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Peace of mind

Paul Leier

With all the uncertainties we face, it's nice to know we can experience peace of mind regarding one of the most important areas of life — our last will and testament. In this regard, peace of mind is....

- Completing a Valid Will
- Caring for Your Loved Ones
- Creating a Legacy to further the Catholic faith

A Valid Will

A valid will is one that conforms to the laws of your state and that is acceptable to the probate court. It is also valid since it accurately expresses your wishes.

A will document that is downloaded from the internet or obtained from a stationery store marginally provides a peace of mind. Something this important requires the professional expertise of an estate-planning attorney. It has been said that the average American spends approximately 100,000 hours accumulating their estate and only 8-10 hours deciding how to formally distribute it upon their death. So, taking a day or two to formalize your estate plans is time well spent.

Going through the decision process may seem like a daunting task. However, once you've completed your legal will it will put you at ease. You can face the future knowing that your estate will be distributed according to your wishes and that people you trust will be in charge.

Caring for Loved Ones

Your last will and testament provides you with assurance that you have made provisions for family members according to their needs and your wishes. If something should happen to you, they will be cared for.

For example, if you have dependent children, your will can name the guardians and provide trust arrangements for education, health and other needs. Your will can also ensure that certain possessions go to the designated family members and that disbursements are made to benefit those with special needs.

A Lasting Legacy

Your will can direct your personal representative to set aside a certain percentage of your estate to establish an endowment fund at your parish, the Catholic Development Foundation or other worthy Catholic causes. This fund, if you wish, will bear your name. The fund will also provide a perpetual flow of income for generations to come. Your children and grandchildren — and many others — will be reminded of your Catholic values and your desire to further the teachings of Christ.

If you do not have peace of mind concerning your estate plan, now is the time to act. Make completing ~~your will and estate plans~~ one of your 2010 New Year's resolutions. For a free Will Information Kit, use the response form below, or contact me at (701) 356-7926. You can also request a kit by e-mailing me at paul.leier@fargodiocese.org.

CREATE A BOXED REPLY FORM

(Please complete and return this reply form.)

Dear Friends at the Catholic Development Foundation

_____ Please send me a Will Information Kit.

_____ Please contact me about a personal visit.

The best time to call me is: _____.

_____ I have provided for my parish, the Diocese of Fargo, the Catholic Development Foundation, Cardinal Muench Seminary or other worthy Catholic causes in my will and/or other estate-planning documents.

_____ Please send me information about the Catholic Development Foundation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: ___ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Mail this form to: Catholic Development Foundation
5201 Bishops Boulevard, Suite A
Fargo, ND 58104-7605

(Put CDF logo on the form if possible)

For more information, contact Paul Leier, director of stewardship and development, at paul.leier@fargodiocese.org or at (701) 356-7926.