



Good Stewards

United in faith, we bring the Reign of the Sacred Heart to the world

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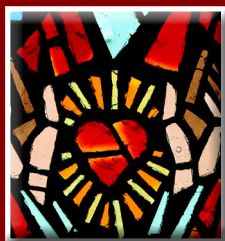
My trip to the mail box with dad

On so many occasions, we hear from our friends who have established annuities with the Priests of the Sacred Heart about how happy they are with their decision. However, it is rare to hear from someone who is a **recipient** of an annuity from one of our friends. I think you will enjoy his story below.

"When I was growing up on the farm, each day my dad would find me, doing whatever I was up to, and the two of us would walk down the long drive to the mailbox. It was such a treat for me. That was my private time

with dad when I could tell him anything! Like how many worms I found that day or how long it took me to eat 3 pieces of mom's cake before she noticed!" Ron said with a chuckle. "Today, I am still recalling those days and those talks as I say a prayer and talk to dad (even though he passed away 2 years ago), and as I walk to get my mail with my son.

Monthly, there is a gift from dad that will continue to be there until I pass away! Fr. Dominic, as you know, dad established an annuity for me while he was still living. He and mom had a few annuities and thought it would
(continued on page 4)



Extend your generosity beyond your lifetime.

When naming charitable beneficiaries in your plans, make certain that your attorney uses the correct legal name of the intended recipients in order to avoid confusion and unnecessary delays.

Our legal name is:
 Priests of the Sacred Heart
 Sacred Heart Monastery
 P.O. Box 367
 Hales Corners, WI 53130
 Tax Exempt 39-0836352



Winter is finally over and with the scent of flowers in the spring air, I think of Gerald Manly Hopkins and his poem, *God's Grandeur*, in which he writes: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God."

How do we praise God for the opulence and beauty, the richness of all the gifts He has bestowed on us – comfort, security, warmth and beauty

We do it by thanking God for not forgetting us even though there may have been times when we've forgotten Him. In this beautiful season spend some quiet time with the Lord to thank Him!

L. Dominic Rey

Good Stewards

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When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure!

We all have people in our lives who have a special place in our heart. Those who raised us, taught us, protected us and lifted us with their love. These are the people held close in our hearts and in our prayers.

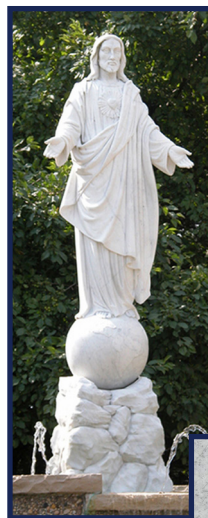
Honoring someone through a gift to the Priests of the Sacred Heart not only preserves their memory, but also celebrates the eternal love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus by helping us touch the lives of the poor and needy through works of love and mercy.

Your gift can memorialize a loved one, or commemorate a special occasion such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, a birthday, graduation or anniversary. You can give a gift to express appreciation for someone's special kindness or to recognize their impact on your life by:

- 1) Dedicating a window at Sacred Heart Monastery
- 2) An engraved brick in the Sacred Heart Shrine Memorial Garden
- 3) Or a leaf, rock or dove on one of our Memorial Trees

When looking for a special gift for someone who has touched your life, what could be more meaningful than a gift that celebrates your devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus? I invite you to prayerfully consider a gift that helps support our mission work.

To arrange for your special gift, get answers to your questions or learn about larger gift opportunities, such as building or educational endowments, please call Pam at 1-866-268-1057 or email her at pmilczarski@poshusa.org.



Joaquin Martinez Sanchez/
Ignacia Martinez Sanchez



Is it time to change the way you give?

The new tax bill became law on January 1, 2018. As with any economic change, you may be looking at your finances and wondering how you will be affected, including how it will impact your giving to favorite charitable organizations, like the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

Even though the new bill introduces sweeping changes, there are still several ways you can make a difference in the mission work of the Priests of the Sacred Heart while enjoying financial benefits for yourself.

Below are some of the changes to take into consideration as you plan for 2018:

1. **Revised Income Tax Brackets:** 10, 12, 22, 24, 32, 35 and 37 percent
2. **Standard Deduction Doubled:** \$12,000 for individual filers and \$24,000 for married individuals filing a joint return
3. **Personal Exemptions Repealed**
4. **AGI Limitation for Charitable Contributions Increased:** the current 50 percent of AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) limitation for cash contributions increases to 60 percent
5. **Estate Tax Exemption Increased:** to \$11.2 million in 2018, which is indexed for inflation

The best news is that most experts suggest that your taxes are likely to decrease, providing you with additional disposable income for yourself, your loved ones and your favorite charities.

Here are some smart ways to be charitable in 2018:

- **Donate appreciated stock:** give your appreciated stocks to a nonprofit like the Priests of the Sacred Heart and reduce capital gains tax
- **Name the Priests of the Sacred Heart as a beneficiary of your**

retirement plan: while taxable to loved ones, these assets are tax-free when given to a nonprofit

- **Give from your IRA (Individual Retirement Account) (if you are 70½ or older):** regardless of whether you itemize your taxes, a direct distribution to a charity helps you fulfill your (RMD) required minimum distribution and is not considered taxable income

We are pleased to offer you, as our gift, a free, no obligation estate planning series. We'll be happy to mail this information directly to your home, or you can go on our secure site, poshgift.org. Simply click on "Create Your Plan" under Resources on the right side of the home page.

Please know your generosity and support is gratefully appreciated by our priests and brothers, our seminarians, and the children and families served by our ministries.

At any time, please feel free to contact Pam at pmilczarski@poshusa.org or by phone at 1-866-268-0157 to discuss how your gift can help further our mission.

**This information is not professional tax or legal advice; please consult your tax advisor about your specific situation.*



A trip to the mailbox with dad (from the cover)

be a nice gesture to establish one for me. He knew that I really didn't need the money, but maybe this was his way of reassuring himself that I wouldn't forget him. Or, maybe he wanted to make sure the Priests of the Sacred Heart and I would continue to pray for him. Whatever he thought, it has happened!"

Ron's parents, Bill and Bette, had been friends of the Priests of the Sacred Heart for many years and had given generously through the Sacred Heart Charitable Gift Annuity program. Having been pleased with the rate they received and the lifetime income, they established many annuities over the years including one for their son Ron.

A charitable gift annuity is a simple agreement between you and the Priests of the Sacred Heart where, based on your age and size of

gift, a fixed payment is sent to you for life. You'll be happy to know that the Priests of the Sacred Heart have offered charitable gift annuities for over 80 years and have never defaulted on a payment.

In addition to these benefits, all annuitants are enrolled in the Sacred Heart Auxiliary, meaning you will be included in the daily prayers, Masses and monthly novenas of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

If you would like more information regarding the Sacred Heart Charitable Gift Annuity program, please contact my assistant Pam at 1-866-268-0157 or at pmilczarski@poshusa.org, visit our website poshgift.org/annuity or you may use the enclosed response form.

**This information is not professional tax or legal advice; consult a tax advisor about your specific situation.*



Your donation makes our work possible

Please join our monthly giving program.

Your monthly donation empowers our mission to spread the profound love that Jesus has for all people through prayer, service and action. As part of the Heart to Heart Society, you will be part of our work in the United States and around the world to:

- Feed the hungry, comfort the sick and share God's love
- Educate and house seminarians studying for the priesthood
- Ensure catholic education for thousands of children here and abroad
- Provide a secure home and healthcare for retired priests and brothers

Our beloved Heart to Heart Society members provide a foundation of monthly support that allows our priests to serve Christ and the most vulnerable among God's children.

Please join today by calling our toll-free number, 800-448-7674.



Frater Juan Carlos Castañeda Rojas professes final vows

On February 3, Frater Juan Carlos Castañeda Rojas, SCJ, made his perpetual commitment to be a Dehonian, a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

His path to final vows was a long one that began in Colombia, where he was born and raised. There, he was invited to discern his call to priesthood in the United States. Frater Juancho often jokes that “I didn’t think that my call would be such a long distance call!”

He entered the ESL program at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology in



2006. Seven years later, he professed his first vows as a Dehonian.

Three enter postulancy

Congratulations to Kodjovi Hubert Liassidji, Angel Romero and Alonso Barrantes who were received into postulancy by Fr. Ed Kilianski, SCJ last week during the visitation

of the Dehon Formation Community. Fr. Andrzej Sudol, SCJ will be their postulancy director while they prepare to enter novitiate in August.



The new postulants are shown with the remaining members of the Formation Community.

Devastation in India caused by Cyclone Ockhi

The Priests of the Sacred Heart serve in 11 communities in southern parts of India promoting Catholicism, as well as providing for the needs of all people, no matter their faith.

What follows is a report written by. Fr. Michael Augustine, SCJ Superior and rector in our community in Eluru.

"On behalf of the SCJ India District, have undertaken a Solidarity Mission from Feb 1-5. As the train journey from Eluru to Trivandrum lasts 26 hours, we had just one full day at our disposal to meet some of the affected families at Adimalathura. The day was dedicated to meeting the affected families and to hear their painful stories, and above all to extend our humanitarian solidarity.

Tears were flowing from their eyes as they began to share their grief and pain. All that we could do was to be with them, to listen to their tales of woe, and to extend our moral support.

Overall we visited twelve affected families. Even for us it was emotionally draining to see the wives without husbands, children without fathers, loved ones without their sole breadwinners who were consumed by the fury of the storm and mighty waves on November 29, 2017.

The parish priest of Adimalathura, Rev. Fr. Jerald, told us that the central and state governments have done some things but not enough to alleviate their excruciating pain and grief.

Twenty-nine fishermen were rescued by the national disaster management forces and were brought back home safely but they are yet to recover from the shock and trauma and are unable to get back to the sea to continue their sole means of livelihood. The local



Church organized several counseling sessions and various spiritual aids as part of their rehabilitation program. Unfortunately, these men are unable and unwilling to say anything about what happened to them or to their companions.

For us who have undertaken this Solidarity Mission it gave us the sense of what it means to be at the service of the afflicted and needy and to do what our founder, Fr. Leo John Dehon, wished us to do and to be. It's true that we can't change the whole reality but we can with generous, open and willing hearts and minds, change a small part of that reality. So we earnestly appeal to all people to make their valuable contribution for the future of the affected families and their children, for which they will be always grateful."

With Open Heart and Mind,

Fr. Michael Augustine, SCJ

Alex John

Bros. Thomas Raj, SCJ

Br. Sajith Pillai, SCJ

Libin Paulos, SCJ

Mahesh Gotikala, SCJ

Johnson Francis, SCJ

Your gift to the Priests of the Sacred Heart will help the communities that are being ministered in southern India. Visit our website at poshusa.org or call us at 1-866-268-0157 to make a donation or learn more.

Blessed are the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. —Matthew 5:73