

St. Charles Receives Gift that Will Last a Lifetime

Josephine Radel dreamt of creating a fund for St. Charles Borromeo School.

"She thought it would help the church and the school out to have a fund just for the school," explained her husband, Bob Radel.

Unfortunately her dream was not fulfilled during her lifetime. It became a reality recently this spring, through the Miami County Community Foundation; when two families along with the Radel family created a fund to support the ongoing operating needs of St. Charles Borromeo School.

"She'd think it was wonderful," Radel said of the fund. "It was one of the things she talked about before she died."

Josephine Radel didn't know a stranger, according to her daughter, Annie. "People would flock to her," she said. Just as they were drawn to her in life, they were drawn to her dream in death.

"The main reason we helped to create the fund is, we want to ensure that St. Charles School will be here in the future—to continue adding to our community," commented one of the fund's anonymous founders, who has children attending the school.

The fund for St. Charles Borromeo School has been permanently endowed. This means the principal of the gift is never used, allowing for permanent return from the interest that will support the school and its needs forever—right here in Miami County.

"Funds, such as the Fund for St. Charles Borromeo School, are a great way to invest in an organization's future," Associate Director of the Community Foundation, Jenni Marsh explained. "However it is important to realize that this fund at its current level is not enough to sustain the school. They have immediate financial needs, and will still rely upon the generosity of this community."

"I am excited and humbled that the donors to the Community Foundation for St. Charles School have such faith in what we do," commented school principal, Rita Cook. "There is a need in Peru for parents to have a faith-based option for their children's education. It is gratifying to know that there are people who want to ensure that we are here to provide that now, and in the future."

St. Charles School offers a Christian education for preschool through sixth grade. The State of Indiana and North Central Association accredited school prides itself on offering small class sizes, a



strong academic program, and a highly involved parent organization. Membership to St. Charles Church is not required to be eligible to attend the private school.

If you are interested in finding out how you can support St. Charles School, or give to the school's new fund, call the Community Foundation at 475-2859.