

BEQUESTS

Benefits of a Charitable Bequest to the Donor

- **It is “life as usual”** – the bequest is not payable in your lifetime, and does not affect your assets or cash flow
- **It is confidential** – your will is not filed or made public until your passing
- **It is revocable** – you can change the provisions in your will or trust at any time
- **It is deductible** – for federal estate tax purposes
- **It is personally designable** – and can deliver a specific gift, or a percentage of the balance after taxes, expenses and other bequests have been paid

Ways to Structure a Bequest

- **Specific**

Example: “I bequeath to St. Martha Church \$20,000 for support of a the Parish Priest who oversees the Hospital Ministry.”

Example: “I give all the AT&T stock I own at the time of my death to St. Martha Church.”

- **Contingent**

Example: “If my spouse is deceased or otherwise unable or unwilling to inherit this bequest, I direct it be paid to St. Martha Church for general support. “

- **Residual**

You can give all or a percentage of the balance remaining in your estate after expenses, taxes, and the specific bequests have been paid:

Example: "Of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate I give Fifty-Five (55%) Percent to St. Martha Church, 200 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236."

How St. Martha Church will use Your Bequest

You can structure your bequest to support a specific program of St. Martha Church but it is usually better to leave the direction more general. We look forward to our continued relationship with you here for a long time, and it is likely that St. Martha Church will be receiving your gift sometime in the far future. With this in mind, specific programs may no longer be in operation when your bequest matures.