favorite part of the retreat was 30 minutes of silent prayer where we encouraged them to pray with the scriptures. At the end of the retreat when we shared graces, one of the students said, “I heard the Lord say in my heart ‘**You are my son**’”. Seeing how the seniors were helping the young people to become missionary disciples was very encouraging to me. They had taken what they have received in their time at Sacred Heart, and were now able to share it with the freshmen. We are so grateful to have the Pastoral and Retreat Center as a place for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of our youth.”

– Fr. Matt Schmitz, Chaplain,
Sacred Heart School



Perfect Fit Campaign Steering Committee



Chapter Room Retreat Center



Deacon Mark Krejci, Bishop Cozzens, Bishop Balke, Msgr. Mike Foltz



Sacred Heart Chapel at the Pastoral Center



Cursillo Retreat

RETREAT CENTER *Highlights*

State of the Art Training Facility

Handicap Accessible

Large & Small Dining Rooms

Chapel seating for 135, with Furnishings & Pipe Organ

44 Retreat Rooms

Commercial Kitchen

39 Private Acres



Bishop Cozzens with seminarians



Sisters of Mount St. Benedict

THE *Perfect* FIT ENDOWMENT

How can I support the Perfect Fit Endowment

Providing for the care of the Pastoral and Retreat Center through the Perfect Fit Endowment (PFE)

We ask that you prayerfully consider naming the Perfect Fit Endowment in your estate and charitable giving plans. If you have received this brochure, we know you have supported the Perfect Fit Campaign and most likely your parish for many years. Ideally, we would like our donors who have generously supported the Campaign, to consider new contributions that will never be spent but will be invested in the Diocese of Crookston Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) for the benefit of the Pastoral and Retreat Center. ***You can do this in one of three ways:***

A gift to:

- **The General Perfect Fit Endowment in any amount.**
- **Your named Parish Perfect Fit Endowment**
- **Your named Individual Perfect Fit Endowment**

A minimum gift of \$5,000.00 is required for a named individual endowment, it can be funded over several years.

WAYS TO *Give*

By naming the PFE as a beneficiary in my Trust or Estate Plan

Naming the PFE as one of your beneficiaries **now** will avoid probate and is one of the best ways to assure that the value of the asset will be received by the Foundation for the Perfect Fit Endowment.

By making a Qualified Charitable Distribution *directly* to the Catholic Community Foundation PFE you may:

- Avoid taxes on transfers up to \$100,000 from your IRA
- Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year (charitable contributions count toward your RMD)
- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions
- Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts

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WAYS TO Give

A Gift of Stocks and Bonds

A gift of your securities, including stocks or bonds, is an easy way for you to make a gift. By making a gift of your appreciated securities, you can avoid paying capital gains tax that would otherwise be due if you sold these assets.

A Gift of Real Estate

A gift of your real property (such as your home, vacation property, vacant land, farmland or ranch or commercial property) can make a great gift. If you own appreciated real property, you can avoid paying capital gains tax by gifting the property to the PFE.

A Gift of Retirement Assets

A gift of your retirement assets, such as a gift from your IRA, 401k, 403b, pension or other tax deferred plan, is an excellent way to make a gift. By making a gift of your retirement assets, you will help further our mission here at the Diocese of Crookston.

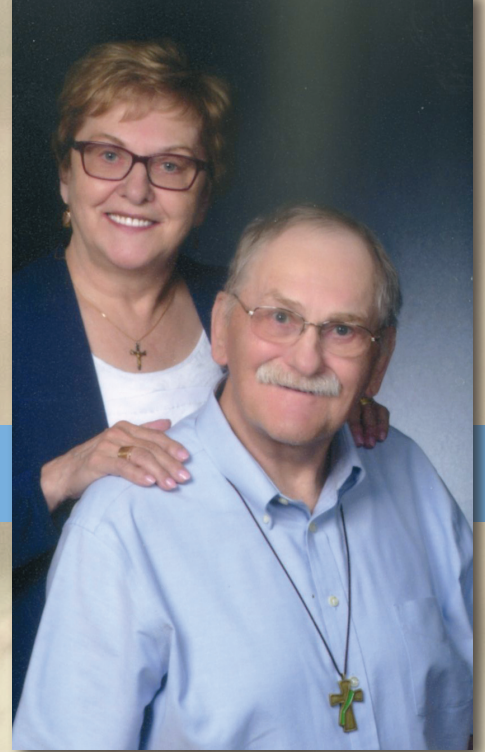
A Gift of Cash or Harvest Gifts

A gift of cash is a simple and easy way for you to make a gift. You will receive a charitable tax deduction that will provide you with savings on this year's tax return. (A harvest gift must be given directly to the CCF PFE from the point of sale.)

A Gift of Life Insurance

A gift of your life insurance policy is an excellent way to make a gift to the PFE. If your life insurance policy is no longer needed or will no longer benefit your survivors, consider naming the Catholic Community Foundation Perfect Fit Endowment a beneficiary of your life insurance contract.

The Catholic Community Foundation will be happy to put you in contact with one of several local attorneys, estate planners and certified financial planners to assist you with supporting the PFE. There are many other ways to give such as charitable remainder trusts (CRAT) and charitable unitrusts (CRUT) that can be used to donate but require the assistance of an estate planner with expertise in these areas.



Dear Friends,

I would guess there are many folks that when reaching "senior citizen" status, ask themselves if their lives have made a difference, or ask if they have made as much of a difference as they could have. Many look to their families, which is very good, others to success in business, and some to achieving some degree of recognition, all of which have value.

In recent years, we have been challenged to look beyond the newspapers and to focus on the Church itself, which is a gift from the Creator.

The new Pastoral and Retreat Center, which will be funded by the Perfect Fit Endowment, is a chance to be a real blessing to the Catholic Community. This is a channel for the Lord to bring Blessings to his Creation. That is why my wife Bernadine and I have decided that we want to make a difference by providing an estate gift to the Perfect Fit Endowment.

Deacon Courtney
and Bernadine Abel



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CAMPAIGN PRAYER

O God, help us to fulfill our mission. Center our lives on the Word of God in liturgy, in sacred scripture, in the sacraments and in union with the whole Church. You have blessed us in the past. Help us now to prepare for the future by our gifts and sacrifices. Let the work of our hands prosper, O Lord, and may Your kindness be upon us who place our hope in You. We ask You this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



Diocese of
CROOKSTON
Catholic Community Foundation

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