

# Good stewards of our shared story

We have a great treasure. But with that comes a great responsibility.

For more than a hundred years, our diocesan newspaper has recorded history as it happened. Until recently, the first 91 years of that history existed only in printed archives, a priceless asset that only gets more fragile with time.

These are more than newspapers. Within these delicate, yellowed pages are the joys and sorrows — the challenges and the accomplishments — of our collected heritage. They remind us who we are by recalling where we have been, borne forward on the faith and work of those who came before us. And their preservation ensures future generations can read, study and appreciate the stories of the faithful people, places and events of our shared past.

## Working together

That's why we've asked people like you to become Guardian Angels, to support scanning years of archives into a digital format that will never fade, crumble or be lost to fire or natural disaster. Since 2010, hundreds of "angels" have responded to this call, resulting in 40 years of *The Southern Guardian* and *The Guardian* being protected from the ravages of time. Those years of Catholic history are safe.

## History still at risk

But the history captured in print from 1951 through 2001 still exists only in fragile newsprint copies. We risk losing them and their stories of our hard-working ancestors in faith, what they thought, how they felt and the work they did to build the Catholic Church in Arkansas we treasure today.

## You make a difference

Can you help? Any gift is helpful, of any amount, toward preserving our community's history. You can even "adopt" a specific year in honor or memory of special significance to your family or parish for as little as \$500.

Send your donation to the address below, or learn more by visiting [www.arkansas-catholic.org/contact/donate](http://www.arkansas-catholic.org/contact/donate).



*The Guardian*

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Digitally preserved with generous gifts from Guardian Angels. Now online for everyone to read, search and enjoy.



# GUARDIAN ANGELS

PRESERVING THE PAST ~ FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

Arkansas Catholic Guardian Angels | P.O. Box 2536 | Little Rock AR 72203  
(501) 664-0125 | [www.arkansas-catholic.org](http://www.arkansas-catholic.org)