The Faith Foundation is busy preparing for the 7th Annual Golf Outing and Dinner. This year's event will again be held at Park Ridge Country Club.

Each year at the dinner we present the Rev. Robert E. McLaughlin Faith Foundation Award. This award is given annually to an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to the lives of young people, the next generation. We are proud to announce that this year's recipients will be John and Pat Lucas. Please join us on Monday, June 27th when we present this year's award to this special couple of great Faith.

Last year the Faith Foundation presented its annual award to Peg Barry. The committee asked some people who knew Peg Barry to share their thoughts about Peg Barry with us. The following poem was written by Peg Lombardo about her friends Peg Barry and Father Bob. It was so good and fitting for the occasion that we about her friends Peg Barry and Father Bob. It was so good and fitting for the occasion that we decided to reprint it. Thanks Peg!

With Peg and the Faith Foundation, all will be right Through the Lord's grace and Bob's shining light!

As he is already enjoying his eternity Long years with Fr. Bob was not meant to be

These two planning together were quite the sight Programs for teens and liturgy extraordinaire

A true dynamic duo working prayer

Nourishing their faith; making them whole

Blessed we've all been to see the sight

Of fabulous Peg Barry and the Mighty Mite!

Habits of the Heart, fifteen years ago. He said:

Individualism lies at the very core of American culture…
Some of our deepest problems both as individuals and as a society are also very closely linked to our individualism."

Our American legal system is based on individual rights – some would say to the detriment of the common good. Our emphasis is on personal choice. We are, in words of Margaret O'Brien Steinfels, "More pluribus than unum."

In an article in Commonweal Magazine, Ms. Steinfels goes on to say:

This mindset makes a sense of community and concern for the common good fragile and vulnerable. It affects not only our civic community but reaches into the realm of religion, raising obstacles to communion. It is not just that we love underdogs, naysayers, people who thumb their noses at established authority. No, our individualism leads us to believe that religious faith needs no community. Some keep the Sabbath going to Church, I keep it staying at home, With bobolink for a chorister and an orchard for a dome.

Emily Dickenson's verse is echoed throughout the best and worst of American culture. It is the lone worshipper in nature, not the gathered congregation that we respect and celebrate. The same outlook is confirmed in Gallup polls in which Americans overwhelmingly endorse the importance of being religious without attachment to any organized religion. Catholicism has challenged that American assumption, and our challenge once made the culture very nervous…but increasingly American Catholics are being shaped by the individualist culture.

The Lone Ranger was one of the heroes of my youth. When it comes to religion however, we are not “Lone Rangers”. We are part of a community of faith. While our relationship with God needs to be personal, it is not individualistic.

Your Brother in Christ,
Fr. Bob McLaughlin

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The 7th Annual Robert E. McLaughlin Faith Foundation Golf Outing & Dinner -
Monday, June 27, 2011 • Park Ridge Country Club – Invitations to follow.

The Robert E. McLaughlin Faith Foundation
920 West Granville
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068