The Reverend Joseph A. Donworth Legacy Society

St. Stephen Church
San Francisco

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For More Information

To receive more information about the Father Joseph A. Donworth Legacy Society, please indicate your request and place it in the offertory basket or return to the parish office.

☐ I would like information on how to prepare a will.

☐ I wish to notify you of my planned gift.

☐ I would like to join the Father Joseph A. Donworth Legacy Society.

☐ I would like to know of opportunities to memorialize or recognize a person or gift.

☐ Other

Name__________________________
Address________________________
________________________________
City____________________________
State______ Zip__________________
Phone__________________________
E-Mail__________________________
A Legacy of Leadership

Father Joseph A. Donworth came to St. Stephen Parish in 1951. There was no school, there was no church, but Father Donworth knew that what the parish lacked in infrastructure was more than compensated by enthusiastic and generous parishioners. Under Father Donworth’s leadership, the parish began raising money at a feverish pace to build a school and church.

On September 22, 1952, St. Stephen School opened. Less than seven months later, Father Donworth celebrated mass at the new St. Stephen Church on Easter Sunday.

St. Stephen’s pastor remained content...for awhile. In December 1963, the Archdiocese purchased land on Eucalyptus opposite 23rd Avenue. The Parish united again behind Father Donworth and raised money to erect a new church while the former church became the parish center.

Father Donworth remained pastor of St. Stephen until 1972 when he retired to his native Limerick in Ireland. His legacy lives on in the buildings where we worship, attend school and socialize.

St. Stephen Church has created the Reverend Joseph A. Donworth Legacy Society as a way for parishioners to make a meaningful and lasting commitment to the parish, in the spirit of its pioneer pastor.

Becoming A Member

Joining the Father Joseph A. Donworth Legacy Society is simple and does not affect your current finances. Simply notify the parish office that you have made a provision for St. Stephen Church in your estate plan in one of the following ways:

- As a beneficiary of a bequest through your will or trust
- As a beneficiary of a life insurance policy
- As a beneficiary of real estate
- As a beneficiary in an IRA, retirement plan or bank account or
- As a beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust.

We will provide a short form on which to record your arrangements. Your plans will be held in the strictest confidence.

Donworth Legacy Society members are recognized twice yearly in the bulletin, will have their names inscribed on a Legacy Society plaque in the new Parish Center and are invited to an annual social event on Donworth Legacy Sunday each April. Members who prefer not to be recognized can remain anonymous.

“This parish has given me so much.
The Donworth Legacy Society is one way I can give back.”
Helga D’Arcy Parishioner

Providing A Legacy

Here are some forms a charitable gift can take:

- Fixed amount: You can name a specific dollar amount to be given. For example, I give to St. Stephen Church of San Francisco $____.
- Percentage: Naming a percentage of your estate to St. Stephen allows the size of the gift to remain in proportion to the size of your estate. For example, “I give to St. Stephen Church of San Francisco ____% of my total estate.”
- Personal and real property: Bequeathing real estate, securities, or other property can have tax advantages.
- Contingent: A contingent gift occurs only if other beneficiaries are unavailable or in the event of a specified condition. Without a contingent beneficiary, your property might pass to beneficiaries in whom you have no interest. Charities are often named as contingent beneficiaries in wills, revocable living trusts and other estate plans.
- Residue: This is a gift of whatever property remains after other distributions have been fulfilled.
- Establish an endowment: This is an opportunity to support a specific ministry or program that is close to your heart.