Just as St. Benedict and his followers kept the light of learning and faith alive during the dark ages, the CISE schools have been beacons of faith-based education for children living in Cincinnati’s most challenged neighborhoods since 1980. Urban Catholic schools, pillars of these neglected communities, educated generations of immigrants and helped set them on the road to prosperity and full participation in American society. With the hope of doing the same for the urban poor, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati established CISE to give all children, regardless of their religious backgrounds and economic circumstances, the opportunity to receive a quality education at a neighborhood Catholic school.

Thanks to the support of generous contributors over the years, thousands of disadvantaged children have received the benefit of an education at a CISE school and have gone on to higher education and careers. Today, CISE continues to give disadvantaged children hope for the future. This year, around 2,000 students are receiving a strong academic and spiritual foundation at the eight CISE elementary schools and at Catholic high schools throughout Cincinnati.

Members of the St. Benedict Society emulate St. Benedict, the patron saint of school children and protector of learning, by including the CISE Foundation in their estate plans. They have made a commitment to secure the future of Catholic education for the children of Cincinnati’s urban neighborhoods in generations to come. The legacy of the members of the St. Benedict Society to disadvantaged children in our community will be one of hope, faith and love.

For more information on joining the St. Benedict Society, please contact Kristi Phillips at 513-421-3131, ext. 2755 or e-mail admin@cisefoundation.org.