FALL 2006 Volume 3 Number 2

Foundation KEVS

Steve Strayer believes in giving back to St. Hilary

Did You Know...

- The St. Hilary Parish Foundation, in existence for 30 years, has given more than \$1.5 million to the church and the school for improvements ranging from building renovations to equipment, made contributions to major capital campaigns, and provided scholarships and tuition assistance to students and families?
- All donations to the St. Hilary Parish Foundation are tax deductible? The Foundation itself is tax-exempt.
- A new fund from an anonymous donor last year established the Multi-Child Tuition Assistance Fund providing families with more than three children attending St. Hilary School a \$500 scholarship for each child beyond the third?
- Legacy gifts to the Foundation may be made in the form of cash, stocks and securities?
- You can make donations to the St. Hilary Parish Foundation to honor someone or to mark a special occasion or as a memorial tribute?

Strayer has been a member of the parish since he and wife Barb were married at the church in 1986. Over those 20 years, he has



Steve Strayer

been involved with the J.O.Y. program as a participant and facilitator, assisted with fund-raising for the Spiritual Center, and has served on parish council. When long-time Foundation board member Ed Carter asked him to join the Foundation board two-and-a-half years ago, it was a natural fit for Strayer because of his commitment and professional expertise.

With 21 years of financial planning experience, his specialty for the last 14 years at National City Bank has been working with not-for-profit groups in the area of money management and planned giving.

Strayer brings passion and professionalism to his role as Treasurer of the St. Hilary Foundation Board of Trustees. His commitment to St. Hilary is unwavering. He calls it a "vibrant parish" with "great people, a great facility and great energy year after year."

The purpose of the Foundation, in Strayer's eyes, is raising funds for the success of the church and the school. He says he was enthusiastic about joining the Foundation board for three reasons: He liked the investment aspect of the Foundation's work, he had three boys at St. Hilary School at the time and wanted to preserve that important resource for the parish, and he felt it was an honor to work with Foundation board members such as Ed Carter, Fred Lombardi, Kathryn Dindo and others.

Since coming to the Foundation board, Strayer says he has been primarily concerned with the distribution policies for the various funds. He has worked with the board to examine how funds are spent. A spending policy is now in place for the Foundation's main, or unrestricted fund. Strayer says the board has completed establishing spending procedures for the rest of the funds such as the Teacher Salary Fund, the Technology Fund and the family named funds. Such policies will help determine the amount of grants from the funds, who has discretion over the funds, and how the funds are distributed.

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Director's Message



Diane SarkisDevelopment Director

By now, most parishioners know that the St. Hilary Parish Foundation is made up of unrestricted and designated funds that support our church and our school. In line with its mission statement, the Foundation distributes funds to urgent or worthy projects to "ensure a vibrant parish life and the highest standards of excellence in Catholic education."

I like to think of the Foundation as a way for people to "pay it forward." You may remember the movie of that name from 2000, starring Haley Joel Osment. In the movie, Osment's character, a boy named Trevor McKinney, has a school assignment to think of a plan to make the world a better place. Trevor, who's from a dysfunctional family with many problems, takes the assignment seriously and comes up with the "pay it forward" concept. His idea is that he will do favors for three people but, instead of paying him back, those three people will do favors for three more people, and so on, and so on. The pay it forward plan grows, but is not always apparent to the beneficiary.

The Foundation is like the "pay it forward" concept in that it uses the interest income from the unrestricted fund to quietly assist the parish and the school without asking anything in return. When the parish has needs that cannot be met by the budget, the Foundation steps in. This year, for example, the Foundation paid for sidewalk repairs outside the Spiritual Center and purchased replacement tables for the Gathering Area. It works the same way for the school. In addition to providing scholarships and tuition assistance to qualifying students and families, this year, Foundation funding was used to renovate restrooms and for new windows in the junior high classrooms. These projects are important to our parish community, but they might be on a "back burner" until funds are available.

By providing essential funds for important projects, the St. Hilary Parish Foundation pays it forward for the future - for our future. And the Foundation fulfills its mission.

But this work goes largely unnoticed. Generous contributors established the Foundation 30 years ago and loyal donors keep it healthy. They are paying it forward. Still, it's difficult for some people to grasp the Foundation's special need for support.

The Foundation doesn't have a celebrity spokesperson or an immediate recipient. Sometimes the Foundation is overlooked because of

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Director cont'd

its low profile. It's often easier to give to more visible campaigns that help victims of catastrophes or to charities that address issues such as medical research, food programs and help for struggling families. All these areas need our prayers and attention. So does the Foundation.

While you plan your holiday charitable giving, please consider adding the St. Hilary Parish Foundation to your list, perhaps as a way to "pay it forward." In its way, the Foundation will reward you by "paying it forward" to church and school projects that will, in turn, "pay it forward" for our parishioners, our school children, and our future.

Our parish will be a better place because of your generosity.

Make the Gift of a Lifetime

Turning Retirement Accounts into Charitable Good

There is good news for donors in their 70s – and for the Parish they care about. A new law makes it possible to give individual retirement account (IRA) assets to charity during 2006 and 2007, free from federal tax. Formerly, all lifetime distributions from IRAs were taxed – even those given to charity.

This means that, now, you can give far more with less. This may be an attractive giving option for you if you are:

- Over 70½ and now receiving minimum IRA distributions – but do not need the extra income.
- Interested in making a significant lifetime gift.

In 2006 and 2007, the new law allows people age 70½ and older to transfer up to \$100,000 from an IRA to public charities including the St. Hilary Parish Foundation, without triggering federal income taxes today or estate tax in the future. If married, each spouse can transfer \$100,000 per year from his or her IRA. We suggest you discuss these options with your financial advisor. Many advisors who have previously recommended designating a charitable beneficiary for retirement assets may now recommend transferring some IRA assets to charity during 2006 and 2007.

Using IRA assets to make a gift during your life, as opposed to giving via bequest in your will, enables you to experience the joy of making a major gift.

2006 Foundation Disbursements

The St. Hilary Parish Foundation continues its support of the church and school. Funds within the Foundation currently total more than \$1.7 million and grants for 2006 totaled \$43,176. This year, funds were given to the following parish projects:

- \$12,941, to replace partitions in the restrooms in the primary hall and junior high wing at the school.
- \$2,500, to replace a portion of the sidewalk which was cracked and broken at the entrance of the Spiritual Center.
- \$7,735, to replace tables in the Spiritual Center.
- \$1,000, Sandra Lee Carlson Scholarship awarded to two St. Hilary eighth graders for use toward tuition at Catholic high schools. Ms. Carlson was a teacher at St. Hilary School. She died in 2004.
- \$500, Kevin Neff Scholarship awarded to one St. Hilary student who exemplifies the characteristics of the late Kevin Neff, who died of cancer in 2003.
- \$7,500 scholarships to families with more than three children attending St. Hilary School. Families receive a \$500 scholarship from the Multi-Child Tuition Assistance Fund for each child beyond the third.
- \$11,000, to replace windows in the junior high wing of the school. The windows will help heat issues due to a lack of airflow in that part of the building.



A MOMENT WITH... Sam and Salma Gibara

Parishioners Sam and Salma Gibara recently established a family named fund within the St. Hilary Parish Foundation. Sam Gibara is the former chairman and chief executive officer of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. He retired in 2003. The Gibaras, who live in Bath, have been members of St. Hilary Parish since 1992. Here, they discuss their support of the Foundation.



Salma and Sam Gibara

How would you describe your involvement with St. Hilary Parish over the years?

It has been gratifying to be parishioners at St. Hilary. We have always supported our Church. However, professional obligations and our very frequent travels do not allow us to be as personally involved as we would otherwise have been.

What changes have you seen at St. Hilary since you came to Akron?

St. Hilary has been and still is a solid anchor of our faith. In this sense there is no change. But it has also evolved both with the renovation of the Church itself and the clear desire to become more accessible to parishioners.

How did you come to know about the Foundation?

We learned about the Foundation through written communications from St. Hilary, as well as conversations with others involved with the parish.

This year, you decided to establish a family named fund within the St. Hilary Parish Foundation family of funds. Why was this important to you?

Establishing a fund was a way for us to support our parish – both the church and the school. It is also part of our ongoing belief that we need to give back to the community.

What can be done with the Gibara family funds?

We leave it up to the Foundation to allocate the funds based on its knowledge of the respective needs of the church and the school.

Can you describe the process of setting up the family-named fund?

It is really a very easy process. We spoke with Diane Sarkis. She sent us the necessary forms to set up the fund, and we completed them. It's that simple.

What would you like the Foundation to accomplish in the next few years?

We believe the Foundation should prioritize and address the future needs of both the church and the school, with the objective of maintaining their excellence.

How would you encourage others to support the St. Hilary Parish Foundation?

These are very personal decisions which people make with their hearts as much as with their minds and wallets. We hope that they believe, as we do, that supporting the Parish is important to them, to their families, and to their community.

The Sam and Salma Gibara Fund is one of five family named funds within the St. Hilary Parish Foundation.

To date the others include the Mary Jean Carroll School Endowment Fund, the Hamlin Family Endowment Fund, the Mary and Charlie Booth Outreach Fund, and the John and Mary Ann Kyle Fund.

St. Hilary Foundation Family of Funds

Unrestricted Endowment Fund

The St. Hilary Parish Foundation Unrestricted Endowment Fund was established in 1976 to support the needs of Parish.

St. Hilary School Unrestricted Fund

The School Unrestricted Fund supports the capital and operating needs of the school, as well as its students and educational staff. This may include such areas as tuition, scholarships, salary and benefits for the educational staff, or any capital or operating need of the school.

St. Hilary School Designated Funds

- The St. Hilary Parents' Teacher Salary Fund was established to help fund salary, benefits and continuing education for the educational staff at St. Hilary School.
- The Technology Fund was established to assist with providing technology at St. Hilary School.
- The Arts/Musical Theatre Fund supports the arts and musical theatre at St. Hilary School.
- The Class of 1979 Alumni Fund was established to support capital and/or operating needs of St. Hilary School.

Tuition Assistance and Scholarship Funds

- The Tuition Assistance/Scholarship Fund was established to provide tuition assistance and scholarships to students attending St. Hilary School.
- The Kevin Thomas Neff Scholarship Fund was established in Kevin's name to ensure that his memory is kept alive in our community. Managed

through the Foundation, the award is given annually to a 6th or 7th grade St. Hilary student who meets certain spiritual, academic and social criteria.

- The purpose of the Multi-child Tuition Assistance Fund is to provide financial assistance to St. Hilary Parish families who have more than three children attending St. Hilary School during the same school year.
- The Sandy Carlson Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Sandy Carlson to provide scholarships on an annual basis to one or more graduating St. Hilary 8th grade students continuing their education at a Catholic High School.

PSR Fund

The PSR Fund was established to support needs of the PSR Program at St. Hilary.

Family Named Funds

- The Mary Jean Carroll School Endowment Fund is a family named fund established to support the capital and operating needs of the school, as well as its students and educational staff.
- The Mary and Charles Booth Community Outreach Fund provides assistance for the needs of community outreach at St. Hilary Parish.
- The John Kyle Family Fund was established as a named fund within the St. Hilary Parish Foundation Unrestricted Fund for the general support of St. Hilary Church and School.
- The Salma & Sam Gibara Fund was established as a named fund within the St. Hilary Parish Foundation Unrestricted Fund for the general support

Thinking about Giving?

When you evaluate your legacy or giving plans, consider the following questions:

- How do I wish to be remembered?
- What kind of legacy do I want to leave my family?
- What values would I like to pass on to my children?
- What charitable causes do I support?
- Are there other interests I would like to support?
- Would I like the interests I support now to continue after I'm gone?
- Should I consider using a family charitable fund to impart my values and financial skills to my children and grandchildren?

(Used with permission of the Akron Community Foundation.)

of St. Hilary Church and School. To the extent that a corporation or institution matches funding, the gift and the matching funds will be restricted to the support of St. Hilary School.

■ The Hamlin Family Endowment Fund helps to underwrite the needs of Sister Carol Joy's Enrichment Program at St. Hilary School.

St. Hilary Lehner Foundation Development Fund

The St. Hilary Lehner Foundation Development Fund was established to support the St. Hilary Parish Foundation's Development activities.

We are truly grateful for the gifts received from the following donors.

This list of benefactors reflects gifts received from Jan. 1, 2006 – Nov. 15, 2006.

Unrestricted Endowment Fund

Anonymous Edward & June Carter Kathleen & Gordon Ewers Kathryn & Thomas Dindo Frederick & Margaret Lombardi

In Celebration of Martha Batich's 100 Birthday

Dr. Zou & Carol Yassine

In Memory of John Fragale Francis & Rachel Harbold

In Memory of Charles Lamb Mr. & Mrs. Louis Bologna

*In Memory of Joseph Lanza*Revere Village Civic Association

In Memory of Donald Lee Knight, Sr.
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In Memory of Dr. Kramer
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Stephen B. Thompson

In Memory of Helen Schotzinger
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St. Hilary School Unrestricted Fund

Doug & Kelley Behrens Christopher & Vicki Boshkos Fred & Diane Chopko Rick & Sonya May The Standard Company – matching grant from Patrick Miller Gary & Linda Minorik

In memory of Burton Woldorf Betty Jean Ross

In memory of Victoria Bacha Bonnie & William Wojno Diane & George Sarkis

In memory of James M. Lyons Jan & Jeffrey Giles Daniel & Ginger Marchetta & Daughters

In memory of Helen Martucci Gerry & Marlene Faust

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St. Hilary Parents' Teacher Salary Fund

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Michael & Sharon Stock
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David Weidie & Beth Hemmelgarn

In Memory of George Sarkis Jill & Geoff Eicher

St. Hilary School Technology Fund

Chuck & MaryBeth Abraham

Kevin Thomas Neff Scholarship Fund

St. Hilary School Class of 2011 St. Hilary School KTN Volleyball Tournament

In memory of Vickie & Terry Spoonster Robert & Rebecca Marley

St. Hilary School Tuition Assistance/Scholarship Fund Frank & Marie Bevilacqua

In Memory of Richard Jackoboice
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Ashbrook
Joe & Marilyn Malick

St. Hilary School Mult-Child Tuition Assistance Fund Iim & Debbie Pianalto

St. Hilary School Musical Theatre/Arts Fund Cathy & Gary Horning

In Memory of Carol Horning Sherwood

Jill & Geoff Eicher

In Memory of Richard Jackoboice Doug & Pat Bigelow Garnet & Joy Hicks Dan & Ginger Marchetta & Daughters Mary V. Parasilite MaryBeth & Michael Waickman Mr. & Mrs. Gene Wilde

St. Hilary School Alumni Fund Class of 1979

Ed Buehrle Peter & Margaret Reagan

Mary & Charles Booth Community Outreach Fund | Iill & Geoff Eicher

Mary Jean Carroll School Endowment Fund Walter & Teresa McGee

Hamlin Family Fund Earl & Melissa Hamlin

Kyle Family FundDr. & Mrs. John Kyle

Salma & Sam Gibara Fund

Dana Corporation – Matching Grant Salma & Sam Gibara

St. Hilary Foundation Development Fund

The Lehner Family Foundation

Designated Fund

Doug & Kelley Behrens Greg & Jean Foust

St. Hilary Parish Foundation Newsletter

Jan Leach Lisa Lutz Debbie Sinopoli Lehner Family Foundation

Every effort has been made to accurately record our list of donors. We truly apologize for any omission.

How Can I Donate To The Foundation?

You can help ensure the future of St. Hilary in many ways. Contributions can be made by naming the St. Hilary Parish Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, trust, insurance policy or as a memorial to a loved one. You can also donate stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate, cash, and checks. Consult your financial adviser to determine the most advantageous means of donation for you, your family and for the Foundation.

Donations of any kind and in any amount can be made to the St. Hilary Parish Foundation in care of the Development Office, 2150 W. Market St., Fairlawn, OH 44333. For information on giving to the Foundation or on establishing your own family named fund, contact Development Director Diane Sarkis at 330-608-4787 or 330-867-1055, ext. 218.

Foundation Opportunities for Giving

Three are many worthwhile charitable organizations in need of your support. The St. Hilary Parish Foundation is truly thankful for the gifts that we have received. Your generosity is essential to our continued success and growth. There are many opportunities for giving within the Foundation such as:

- Gifts in memory of a loved one.
- Gifts in honor of a special occasion.
- Gifts to the unrestricted fund of the Foundation
- Family named funds.
- St. Hilary School Endowment Fund
- St. Hilary School Technology Fund
- St. Hilary School Tuition Assistance/Scholarship Fund
- St. Hilary School Musical Theater/Arts Fund
- St. Hilary School Multiple Child Tuition Assistance Fund



The mission of the St. Hilary
Parish Foundation is to ensure
a vibrant parish life and the
highest standards of excellence
in Catholic education by
raising, safeguarding and
granting funds that support
the operating and capital
needs of St. Hilary Church
and School.

Steve Strayer giving back (continued)

"We must be good fiduciaries of the dollars in the funds we've been entrusted with," Strayer explains. "I hope that, with my experience at National City dealing with literally hundreds of funds, I bring the best practices to the Foundation."

Strayer says the financial goal for the St. Hilary Parish Foundation is to consistently outperform benchmarks set up for the endowment. In this way, the funds should be protected in both up and down markets, and there is a system in place for critical review of the financial performance.

Also, he says, the Foundation must continue to reach out to the parish and seek feedback on where and how Foundation money should be spent. He explains that Foundation grants need to be relevant to the real needs

of the parish. He also stresses that neither the Foundation funds nor the funds collected in the weekly offertory can stand alone.

"If we want to be a welcoming parish and continue do all the things that we've done in the past, depending on weekly collections alone is not viable for the future. We need both the weekly collections and a strong foundation to support our parish," Strayer says.

A strong parish foundation is important to Strayer. The parish has reached a point at which significant plans can be made for the future. "I believe we are at a time where people can sit back and look at the big picture and think about the good that the parish offers each of us," he says. For Strayer, that is the "vibrant parish" in action.

St. Hilary Parish
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