

Rooted in Faith, Focused on the Future: Why Andrew and Lynsey Welfle Chose to Give Back

When Andrew Welfle (class of '06) thinks back on his time at St. Paul, he doesn't just remember the academics — he remembers the community. The school, rooted in faith and filled with people who cared, shaped his values in ways that still guide him today.

“Being involved in faith formation and community service projects really formed my commitment to serving others,” Andrew says. “St. Paul helped lay the foundation for who I am — and who I strive to be.”

Years later, as Andrew and his wife Lynsey became more involved in the broader Norwalk Catholic School community, they began thinking seriously about what it means to give back — not just now, but long into the future. Their involvement in the Soaring Campaign — a transformative fundraising effort that showcased what was possible with sustained, forward-thinking generosity — was a turning point.

“That experience really opened our eyes to how important it is to plan for the future — not just for today's students, but for generations to come,” Andrew explains. “It became clear to us that we wanted to make a lasting commitment by including FCEDO in our estate plans.”

For the Welfles, making a planned gift was an intentional way to build their legacy from a young age.

“When we first created our estate plan, we were still early in our careers,” Andrew says. “But even then, we knew we wanted to give something back. The ‘cost’ to us today is minimal, but the long-term impact could be enormous.”

That initial step — a modest bequest — grew over time.

“As our family grew and our financial situation changed, we updated our plans,” he shares. “We added each of our children, and with every update, we increased our gift to FCEDO. It became something we looked forward to adjusting — not just a duty, but a joyful expression of our values.”

For Andrew and Lynsey, giving back is deeply personal.

“Supporting St. Paul feels like giving back to the family that helped raise me,” Andrew reflects. “It's also a way to help ensure that future generations experience the same sense of belonging and purpose that my wife and I have felt.”

Their hope is that their gift helps the school continue to grow in its mission — not just to educate, but to form students in faith, character, and service.

“We believe Norwalk Catholic School can offer an outstanding education rooted in all the things that matter most — faith, academics, and community.”

To fellow alumni, parents, and friends of the school, Andrew offers this advice: “If you don’t have a Will, or if it’s been a while since you looked at it, take the time to update it. Including FCEDO in your estate plan is a simple, meaningful way to give back. You can always make changes later — but starting now lets your impact grow over time. Be prepared. Be generous.”