

THE Good Word

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A "MAN FOR OTHERS" TO RECEIVE FOUNDATION'S HIGHEST AWARD

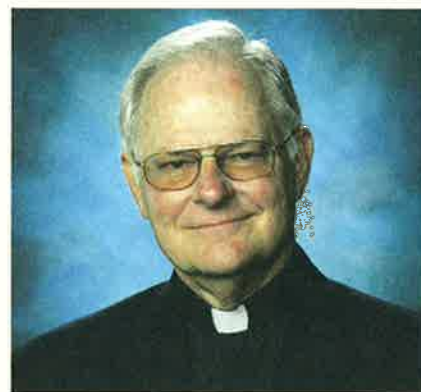
Foundation Trustees will honor Father Phil Postell, S. J., President of Jesuit College Preparatory School, with the 2010 Catholic Foundation Award at the Annual Awards Dinner Friday, February 5, 2010 at the InterContinental Hotel.

The Catholic Foundation Award, the pre-eminent Catholic Award in Dallas, honors distinguished service to the charitable, educational, and religious needs of the Diocese – in Father Postell's case, his 17 years presiding over Jesuit where he says, he is "in the business of continuing the mission of Jesus to those who are in need by providing a comprehensive education which includes social justice."

A graduate of Jesuit High School in New Orleans, Father Postell came to Jesuit in Dallas in the early 90's following college, ordination, and a similar teaching and administrative assignment at his alma mater. Education is

his Jesuit vocation – he has never been a parish priest – but he works in area churches every weekend, and knows the work of The Catholic Foundation. He sees its support for many of the neediest ministries of the Diocese, ministries which might not otherwise make it on their own, as critically important. A soft-spoken, reserved man, he claims, "There are 7,000 other Mother Theresa's out there" who make him "unworthy" of the award. But "Because I think a lot of The Catholic Foundation, if I can participate in anything that supports their success, I'm happy to do it." With quiet humor he adds, "I'm obviously not the Philanthropist of the Year."

The award may also enhance the visibility of Jesuit's mission in the community in a way that won't happen otherwise, he notes (wryly, once again), "unless we win a state championship in athletics."



Father Phil Postell, S. J.

During Father Postell's tenure, enrollment at Jesuit has increased to 1,020 high school students, and there have been new buildings, changes to the curriculum, growth in the endowment, and admission to the UIL athletic league. But as far as he's concerned, "The kids and their families are first."

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THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



As we come upon the end of the year, it is natural to count our blessings. Among mine are the many thoughtful and generous people we have encountered who care about the community and the mission of The Catholic Foundation and whose gifts have made our work possible this year.

I believe we should also consider those around us who are trying to make a difference in the lives of others and the fact that they may need additional resources now and in the coming months. Unfortunately, statistics show that, because of the poor economy, charitable giving overall has declined, which makes your personal philanthropy –

whether it is through The Catholic Foundation or directly to the charities of your choice – more important than ever.

If you're not sure what's best for you to do in this economy, you might consider creating a Donor Advised Fund with The Catholic Foundation, take a charitable deduction immediately, and decide on the particulars of distributing the funds at a later date. It is simple and meaningful, and we would be happy to help you.

With thanks, I wish you all a Blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

EDWIN M. SCHAFFLER

A Strong FOUNDATION

Six Retiring Trustees Leave Lasting Legacy

Six Foundation Trustees – Robert Baillargeon, Joseph M. Coleman, Donald J. Hanratty, Kasey P. Hollon, Tom Lazo, Sr., and Nancy McLochlin – are retiring from the Board at year-end. As Foundation President Ed Schaffler notes, “The Foundation has been blessed from the beginning with trustees who are generous with their time, their talents, and their treasure, and our current Board is no exception. Throughout their tenure, these six individuals have contributed essential professional expertise and personal insights, and through their engagement in the work of the Foundation, in particular on the development and grants distribution committees, have increased support for the Foundation throughout the Catholic community.”



Robert Baillargeon



Joseph M. Coleman



Donald J. Hanratty



Kasey P. Hollon



Tom Lazo, Sr.



Nancy McLochlin

Ms. Hollon, President of PASCO Brokerage, Inc., in Plano, first joined the Board hoping to have an impact on the Foundation’s visibility to Catholics throughout the Diocese. She thinks the Foundation enhanced its visibility most effectively during her tenure with the 50th Anniversary project, the Catholic Foundation Plaza on the edge of the Dallas Arts District. In return, she says, the experience she gained on the Foundation Board “certainly broadened my cosmos,” especially through site visits which allowed her to “see so many parishes, schools and agencies and to learn their missions and understand their needs.”

Throughout his multiple terms on the Board, Joe Coleman, of Kane, Russell, Coleman & Logan, P.C., says he most enjoyed the Foundation’s and the Trustees’ “sincere appreciation for the significance of the stewardship role they play in the Catholic community. Everyone understood – sincerely and seriously understood – how important it is that every penny given by any donor be maximized for the benefit of

the entirety of the Dallas Diocese.” He was drawn to his service on the Board, he says, by the “ambition” of the Foundation’s mission which inspired, in particular, his work on the Development Committee.

Don Hanratty repeats his maxim that the “best job” on the Catholic Foundation Board belongs to the Distribution Committee and involves the committee’s site visits. “It’s just terrific to learn about the entire Diocese. And the variety of grants is terrific – from schools to churches to parishes to computer systems to plumbing to heating and A/C to new programs, to new service to the elderly, and to pre-schoolers.” He adds, “We’re blessed with wonderful resources, and the needs of the Diocese are real. We would obviously love to do more when we can.”

Bob Baillargeon, a member of St. Rita’s parish, came to his service on the board believing it was “important to pool our talents and our resources, as Catholics, to really make a difference for our Diocese.” He is grateful to “all the

people who have come forth to help us make a difference,” and especially proud of the way The Catholic Foundation has shown itself to be “an invaluable, well-respected resource for Catholics interested in charitable gift-giving and estate planning.”

Tom Lazo, a member of St. Rita’s parish, wanted the Foundation’s reach to extend to recipients and donors alike in the Hispanic community and, during his tenure, encouraged the Foundation to reproduce some of its published materials in Spanish. He especially admires the Foundation’s “outstanding” approach to working with the Catholic organizations and the contribution it is able to make to the community.

Nancy McLochlin, of Christ the King Catholic Church, says she is sad to be leaving a board which “does such wonderful work in the community. I will miss the people I served with in the Foundation. They do such a fabulous job, helping so many different groups in so many different ways.” 🌟

Giving SPIRIT



Giving 101

by Cheryl Unis Mansour, Vice President of Development

WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S (LITERALLY) A WAY

Don't die without a will in Texas.

If this sounds a bit like the lyrics to a country song, take it to heart.

No one benefits – no one – if you die without a will in Texas. At the very least the estate incurs court costs and lawyers' fees; and the estate tax implications can be penurious.

The main reason for having a will, however, is so that the property and possessions

you have accumulated over a lifetime will be distributed as you wish them to be.

If you do not have a will, the property will be distributed according to state law with its definition – not yours – of whom, exactly, is to be an heir. In addition, without a will, you cannot make any provisions for charities or other individuals or organizations you may wish to support, and you can do nothing to mitigate the impact of the estate tax.

A will in Texas provides for the legal transfer of both real and personal property. It may also

include provisions such as the durable or medical power of attorney and a living will to help your loved ones make tough decisions at difficult times. A will gives you a way to plan for your family's future in the event of your death. A will lets you – and not the state – define your legacy.

Now is a good time to "get your affairs in order." The Catholic Foundation has the resources and expertise to assist you and would welcome the opportunity.



Rita Gallagher Smith

WALK COUNTS FOR MORE THAN TALK

Rita Gallagher Smith's life has been steeped in the culture of Wylie, Texas, where she lives today, just two blocks from where she was born in July, 1918. There's an elementary school

named after her, and the library bears the family name. She was the "first woman" on the board of myriad organizations, some of which, including Wylie Meals on Wheels, she began. At age 86, she was named Wylie's Citizen of the Year in 2004.

Rita G. Smith owned and operated the Wylie Insurance Agency for 45 years while her husband, Truett, first opened and then presided over the Wylie Bank from 1945 to 1992. In addition, he owned and published the *Wylie News*, which she took over following his death. Now "retired," she attends daily Mass at St. Anthony's ("I'm fortunate to be close to the Lord," she says, "and he expects to see me there every day."). On Tuesdays, after she and her friends say the Rosary, they spend the rest of the day playing mah jong! Despite her many successes, she reports, "I don't do very well financially with that."

While the Smiths had professional opportunities to move from Wylie, "We decided we could do our thing here as well as someplace else," Rita says. After Truett's death, Mrs. Smith was

advised by friends to work with The Catholic Foundation because it was both closer to home than a bank in Houston and, as a life-long parishioner of St. Anthony, closer to her heart. Louise Buhrer, who has a named endowment fund at the Foundation, recommended it first. It was Monsignor Thomas Weinzapfel's advice she finally followed, creating a will which includes a generous bequest to The Catholic Foundation to support the church and civic charities which have been so much a part of her generous life. "It's a relief to me to know all they can do with what little money I have to take care of the things that have been important to me. The Church and this town have been very good to me, and I'm happy to be able to provide some payback." 🌸

Save the Date

FEBRUARY 5, 2010

The Catholic Foundation Award Dinner
6:00 P.M., INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, DALLAS,
CRYSTAL BALLROOM

A LIGHT *On*

FOUNDATION GRANTS TOTAL NEARLY \$1 MILLION THIS FALL

A ground-breaking has taken place for the building of one church and site preparation is underway for the construction of another after years of tireless, faithful fund-raising and thanks to new, major gifts from The Catholic Foundation this fall.

Among the grants distributed by Foundation Trustees on November 19 was one to aid in the reconstruction of St. Cecilia Catholic Church, which was destroyed by fire two and a half years ago; and another to help build Holy Cross Catholic Church's first-ever sanctuary for its 1,600 young families.

According to Foundation President Ed Schaffler, both projects reflect the vitality of their parishes and the changing demographics of the Catholic Church in Dallas today, and the Foundation is pleased to be able to support this exciting growth in such a tangible way.

Holy Cross, for example, was formed in 1956 with about 285 people, according to its pastor, Father Tim Gollob. Parishioners have worshipped since that time in the school cafeteria, and extended its programs



Artist's rendering of the new proposed St. Cecilia Catholic Church building to be completed in 2011.

into the auditorium, but they have never had their own facility. "We have hope for the future now," Father Tim says of the new construction. The money from The Catholic Foundation will be used to build a cross tower on the building to enhance the church's

In addition to these two projects, the Foundation awarded grants for property improvements to Good Shepherd Catholic Church, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Commerce, St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, and St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Grand Prairie. Another will fund a new parking area for the Catholic Conference & Formation Center.

Grants supporting Catholic education were given to the Children's Education Fund, Holy Trinity Catholic School, Mount St. Michael Catholic School, St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School, St. Patrick Catholic School, the University of Dallas, and Ursuline Academy. Extracurricular programs for Catholic students funded include the Dallas Children's Theater, the Dallas Holocaust Museum, and the Museum of Nature & Science.

The Fall/Winter Grants from the Foundation's Unrestricted Fund totaled \$731,000

"We have hope for the future."

FATHER TIM GOLLOB,
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH



Bishop Kevin J. Farrell and parishioners celebrate ground blessing at ceremony for Holy Cross Catholic Church.

visibility, he says. Too many people have told him, "Oh I didn't know there was a church there. Now, they'll see it."

Father Edmundo Paredes, St. Cecilia's pastor, says their original sanctuary was built for 450 people in 1946. Today, St. Cecilia's serves 2,500 families, so the fire, while tragic, has given the parish an opportunity to build a larger facility that will seat 1,100, and one that better reflects the needs of their very young population (median age – 29) so that, in Father Edmundo's words, he can continue the "rewarding work of bringing more people closer to God."

this year. Additional recipients were the Catholic Crisis Pregnancy Center, the Catholic Pro-Life Committee, the Mount Carmel Center, the Natural Family Planning Center of Dallas, Inc., the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and the Zero to Five Funders' Collaborative, a Catholic Charities immersion program for parents and children at San Juan Diego Church. Grants totaling \$208,417 were also distributed from four Restricted Funds of the Foundation – The Lousie Buhner Endowment Fund, the Olga Fay Harper Senior Citizens Fund, the Gulczynski Endowment Fund, and the Jane and Henry Neuhoﬀ Fund for the Poor and Needy. 🙏