

November 25, 2008

Dear Friends,

We are writing to update you on the Monsignor Edward J. Ryle Fund and its mission to advance Monsignor's life's work of standing up for the poor and voiceless, and to ask for your support.

As the election season is now complete, it is hard not to think about Msgr. Ryle and how he would have loved it all! Armed with the most recent data and must read reports on social issues, he would be off setting up appointments with incumbents and newly elected legislators alike to discuss policy, budgets and next year's legislation.

Msgr. Ryle was a very special advocate in the Arizona Legislature for almost 20 years representing the Arizona Catholic Bishops but speaking up for all of us. As he did his whole life, in this season of decisions, Msgr. Ryle would be passionately addressing basic issues such as homelessness, affordable housing, poverty and health care that affect everyday people, especially the poor and vulnerable among us. With genuine warmth and affection for whomever he met, no matter their political stripe, he would persuade with his scholarship and gentle wisdom.

A year ago, the Board incorporated the "Monsignor Edward J. Ryle Fund, Inc." under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Board also elected officers. Part of the Fund's mission to stimulate and support social and economic justice projects is exemplified in its history of competitive grant making from the Msgr. Ryle Institute of Public Life. (See attachment.)

Finally, the brand new Monsignor Ryle web site at www.rylefund.org is up and running! We invite you to log on and refresh your memories. The site will include news, information and photos, with links to readings, policy papers, announcements and much more.

Monsignor's name is now etched in stone! Recently, the Foundation for Senior Living celebrated the opening of the Monsignor Edward J. Ryle Life Center at 3620 North 4th Avenue in Phoenix. Serving Central and South Mountain areas, this adult day care center is state of the art with an open and inviting environment for all seniors and adults with disabilities.

Mark your calendars for two important celebrations: December 4, 2008 at 5:00p.m. when Monsignor Ryle Fund friends will join the Foundation for Senior Living for a Holiday party at the new Monsignor Edward J. Ryle Life Center, and January 7, 2009 for the annual memorial Mass at 5:30p.m. at the Brophy Chapel and reception following at the Monsignor Edward J. Ryle Life Center. If you would like to be included in either of these events, please call the Foundation for Senior Living at (602) 285-0505, Ext. 181 or respond on the Msgr. Ryle web site.

We need and appreciate your personal and financial support to continue Monsignor Ryle's work and his advocacy efforts through the Institute of Public Life's forums, initiatives and grants. Thank you for your past contributions to the Monsignor Ryle Fund and please consider making a donation again. You may give on-line or by check by completing your contact information on the enclosed envelope, including your email address, and returning it with your gift.

Sincerely,

Guy Mikkelsen, President
The Monsignor Edward J. Ryle Fund Board

Working for justice, dignity and the common good