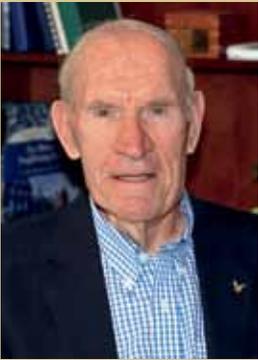


ST. JOHN'S PREP

# TOMORROW

AN ESTATE AND PLANNED GIVING PUBLICATION OF ST. JOHN'S PREP | SPRING 2013



*Dear Friends,*

I consider myself lucky to still be as connected to the Prep community as I am. As a graduate of the Class of 1952 and, subsequently, a Gold Eagle, I attend Homecoming lunches and Commencement breakfasts. My son, David, is a member of the class of 1983, and my grandson, Dan, is currently a freshman at St. John's. I was a trustee from 1990-1997, and I continue to be actively involved

with the Trustees Emeriti group. I am also a member of the planned giving advisory committee.

I have met many good friends and colleagues through my Prep relationships. These relationships describe the brotherhood that I often hear about at St. John's. Alumni talk about it and current students refer to it. There is no doubt a bond that exists among Prep graduates. We have all walked the same pathways through campus and sat in the same classrooms. We have all been taught about the values of the Xaverian Brothers, and we witnessed them firsthand.

In addition to volunteering my time and offering my advice, I give back to the Prep regularly through the Fund for St. John's and the Mary Hennessey Scholarship Fund. I get a great sense of satisfaction knowing that I am helping a school that gave me so much.

Our involvement as alumni has had a direct effect on current students and the long-term success of this great school. I hope you will join me in supporting St. John's and help to make it an even better school in the years to come.

*Warm regards,  
Paul Hennessey '52*

# A Window of Opportunity to Make a Lasting Difference

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Mary and Paul Ahern '58

When **Mary and Paul Ahern '58** learned about the IRA Charitable Rollover they jumped at the chance to use this creative gift vehicle to make a significant contribution to St. John's Prep. By sharing their story about why they support St. John's, they hope to encourage others to take advantage of this limited time way of making a gift to the Prep.

Paul is a lifelong Melrose resident; Mary grew up in Somerville. Paul's older brother John graduated from St. John's in 1948.

Paul followed the same path because his parents "wanted the best Catholic school in the area," he recalls. Paul, who was a boarding student at the Prep, has fond memories of the Xaverian Brothers, among them, Brother Rudolph, Brother Patrician, Brother Thomas, Brother Gillis, Brother Bosco, Brother Thaddeus, Brother Carey, and Brother Bernard. As a result of the influence of these teachers in Paul's life, much of his and Mary's philanthropic support at St. John's has been given to the endowment funds established in honor of the Brothers.

Just as important as his fondness for the Brothers, Paul met a great group of lifelong friends at St. John's. He attributes

his close relationships to being a boarding student, and to the many formal and informal reunions that have taken place at Richard Maestranzi's house in Wenham. He also credits David Crowley with holding the class together in his role as class agent.

Beginning in 1960, Paul spent his entire career at Ahern Painting, a family-owned commercial and industrial painting firm. The company undertook their largest project in the late 1970s, when they painted the John Hancock Tower, garage and restaurant complex. After Paul retired in 2011 and sold his stake in the business, he and Mary celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by taking their entire extended family on a cruise in the Caribbean. When they are not in Melrose, they are taking in the beautiful New England summer weather in Wrinkle Point on the Bass River in West Dennis, and escaping the harsh winters in Longboat Key, Florida.

Just as important as his fondness for the Brothers, Paul met a great group of lifelong friends at St. John's.

# Tax-Free Gifts Allowed from Your Individual Retirement Account

**Charitable IRA Rollover.** As part of recent legislation passed early in the year, donors are allowed to make charitable gifts from their IRA accounts in 2013. If you are 70½ or older and are required to take distributions from your IRA, you can avoid paying income tax on that amount by diverting it to a qualified charity such as St. John's.

## Benefits

- Give up to \$100,000 per year to St. John's or another public charity.
- Avoid realizing the distribution in your taxable income.
- Satisfy your minimum required distribution.

## Requirements

- You must be age 70½ or older at the time the gift is made.
- Transfer must be made directly to St. John's Prep or another public charity.
- Eligibility is limited to transfers from your IRA. Gifts from 401(k), 403(b), and other retirement plans do not qualify.
- Gifts must be outright and cannot be used to fund a life-income arrangement, such as a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. Funds may not be transferred to donor-advised funds.

To learn more about making a gift to St. John's from your IRA, please contact Debra Marino by email at [dmarino@stjohnsprep.org](mailto:dmarino@stjohnsprep.org) or telephone at 978.774.6727 x358.

### *A Window of Opportunity, continued*

Paul and Mary both feel the Prep does an outstanding job educating young men academically, socially and athletically. They follow Prep students' accomplishments religiously in the Boston area newspapers. Reflecting back on his Prep days Paul says, "You can't take anything with you when you leave this world, so why not do some good with your money, if you are able?"

He worries that people forget about their secondary schools when naming their philanthropic priorities. "The years I was at St. John's were my formative years, when I learned discipline, study habits, and the importance of religion; it's where I developed my athletic skills, and formed lifelong relationships," he says.

Paul and Mary have decided it is time to give back to the school that gave Paul so much. Paul feels that the school excels because of the involvement of many dedicated people including faculty, staff, administrators, coaches, parents and alumni. "It's not one person but the totality of everyone pulling together over many years. We give to our youth for a better tomorrow."

# Ethical Wills



As part of the estate planning process, you are encouraged to think about how you want to pass along the “things” you have accumulated throughout your lifetime. A traditional legal

will does just that – it maps out plans for material possessions and assets. You decide who gets what, how you can support family members, and how you can make philanthropic gifts. Typically, you work with an attorney to draft your will.

Going beyond the material, an ethical will provides the opportunity to write a personal statement about what is important to you, including your values, lessons learned, hopes and dreams. Many people find it difficult to talk with their families and loved ones about what they truly hold important to them. You have to be willing to share personal thoughts and experiences. You might have to admit that you made a mistake in order to learn an important life lesson. Perhaps this is a time to offer forgiveness to family and

... the outcome is that you are able to pass along what is truly important.

friends. But the outcome is that you are able to pass along what is truly important.

“As a father of three young children, I believe it is important to talk with our

families about our lives, our history, our values, and our hopes and dreams for the future. I want to share my feelings about what I have experienced in my life and what I treasure, including my love for St. John’s,” says Gerry Donovan ’86.

The format may vary but most ethical wills are simply an essay. Experience has shown that starting with an outline will help you to sort out your thoughts. Think about who you want to share this document with and why. Reflect on important events in your life, what you learned from other people, and things you learned from experience. Share your beliefs and your values. Most importantly, take your time. Write a draft, put it aside for a few weeks or months and then revisit it. Amend it over time and expand upon it as necessary.

Ethical wills have become an important part of preparing for estate planning because these discussions often help you to focus on who and what is important to you. It can become part of a larger conversation. We all want to be remembered and we all want to leave a legacy.

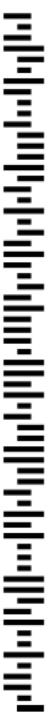


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## Thank you for your interest in planned giving at St. John's Prep.

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- I have already included St. John's in my estate plan.
- I am interested in learning more about including St. John's Prep in my will.
- I am interested learning more about all of the ways I can support St. John's through a planned gift.
- I would like to receive a personal illustration detailing how a St. John's Prep charitable gift annuity will benefit me and St. John's.

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of birth for income beneficiary(ies):  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
STATE

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ZIP CODE

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PHONE

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EMAIL

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The information in this newsletter should not be considered legal or financial advice. Please seek guidance from your attorney and financial advisor.



**Q** Is planned giving for everyone or only the wealthy?

**A** Everyone needs to plan for the future. This includes retirement planning, estate planning, and thinking about how you can give back to the people and places that are important to you.

**Q** Do I need a will?

**A** Whether your estate is large or small, a will is an important document. A will ensures that your plans are carried out and your intentions are followed.

**Q** If I don't write a will, what will happen with my estate?

**A** If you don't write a will, the government will make decisions for you. If you do not take the opportunity to put your intentions in a will, your state of residence will follow its own laws to determine what should happen with your property.

**Q** Can my family determine what to do with my estate if I choose not to write a will?

**A** Unfortunately, next of kin cannot make decisions regarding your estate if you do not have a will. Unless a family member has been named in your will as the executor/executrix, the probate court will determine how to divide up your assets. This process can be lengthy and costly.

**Q** Is it easy to remember St. John's Prep through a planned gift?

**A** Yes, it is easy and there are many options. You can simply name St. John's in your will, as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan, you can create a charitable remainder trust with St. John's as a remainder beneficiary, or you can fund a charitable gift annuity during your lifetime. For a limited time, through the end of 2013, you can also make a gift to St. John's from your IRA through the Charitable IRA Rollover. Additional information about all of these options can be found at [www.stjohnsprep.org/plannedgiving](http://www.stjohnsprep.org/plannedgiving).



**ST. JOHN'S PREP**

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Danvers, Massachusetts  
01923

[www.stjohnsprep.org](http://www.stjohnsprep.org)

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# Celebrating the Spirit of Philanthropy at St. John's Prep

## **An Evening with the Headmaster October 9, 2013 | Turner Hill in Ipswich**

All members of the 1907 Society, the Prep's planned giving recognition society, are invited to join us for an evening celebrating the generosity of the many donors who support St. John's. We look forward to this special evening.

If you are not currently a member of the 1907 Society but have included St. John's in your estate planning, please notify Debra Marino, Managing Director of Planned and Major Gifts, at 978.774.6727 x358 or [dmarino@stjohnsprep.org](mailto:dmarino@stjohnsprep.org) so that we can be sure to include you on the invitation list.