



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF LOUISVILLE

# A LEGACY OF FAITH

Spring 2017 | **Inside this issue:** With a Will, There's a Way | Will Planning by the Numbers

## DEVOTED CATHOLICS LEAVE GIFT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

Lisa and Mike Palmisano have long been active in their Catholic faith and enjoy supporting the ministries of their parish community. As parishioners in the Archdiocese of Louisville, it is important to Lisa and Mike that the local Church has the resources necessary to form future generations of Catholics, and minister to their spiritual lives. For this reason, the Palmisanos have included the Catholic Church in their will.

"A will is the simplest form of stating what your intentions are after you pass," Lisa says. "It's important to me to leave a gift so that my intentions are very specific and to make sure the Church I love has some gift going forward."

Mike finds strength in his Catholic faith, and embraces the Church like a member of his own family. He sees will planning as a form of mature, responsible stewardship of the blessings received from God.

"What better way to pay God's blessings forward than to make a gift to the Church for future children and generations," says Mike.

Discussing the topic of will planning with loved ones is the first, and often most difficult, step of the process, but help is available in many forms. To join Lisa and Mike with an investment in the Church's future, contact the Archdiocese of Louisville, your parish or your will planning expert.

Lisa and Mike Palmisano have left a gift in  their will for the benefit of the Catholic Church. Mike says it's the couple's way of giving back for all of God's blessings.



To learn more about legacy giving in the Catholic Church, please visit our website [archlou.planmylegacy.org](http://archlou.planmylegacy.org).



# WITH A WILL, THERE'S A WAY

## Create Your Vision for the Future With This Important Document

Momentous events like a milestone birthday, the arrival of a grandchild or retirement are a time to celebrate and reflect on where your family has been and what the future might hold. It's also a chance to think about the values you hope to pass on to future generations.

One way you can ensure that your values endure is through will planning. Will planning is the highly personal process of deciding how your assets will be distributed after your lifetime.

### START AT THE BEGINNING

**Create a will.** Through this important document, you can direct the division of your property the way *you* choose. If the Catholic Church has been important in your life, you can also include a gift to support our future.

**Talk it out.** If supporting your parish or the Archdiocese of Louisville is a part of your future plans, **share your intentions with loved ones.** Does your family know why our work is important to you? Tell them! These conversations help ensure that your family understands your intentions. You could also inspire them to make a connection with the Church.

### TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LEGACY

Contact the Office of Mission Advancement at (502) 585-3291, Ext. 1128, or at [planmylegacy@archlou.org](mailto:planmylegacy@archlou.org) and we'll help you get started with creating a plan that protects the important people and causes in your life.

### A Word of Caution

If you pass away without a will, a court in the state where you resided will determine what happens to your estate, which could take years. You run the risk that loved ones and organizations dear to you may receive nothing.

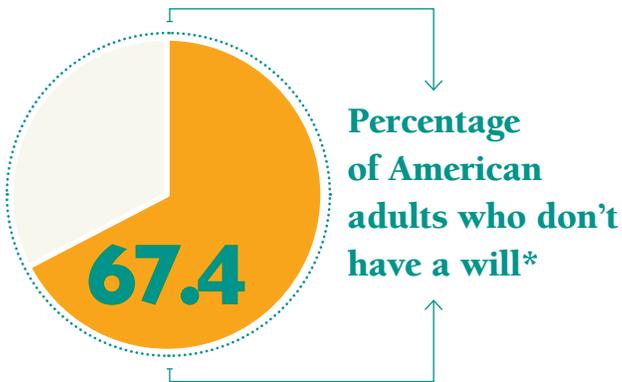


### Already have a will?

Don't set it and forget it! Review it every couple of years to ensure that it has kept pace with your life. A new marriage, birth or death of a family member are events that should trigger a review to make sure that your will still protects the people you love.



# WILL PLANNING BY THE NUMBERS



Why do so many people not have a will? Common misconceptions include: "I'm young and in good health." "I'm single." "I don't have children." "I don't own a home or anything worth a lot of money."

The truth is, will planning is for everyone, regardless of age or assets. Just as you wear your seat belt for protection, you should have your will and other important documents in order.

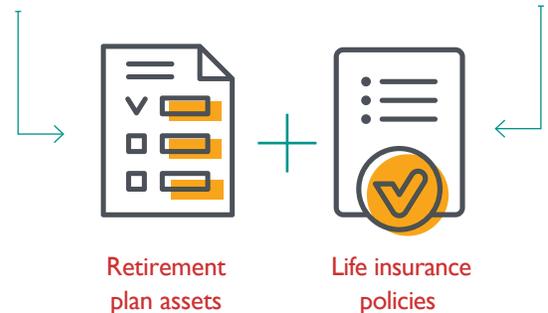


## \$200-\$750

Price of a basic will

Depending on where you live, a basic will can cost you less than you might expect. Resist the urge to look for a deal, and avoid do-it-yourself kits. Contact us to learn how this important document can also support your parish or the Archdiocese of Louisville.

## 2 things NOT covered by your will



Your will doesn't cover *everything* in your estate. The beneficiary designation form for these assets takes precedence over your will. Make sure you keep your beneficiaries up to date so that your assets end up with your intended recipients.



If you give because helping others makes you feel good, you're not alone. Most people report that the main reason they give to the Archdiocese and other charitable organizations is because helping other people makes them feel good.

\*2016 NMI Healthy Aging Database® Study

## Don't Go It Alone

We're here to help you through the will planning process and can show you how to protect your loved ones and invest in the future of the Archdiocese of Louisville. Contact Erin Zuber at (502) 585-3291, Ext. 1128, or [planmylegacy@archlou.org](mailto:planmylegacy@archlou.org) to get started today.



## What Stage Is Your Plan In?

Whether you are considering a will or need to update an existing one, our resource guides you through every stage of planning. Simply return the enclosed reply card to request your FREE copy of *Your Will Planning Timeline*.

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The information in this publication is not intended as legal or tax advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor. Figures cited in examples are for hypothetical purposes only and are subject to change. References to estate and income taxes include federal taxes only. State income/estate taxes or state law may impact your results.

# A FAMILY-FIRST PHILOSOPHY

## *Take Care of Your Own and Then the Church*

They say charity starts at home, and that can be especially true during uncertain economic times. If you're worried that you won't be able to provide for your family, you might overlook a gift to the organizations and causes that also need your support.

Through gift planning, you can choose a method of giving that protects your family's needs and offers greater tax savings. Here are a few ways you can support your parish or the Archdiocese of Louisville.

- **A gift in your will.** You may find the flexibility of naming your parish or the Archdiocese in your will or living trust appealing because you can change your mind at any time. By leaving a *percentage* of your estate to the Church, gifts to family members and other loved ones remain proportional no matter how your estate fluctuates over the years.
- **Retirement plan assets.** Because retirement plan assets can be heavily taxed when left to family, it can be tax-savvy to leave these assets to charity through beneficiary designations.
- **Life insurance.** Life insurance is a simple way to make a big impact on your parish or the Archdiocese of Louisville. You can leave all or a portion of your life insurance policy to us.



Looking for other ways to give to your parish or the Archdiocese of Louisville? Visit our website at [archlou.planmylegacy.org](http://archlou.planmylegacy.org) or contact us to find a gift that best fits your situation. We are happy to help!



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