

Serving the Church in the Diocese of Lansing

Establishing an Agency Fund Account for Your Catholic Organization

Establishing an Agency Fund account at The Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Lansing is a convenient way for parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations to invest their mid- to long-term savings in a high-quality investment product. Parishes and schools which establish an Agency Fund account at the Catholic Foundation maintain ownership of their assets; account holders entrust the investment of these assets to the Catholic Foundation.

The prudent management of mid- to long-term funds is an important step towards providing for the financial future of the Church. Importantly, investments of funds in Agency Fund accounts are managed consistent with Catholic values and Catholic investment guidelines as expressed through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Socially Responsible Investment Guidelines.

The Catholic Foundation invests through the National Catholic Investment Trust ("NCIT"), a pooled-investment product developed for Catholic dioceses and diocesan foundations in the state of Michigan. NCIT is administered by Michigan Catholic Conference through its investment adviser, CAPTRUST. Between NCIT assets and assets of Michigan's Lay Employees Retirement Plan, MCC is responsible for the investment of over \$2 billion in assets. Catholic Foundation investments account for about \$135 million of that amount.

The investment objectives of MCC's National Catholic Investment Trust are to preserve capital and to achieve long-term growth of assets without undue exposure to risk through prudent diversification measures.

More than a dozen asset managers have been retained by NCIT's investment adviser in an effort to secure the best investment advice with respect to different market sectors, especially relating to stocks and fixed income products. Once each year, typically in October, the Catholic Foundation invites account holders to meet with representatives from NCIT and CAPTRUST to review the previous year's investment returns, and to discuss the current investment climate.

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Current target investment allocations for the Long-Term Agency Fund - determined from time to time by the Board of Directors of The Catholic Foundation – are 60% equities, 35% fixed income products, and 5% real estate/alternative investments. Target investment allocations for the Mid-Term Agency Fund – for those with a shorter investment horizon – are 50% equities and 50% fixed income. Historic investment returns will be provided upon request.

Investment and administrative fees are charged on each Agency Fund account. 'All-in' fees for Agency Fund accounts are approximately .90% annually. Investment fees are highly competitive for the services provided because of the economies of scale afforded to us by investing through NCIT. The administrative fee accounts for the cost of administering your account at the Catholic Foundation and supports our efforts to build the invested assets of Catholic organizations through active fund development. Overall, the Catholic Foundation's 'all-in' fees compare very favorably to other diocesan foundations and local community foundations.

The Catholic Foundation strives to provide an important service and value through the establishment and promotion of Agency Fund accounts – helping to provide for the financial future of the Church in the Diocese of Lansing. If you have any other questions about establishing an Agency Fund account at the Catholic Foundation or about contributing to an existing account, please contact:

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