MEMORANDUM

TO:              Pastors and Administrators

FROM:          Bettina Alonso

CC:              The Reverend Monsignor Joseph P. LaMorte

DATE:          April 29, 2020

SUBJECT:     Planned Giving Office – update

Dear Pastors and Administrators,

The COVID-19 global pandemic has brought into sharp focus just how much we rely on the generosity of our beloved parishioners to keep our parishes healthy and thriving. In previous crises, the non-profits that have shown adaptability and resilience continued thriving long after the crisis ended.

One of the ways that we can manage this as an organization is by looking towards alternate forms of giving, such as planned gifts. While conversations with parishioners about end of life planning and estate plans are difficult ones, they are critical to the peace of mind of parishioners who want to see their parishes survive these uncertain times.

To increase outreach, the Planned Giving office will mail in May to nearly 5,000 parishioners to encourage them to consider making a legacy gift with their parish in mind. This educational tool is the first step in aiding parishioners to make choices that are a clear representation of their values and beliefs.

We are also pleased to announce the launching of our new Planned Giving website: plannedgiving.archny.org. This revamped and restructured website is focused on keeping parishioners informed about the ways that they can take care of themselves and their families while also ensuring their parishes are not forgotten. We would love any feedback from you! Additionally, if you would like to include planned giving information on your website, please contact Nick Mederos (contact information below).

Our Planned Giving office has also been working diligently to ensure that members of the Legacy of Faith Society are taken care of and appreciated. We have reached out to every individual member via phone to hear their concerns and act as a resource for them. If any pastor wishes to join our Planned Giving office in making the next round of wellness calls, please feel free to reach out to Nick Mederos by May 22.

Additionally, to implement new and innovative ways to connect with our Legacy of Faith Society members, we will be hosting monthly Prayer Calls wherein we ask our members for prayer intentions and invite a pastor to join the call and join us in prayer for approximately 15 minutes. We are also planning to provide virtual will seminars to continue to educate them about the power of legacy giving. If you are interested in joining in a prayer call or in learning more about virtual will seminars, please feel free to contact our Planned Giving office.

Given the current circumstances, a new date has been selected for the Annual Legacy of Faith Mass and Luncheon. Traditionally held in June, this celebration of planned gift donors and their long-term generosity has been rescheduled for early November. We will send details closer to the date, and hope that many pastors will be in attendance as was the case last year.

As always, our Planned Giving office is a resource that we believe every pastor should be utilizing. We are here to provide answers to your questions and ensure that our parishes can continue spreading understanding and joy in the message of Jesus Christ. Our Planned Giving Manager, Nick Mederos can be emailed at Nick.Mederos@archny.org or can be reached via his cell phone at 201-655-0520.

With warm regards,

Bettina