

Q1 2023 PRESENTATION BOOK

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### **Important Facts**

- Founded in 1980
- Headquartered in Plymouth, Michigan
- Portfolio managers and analysts average over 20 years of investment experience
- Investment adviser to the Ave Maria Mutual Funds

### Our Philosophy

- Importance placed on long-term relationships
- Investment goals consistent with risk tolerance levels
- Prudent management utilizes trust-quality investments
- Seek to provide above-average returns and below-average risk
- Our reputation is our most valuable asset
- The Ave Maria Mutual Funds couple intelligent, disciplined investing with Catholic Values

### **Equity Investment Discipline**

- Emphasize companies with superior business characteristics
- Utilize independent analysis and proprietary screening supplemented by
   Wall Street research
- Purchase shares of financially sound companies when they are out of favor and attractively priced
- Buy across market capitalizations if price represents a significant discount to our estimate of intrinsic value
- Contrarian discipline designed to reduce the risk of loss and enhance returns
- Sell stocks when they no longer meet our standards

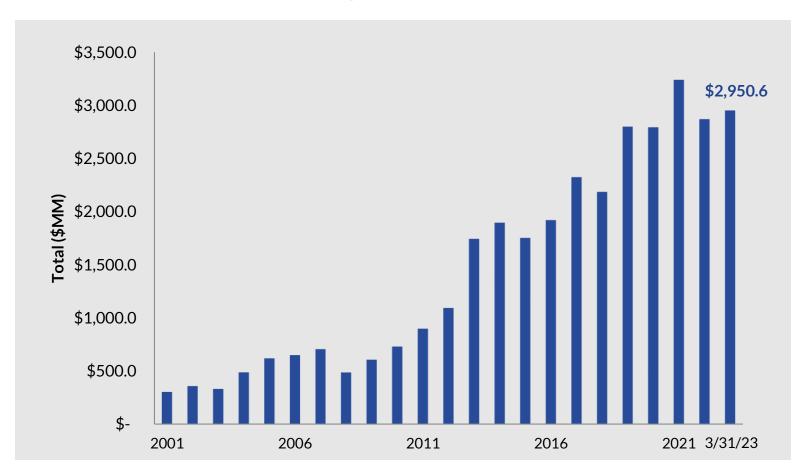
#### Research Process

- Focus on fundamentals income statements, balance sheets and cash flow statements in conjunction with growth prospects
- Augment with external research from a variety of sources (for factual data)
- Make decisions based on assessment of risk/reward relationship
- Investment committee comprised of all portfolio managers and analysts meets regularly
- Securities selection process is not committee driven PMs are responsible for managing their portfolios

### Alpha Generation

- Alpha added through our disciplined bottom-up security selection
- Focus on sound operating fundamentals, conservative capital structures and proven staying power should lead to our companies doing well over entire market cycles
- Expect portfolios to perform well on a relative basis when economy is struggling
- Expect portfolios to have weaker relative performance when economy is rapidly growing or when investors are more inclined to speculation

### **Growth of Assets Under Management**



### **Experienced Portfolio Managers**



George P. Schwartz, CFA	
Years of investment experience	Funds managed
40+	Bond, Rising Dividend



Adam P. Gaglio, CFA	
Years of investment experience	Funds managed
10	Focused, Growth



Timothy S. Schwartz, CFA	
Years of investment experience	Fund managed
25	Value



Chadd M. Garcia, CFA	
Years of investment experience	Funds managed
19	Focused, Growth

### **Experienced Portfolio Managers**



Brandon S. Scheitler	
Years of investment experience	Fund managed
17	Bond, Rising Dividend



Ryan M. Kuyawa, CFA	
Years of investment experience	Fund managed
21	Value



Anthony W. Gennaro, CFA, CPA	
Years of investment experience	Fund managed
25	World Equity



Sean C. Gaffney, CFA	
Years of investment experience	Fund managed
6	World Equity



#### **Searching For An Investment That Shares Your Values?**

Wise Investors are selective; they recognize the impact of investment choices on the lives of those around them. If you do not want to own stocks of companies that support abortion, pornography or other anti-family policies, consider the Ave Maria Mutual Funds.

### **Organizational Structure**

# PORTFOLIO DECISIONS

Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc.

Experienced investment professionals select securities

#### **MORAL SCREENS**

**Catholic Advisory Board** 

Sets moral criteria for screening out companies that violate core values of the Roman Catholic Church



## **Diversified Fund Family**

Value Fund (AVEMX)		
Investment Goal	Long-term capital appreciation	
Primary Investment Focus	Invests in companies that are believed to be undervalued relative to their intrinsic worth	
Inception Date	May 1, 2001	

Growth Fund (AVEGX)	
Investment Goal	Long-term capital appreciation
Primary Investment Focus	Invests in mid-cap and larger companies offering above-average potential for growth in revenues, profits and cash flow
Inception Date	May 1, 2003

Rising Dividend Fund (AVEDX)		
Investment Goal	Long-term capital appreciation and a rising stream of dividend payments	
Primary Investment Focus	Invests in dividend-paying common stocks with price appreciation potential	
Inception Date	May 2, 2005	

World Equity Fund (AVEWX)				
Investment Goal	Long-term capital appreciation			
Primary Investment Focus	Invests in companies of all capitalizations from around the world			
Inception Date	April 30, 2010			

Focused Fund (AVEAX)				
Investment Goal	Long-term capital appreciation			
Primary Investment Focus	Invests in companies of all sizes offering high earnings growth potential			
Inception Date	May 1, 2020			

Bond Fund (AVEFX)				
Investment Goal	Preservation of principal with a reasonable level of current income			
Primary Investment Focus	Invests primarily in domestic investment-grade debt of government and corporate issuers. May invest up to 20% of its assets in equities			
Inception Date	May 1, 2003			

#### **Institutional Shareholders**

- 68 Schools & Universities
- 14 Endowment Funds
- 45 Foundations
- 65 Dioceses
- 59 Churches
- 170 Other Organizations

As of 12-31-22

### Catholic Advisory Board

Composed of prominent Catholics who provide religious guidance in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church, the Board meets regularly to review the Funds' religious standards and criteria.



Raymond Arroyo Fox News & FWTN Host



Scott Hahn Professor, Franciscan University of Steubenville



Lou
Holtz, Emeritus
Former Head
Football Coach
University of
Notre Dame



Larry
Kudlow, Emeritus
Former National
Economic Council
Director & Fox
News Anchor

Episcopal Advisors



Tom
Monaghan
Chairman of
the Ave
Maria
Foundation



Melissa Moschella, PhD Professor, Catholic University of America



Father Riccardo, Emeritus Executive Director, ACTS XXIX



Paul Roney, CPA President of Domino's Farms Corporation



His Eminence
Adam Cardinal
Maida
Archbishop of
Detroit. Emeritus



Allen
Vigneron
Archbishop of
Detroit

#### **Moral Screens**

Companies Eliminated by the Ave Maria Mutual Funds Moral Screens

**Abortion** 

Abortifacient
Producers, Hospitals
Insurance Companies &

Retail

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

Companies engaged in embryonic stem cell research

**Planned Parenthood** 

Companies that contribute corporate funds to Planned Parenthood (the largest provider of abortions in the U.S.)

**Pornography** 

Producers &
Distributors, including
Media Cos., Hotels,
Retail, Internet & Cable
Providers

The screening process eliminates approximately 150 of the companies in the Russell 3000® Index, leaving 95% of this universe eligible for investment.

### **Investment Objective**

The Ave Maria Value Fund's investment objective is capital appreciation from primarily small and midsized companies that are believed to be undervalued relative to their intrinsic worth.

### **Investment Strategy**

- We are bottom-up, fundamental value investors
- We utilize fundamental security analysis to identify securities selling at a discount to intrinsic value
- We seek to invest in high quality companies, in sound financial condition, selling at attractive valuations. We sell them when they no longer meet our standards.
- Investing in companies that possess strong operating fundamentals may provide a margin of safety and reduce downside risk
- Managing the Fund with a value focus requires us to be long-term oriented, disciplined and patient

#### **Investment Process**



#### Investable Universe

- The Fund invests primarily in small- and mid-cap companies, with the majority of investments in companies with market caps between \$5-25 billion
- We exclude stocks inconsistent with core values and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. This excludes about 5% of the companies in the Russell 3000 Index ®
- We may invest in foreign companies, either indirectly through depositary receipts or directly



### **Buy Discipline**

- Price matters. Buying even exceptional companies at an excessive valuation will reduce the chance for superior investment performance.
- We always seek a margin of safety by investing in companies
   when prices are below our estimate of intrinsic value.



### **Buy Discipline**

Portfolio companies will typically have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Above average free cash flow generation
- High returns on equity and capital, with low debt levels
- Sustainable competitive advantage owing to proprietary products or services, dominant market position or specialty niche
- Shareholder-friendly management that has a demonstrated track record of wise capital allocation
- Attractive valuation based upon fundamentals, including: earnings, cash flow, book value and enterprise value
- Out-of-favor, underfollowed or misunderstood companies



#### **Risk Controls**

- Risk-reducing stock selection process using a fundamentals-based approach
- Portfolio is constructed one stock at a time, from the bottom-up
- Portfolio is diversified across a variety of industry sectors
   with industry concentration limited to no more than 25%
- Position sizes generally limited to 3% at the time of purchase, with a maximum position of 5% on cost basis
- Portfolio typically has 35-45 holdings



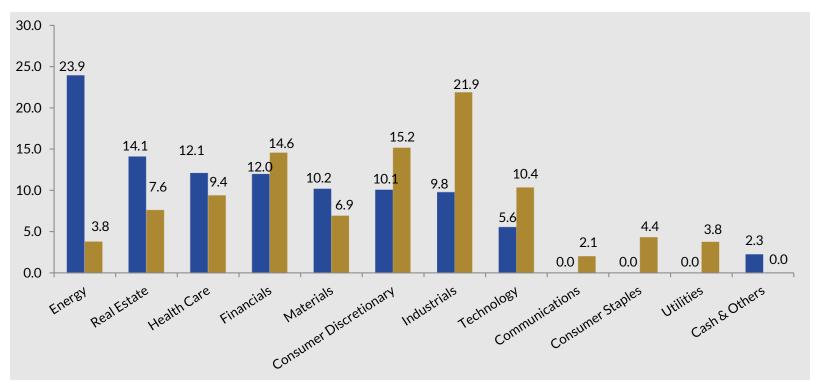
### Sell Discipline

- Company becomes a violator of any moral screen established by our Catholic Advisory Board
- Stock price significantly exceeds our estimate of intrinsic value
- We identify another security that provides a more attractive risk-reward alternative
- Company's financial performance deteriorates due to internal or external factors



### Economic Sector Breakdown as of March 31, 2023\*

Ave Maria Value Fund S&P MidCap 400® Index



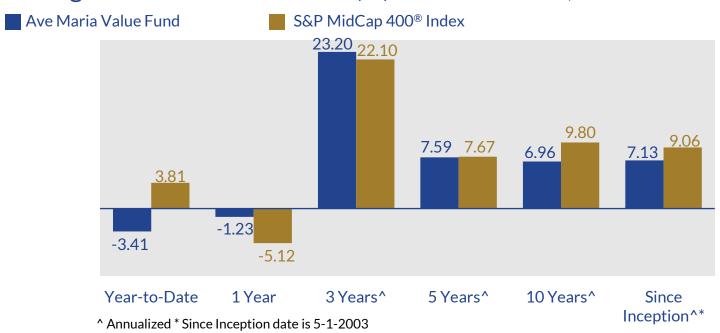
<sup>\*</sup> Source: Morningstar You cannot invest directly in an index.

### Portfolio Top Equity Holdings as of March 31, 2023

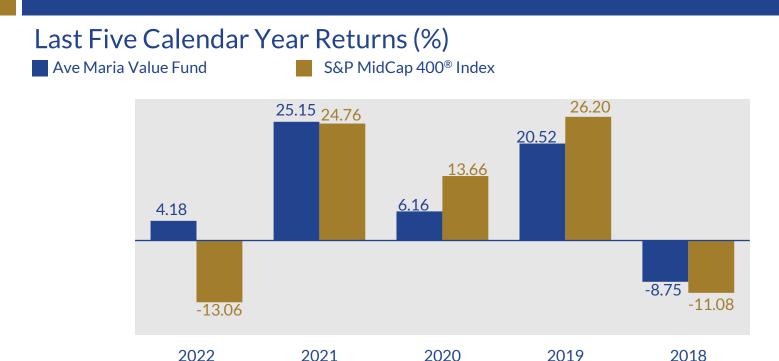
Top 10 Equity Holdings*	47.3% of Net Assets
1. Texas Pacific Land Corporation	12.2%
2. Pioneer Natural Resources Co.	5.2%
3. Franco Nevada Corporation	4.7%
4. Schlumberger Limited	4.5%
5. Chesapeake Energy Corporation	4.3%
6. Haemonetics Corporation	3.7%
7. Mirion Technologies, Inc.	3.3%
8. Hingham Institution for Svgs.	3.3%
9. CDW Corp.	3.1%
<sup>10.</sup> Valvoline, Inc.	3.0%

<sup>\*</sup> Fund holdings are for illustrative purposes, subject to change and should not be considered a recommendation to buy or sell securities. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

### Average Annual Total Returns (%) as of March 31, 2023



**Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results.** Investment return and principal value are historical and may fluctuate so that redemption value may be worth more or less than the original cost. Call 1-866-AVE-MARIA (1-866-283-6274) or visit avemariafunds.com for the most current month-end performance. Expense ratio: 0.97%



Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value are historical and may fluctuate so that redemption value may be worth more or less than the original cost. Call 1-866-AVE-MARIA (1-866-283-6274) or visit avemariafunds.com for the most current month-end performance.

### **Up and Down Market Summary**



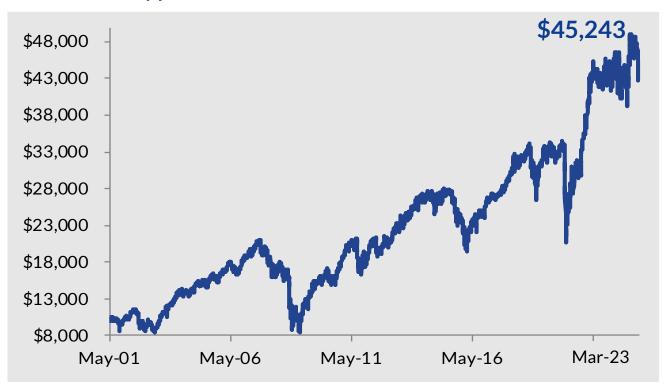
5 best S&P MidCap 400 rolling 3 month periods					
	S&P MidCap	Relative			
Rolling Period	400 Index	AVEMX	Performance		
Mar. 2009 -					
May 2009	28.69	35.88	7.19		
Oct. 2020 -					
Dec . 2020	24.37	20.00	-4.37		
April 2020 -					
June 2020	24.07	15.99	-8.08		
Nov. 2020 -					
Jan. 2021	23.56	21.79	-1.77		
July 2009 -					
Sept. 2009	19.98	19.65	-0.33		



5 worst S&P MidCap 400 rolling 3 month periods				
S&P MidCap			Relative	
Rolling Period	400 Index	AVEMX	Performance	
Sept. 2008 -				
Nov. 2008	-36.60	-35.93	0.67	
Jan. 2020 -				
March 2020	-29.70	-28.51	1.19	
Aug. 2008 -				
Oct. 2008	-28.92	-27.58	1.35	
July 2011 -				
Sept. 2011	-25.55	-25.71	-0.16	
May 2002 -				
July 2002	-19.88	-18.42	1.46	

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. This illustration is based on the 3-month rolling periods since the inception of the Ave Maria Value Fund (5/1/01).

### Growth of a Hypothetical \$10,000 Investment<sup>†</sup>



† From 5-1-01 to 3-31-23. Reflects reinvested distributions and the beneficial effect of any expense reduction and does not guarantee future results.

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results.



For additional information, call **1-866-AVE-MARIA** (1-866-283-6274) Or visit avemariafunds.com

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc., a registered investment adviser established in 1980, serves as investment adviser for Ave Maria Mutual Funds and invests only in securities that meet the Funds' investment and religious requirements. The returns may be lower or higher than if decisions were based solely on investment considerations. The method of security selection may or may not be successful and the Funds may underperform or outperform the stock market as a whole. All mutual funds are subject to market risk, including possible loss of principal. The Funds' investments in small and mid capitalization companies could experience greater volatility than investments in large capitalization companies. AVEWX invests in foreign securities and securities issued by U.S. entities with substantial foreign operations. Investments in these securities can involve additional risks relating to political, economic or regulatory conditions in foreign countries. These risks include less stringent investor protection and disclosure standards of some foreign markets; fluctuations in foreign currencies; and withholding or other taxes. AVEFX invests primarily in fixed income securities and as a result the Fund is also subject to the followings risks: interest rate risk, credit risk, credit rating risk and liquidity risk. AVEDX invests primarily in dividend paying companies and it is possible these companies may eliminate or reduce their dividend payments. AVEAX is classified as non-diversified and may therefore invest a greater percentage of its assets in the securities of a limited number of issuers than a fund that is diversified. At times, the Fund may overweight a position in a particular issuer or emphasize investment in a limited number of issuers, industries or sectors, which may cause its share price to be more susceptible to any economic, business, political or regulatory occurrence affecting an issuer than a fund that is more widely diversified. The issuers that the Fund may emphasize will vary from time to time.

Request a prospectus, which includes investment objectives, risks, fees, charges and expenses and other information that you should read and consider carefully before investing. The prospectus can be obtained by calling 1-866-283-6274 or it can be viewed at www.avemariafunds.com. Distributed by Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC. Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc. is not affiliated with Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC.