

SACRED HEART of JESUS CATHOLIC PARISH *and* SCHOOL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: ENDOWMENT FUND

What is the Berkel Fund?

The Berkel Fund was established through a generous legacy gift from Charles & Toni Berkel, long-time Sacred Heart parishioners. Charlie passed away in 2013. In early 2014, Sacred Heart received a \$1.5 million cash gift and was informed we would receive annual gift for the next 20 years. Our last Berkel Fund gift will be received in 2034. Each year, the parish receives approximately \$400,000–\$500,000 from this legacy gift.

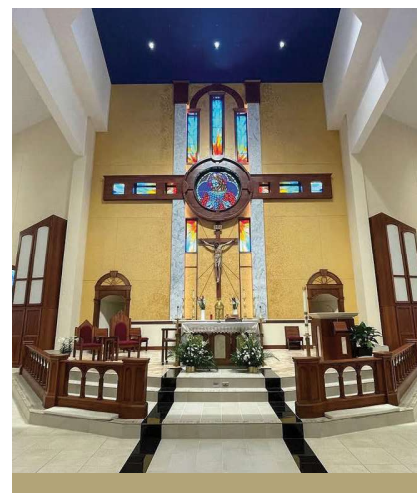
How has Sacred Heart used the Berkel Fund?

The Berkel Fund is not used for daily operating needs or to cover tithing shortfalls. Instead, it has allowed us to:

- Pay down and eliminate the mortgage debt from the church and school addition.
- Complete capital improvement projects that otherwise would have required additional parishioner contributions.
- Increased our reserves (savings) account at the Archdiocese.

Why is the Berkel Fund important to our parish?

The Berkel Fund has been a tremendous blessing, freeing our parishioners from extra financial burdens for debt reduction, capital projects, and savings. It has also opened our eyes to the life-changing impact of legacy giving, which strengthens and sustains a parish community for the future.



2 TIMOTHY 1:6a

MISSION INVESTMENT

See the vision. Hear the call. Be the spark.

What is an endowment?

An endowment is a permanent fund that is invested rather than spent. The original gift (the principal) remains intact, and only a portion of the investment earnings are used each year. This allows one gift to continue providing support for the parish and school forever.

What does the Berkel Fund have to do with building the endowment fund?

The Berkel Fund has shown us what a difference long-term, planned giving can make. Because of this powerful example, a key part of Sacred Heart's Phase 1 goal is to grow an endowment fund—a permanent source of support that will serve our parish and school in perpetuity, ensuring that future generations benefit from the generosity of today.

How does my capital campaign pledge support the endowment?

For every dollar given to the campaign, **25 cents will be placed directly into the endowment.** Through this structure,

our endowment will grow by approximately \$1.75 million, creating a strong and lasting foundation for the future of our parish and school.

Why include the endowment in the campaign?

We listened to parishioners' concerns about financial stability and the importance of not stretching beyond our means. By dedicating a portion of campaign funds to the endowment, we are ensuring that this campaign not only meets today's needs but also secures tomorrow's financial health for generations to come.

How does the endowment support our mission?

Sacred Heart's mission is to put hearts on a collision course with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Achieving our mission goals requires ongoing resources. An endowment provides a permanent, growing source of funding that supports ministries, education, and parish life now and in the future.