

Q1 2021 PRESENTATION BOOK

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc.	1-6
Ave Maria Growth Fund	7-25
Ave Maria Mutual Funds	26-30



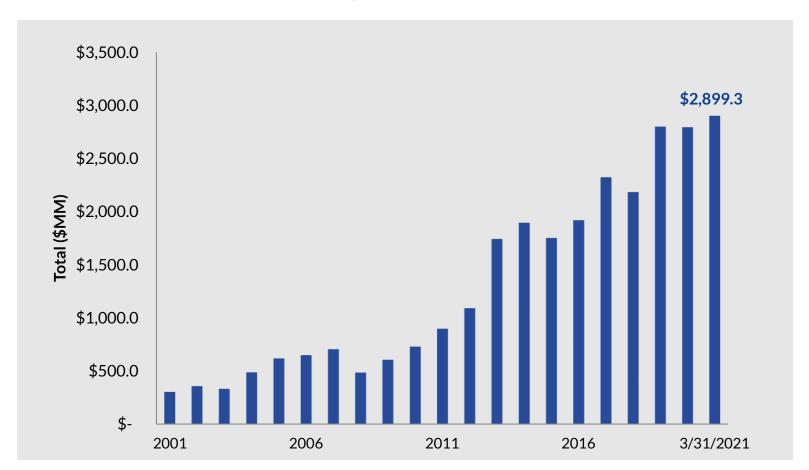
#### **Important Facts**

- 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

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



#### **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

## **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			
8	Focused, Growth			



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



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

## **Experienced Portfolio Managers**



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



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



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

#### **Investment Objective**

The Ave Maria Growth Fund (AVEGX) investment objective is capital appreciation from companies of all sizes that offer above-average potential for growth in revenues, profits and cash flow.

#### **Investment Strategy**

- Seek to invest in exceptional companies with sustainable competitive advantages (moats). Wide moats create barriers to entry and provide pricing power. Companies with wide moats typically demonstrate high returns on equity/invested capital (ROE/ROIC)
- Seek to invest in companies with opportunities to reinvest cash flows at high incremental returns
- Avoid hyper-growth companies without established track records
- Avoid companies with high financial leverage. Companies with high debt cannot control their own destiny, especially if operating in cyclical industries
- Price matters. Buying even exceptional companies at excessive valuations leads to disappointing long-term investment performance

#### **Investment Process**



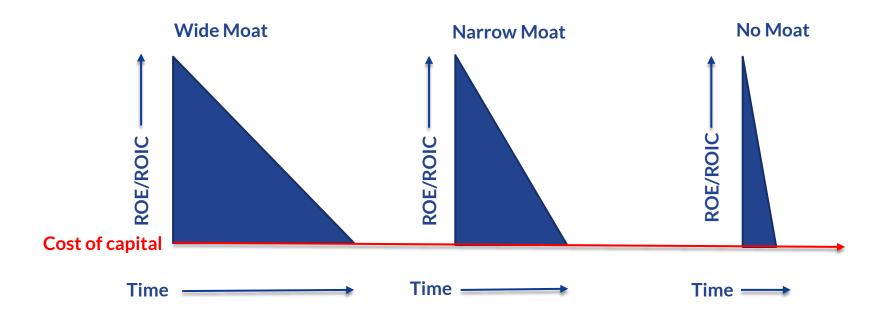
#### Investable Universe

- 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 if the shares are U.S. dollar-denominated and traded on a U.S. securities exchange or domestically in the over-the-counter markets
- AVEGX uses a growth at a reasonable price (GARP) strategy, focusing on mid-cap and large-cap companies with sustainable competitive advantages and high returns on invested capital



#### Why Moats Matter

The wider the company's moat, the longer it can reinvest its cash flows at returns above its cost of capital. These excess returns (shaded blue below) lead to high returns on equity and invested capital (ROE/ROIC) and compound the company's intrinsic value over time



#### Identifying the Moat Source

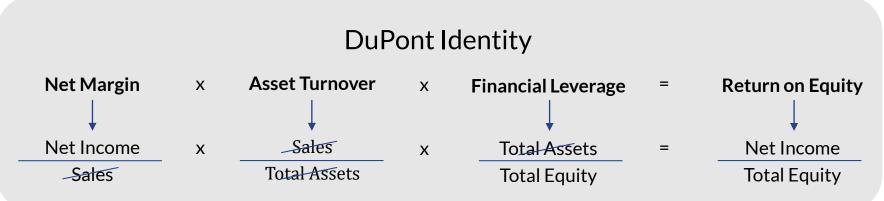
- A sustainable competitive advantage (a moat) may come from one or more of the following sources:
  - Intangible assets: Brands, patents, regulatory licenses
    - Moody's, S&P Global
  - Customer switching costs: Tight integration with a customer's business, monetary costs, and nonmonetary costs
    - > ANSYS, Inc., SBA Communications
  - Network effect: Value of the product or service increases with the number of users
    - Copart, Mastercard, Visa
  - Sustainable cost advantage: Cheaper processes, better locations, and unique resources
    - Broadridge Financial Solutions, Ollie's Bargain Outlet Holdings



#### Not All High ROE is Equal

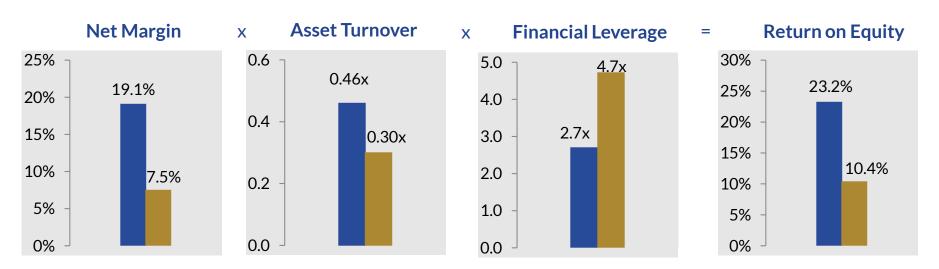
- ROE composition matters. High quality ROE comes from high margins and asset turnover rather than high financial leverage
- We use the DuPont Identity to evaluate the relative contribution of the three determinants of ROE





#### Portfolio Characteristics as of March 31, 2021\*

Ave Maria Growth Fund S&P 500® Index



ho AVEGX is invested in companies with stronger fundamentals than the S&P 500 $^{\circ}$  Index.

ROE is calculated based on the composite fundamental data.

<sup>\*</sup> Source: Bloomberg

#### **Buy Discipline**

Price matters. Buying even exceptional companies at excessive valuations leads to disappointing investment performance.

- It's important to establish a "margin of safety" by investing in companies when prices are below our estimate of intrinsic value
- Maintaining our "farm team" is important. We have research coverage of companies with sustainable competitive advantages that we want to own at the right price, ready to invest when prices fall below our estimate of intrinsic value
- Our preferred fundamental valuation techniques include:
  - Discounted cash flows (primary focus)
  - Free cash flow yield
  - Earnings yield



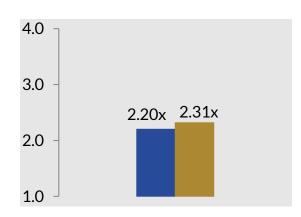
#### Portfolio Characteristics as of March 31, 2021\*

Ave Maria Growth Fund

S&P 500® Index

# P/E (Trailing) 70.0 60.0 50.0 44.9x 40.0 30.0 20.0 10.0

#### **PEG Ratio**



• Source: Bloomberg

0.0

• Note: PEG Ratio is calculated from the Bloomberg Forward P/E and the Bloomberg long-term EPS growth estimate. Bloomberg uses street consensus estimates.

#### **Risk Controls**

- Risk-reducing stock selection process using bottom-up stock selection based on fundamentals (well managed companies with low debt)
- Industry concentration limited to no more than 25%
- Position sizes generally limited to 3% at the time of purchase
- Portfolio holdings typically range from 30-45 issues



### Sell Discipline

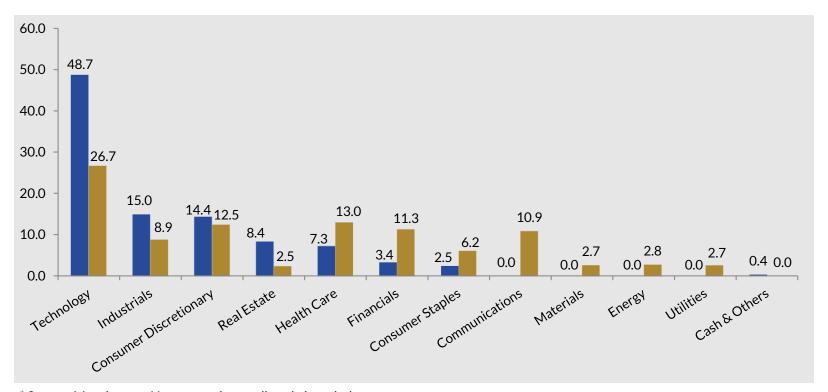
- Company becomes a violator of any moral screen established by our Catholic Advisory Board
- Stock price significantly exceeds our estimate of intrinsic value
- Company's economic moat is eroding, either due to internal or external factors (deteriorating fundamentals)
- Because we purchase companies with strong long-term
   prospects, we anticipate a low level of turnover



Annual Turnover Ratio (last 10 years)									
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
10%	33%	18%	36%	32%	29%	26%	33%	15%	26%

#### Economic Sector Breakdown as of March 31, 2021\*

Ave Maria Growth Fund S&P 500® Index



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

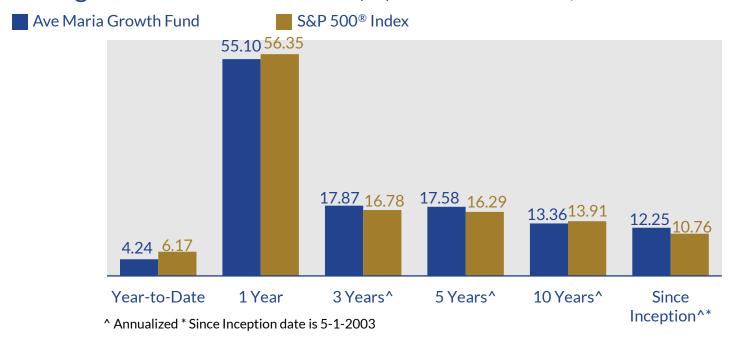
#### Portfolio Top Holdings as of March 31, 2021

Top 10 Holdings*	50.4% of Net Assets
1. Texas Instruments, Inc.	6.0%
2. Frontdoor, Inc.	5.4%
3. Mastercard Incorporated	5.3%
4. Lowe's Companies, Inc.	5.3%
5. Copart, Inc.	5.2%
6. Visa, Inc. Class A	5.1%
7. Change Healthcare, Inc.	4.7%
8. Microsoft Corporation	4.5%
9. HEICO Corporation - Class A	4.5%
10. Broadridge Fin. Solutions, Inc.	4.4%

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

The most current available data regarding portfolio holdings can be found on our website, www.avemariafunds.com. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

#### Average Annual Total Returns (%) as of March 31, 2021



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. Current performance may be lower or higher than what is quoted. Performance data reflects certain fee waivers and reimbursements. Without such waivers, performance would have been lower. Call 1-866-AVE-MARIA (1-866-283-6274) or visit avemariafunds.com for the most current month-end performance. Expense ratio: 0.94%



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#### 10-Year Rolling Periods Summary (Inception to March 31, 2021)



The Fund outperformed the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index in 89 of the 95 rolling 10-year periods.

The Fund averaged 10.80% for each 10-year period while the Index averaged 9.74%.

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

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



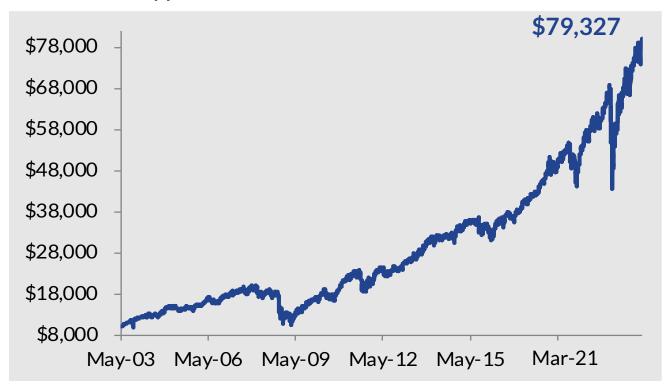
5 host SCD 500 Index rolling 2 month pariods						
5 best S&P 500 Index rolling 3 month periods S&P 500 Relative						
Rolling Period	Index	AVEGX	Performance			
Mar. 2009 -						
May 2009	25.83	21.32	-4.52			
Apr. 2020 -						
June 2020	20.54	24.35	3.80			
Apr. 2009 -						
June 2009	15.93	18.85	2.92			
July 2009 -						
Sep. 2009	15.61	12.15	-3.46			
June 2020 -						
Aug. 2020	15.48	11.94	-3.54			



5 worst S&P 500 Index rolling 3 month periods						
	S&P 500		Relative			
<b>Rolling Period</b>	Index	AVEGX	Performance			
Sep. 2008 -						
Nov. 2008	-29.65	-29.51	0.14			
Aug. 2008 -						
Oct. 2008	-23.11	-20.00	3.12			
Oct. 2008 -						
Dec. 2008	-21.94	-23.18	-1.23			
Jan. 2020 -						
Mar. 2020	-19.60	-20.44	-0.84			
Dec. 2008 -						
Feb. 2009	-17.31	-12.04	5.26			

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 Growth Fund (5/1/03).

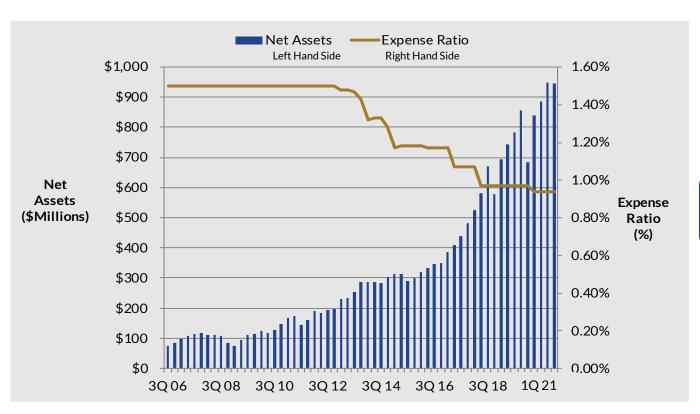
## Growth of a Hypothetical \$10,000 Investment<sup>†</sup>



† From 5-1-03 to 3-31-21. Reflects reinvested distributions and the beneficial effect of any expense reduction and does not guarantee future results.

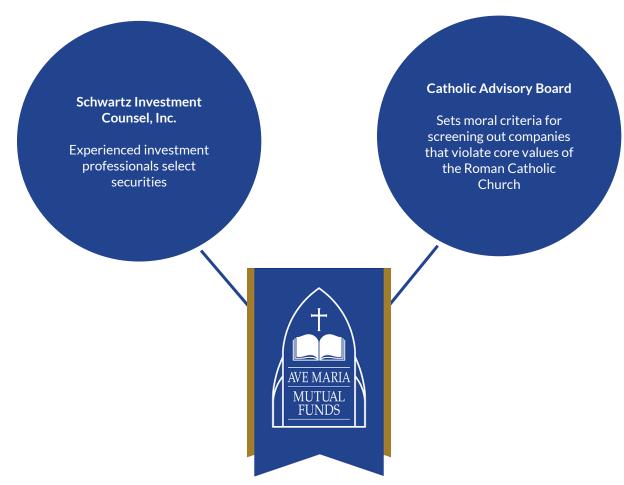
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#### Assets and Expenses



The expense ratio has decreased in recent years.

## **Organizational Structure**



## **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**

- 66 Schools & Universities
- 14 Endowment Funds
- 44 Foundations
- 64 Dioceses
- 60 Churches
- 152 Other Organizations

As of 12-31-20

#### 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.



Robby George, PhD Professor, Princeton University



Scott Hahn Professor, Franciscan University of Steubenville



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



Larry Kudlow, Emeritus Director, National Economic Council



Tom Monaghan Chairman of the Ave Maria Foundation

Episcopal Advisors



Melissa Moschella, PhD Professor, Catholic University of America



Gloria Purvis Host EWTN's Morning Glory



Father Riccardo, Emeritus Executive Director, ACTS XXIX



Paul Roney, CPA President of Domino's Farms Corporation



**Lila Rose**President of Live
Action



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** 

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

Planned Parenthood

**Pornography** 

Abortifacient
Producers, Hospitals
Insurance Companies &
Retail

Companies engaged in embryonic stem cell research

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

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.



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, 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.