

WILLS & BEQUESTS

Sample Article

In Remembrance

Joseph Bielaw

September 10, 1906 ~ June 22, 2000

Willis, Michigan ~ Phoenix, Arizona

Joseph “Joe” Bielaw, a parishioner at St. Louis the King Catholic Church, set up a charitable gift annuity, providing scholarships for children in need. This annuity became “The Mary Ann and Joseph Bielaw Memorial Scholarship Fund” when Joe died on June 22, 2000. The earnings from this permanent endowment will provide tuition assistance scholarships for students of St. Louis the King Grade School in Glendale.

Joe’s desire each and every day was to carry out his Catholic faith. He sought to educate and inspire others about charitable giving, and strived to provide a way for underprivileged families to have opportunities that wouldn’t normally be available. He stated in an interview, “So many Catholic parishioners around the Valley are just not aware of the opportunities that are available to them, such as endowment funds or gift annuity programs through the Catholic Community Foundation”. In addition to his gift to St. Louis the King, Joe established a scholarship fund, “In Loving Memory of Mary Bielaw” at St. Simon and Jude. Mary, Joe’s wife, passed away in 1995.

Joe began his interest in charitable giving in 1939, when he joined the “Knights of Columbus”. He played a significant part in hundreds of fundraisers and charitable events, holding positions as Grand Knight (while living in Michigan) and Honor Guard. He stated that his involvement brought great joy to his life and continued his participation with the Knights, attending weekly meetings until he died.

After living such a long and joyous life, Joe continued to make his existence so very worthwhile, leaving a legacy for generations to experience. Joseph Bielaw is an inspiration to us all.

“We are grateful for Joe and his desire to provide for families in need through his gift annuity. Our hope is to educate, not just our senior adults, but families of all ages. People like Joe see that opportunities are available to them, through the Catholic Community Foundation,” said John Scola, Executive Director.

If you would like to hear more about the types of endowments available contact the Catholic Community Foundation offices at the Diocese of Phoenix or see our Web site at www.ccfphx.org.

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