



# AVE MARIA RISING DIVIDEND FUND

## Q2 2021 COMMENTARY

For the three months ended June 30, 2021, the total return on the Ave Maria Rising Dividend Fund (AVEDX) was 6.08%, compared to 4.99% for the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Value Index. The returns for the Ave Maria Rising Dividend Fund compared to its benchmark as of June 30, 2021 were:

	Year to Date	1 Yr.	3 Yrs.^	5 Yrs.^	10 Yrs.^	Since Inception^*	Prospectus Expense Ratio
Ave Maria Rising Dividend Fund	16.39%	39.17%	13.95%	13.33%	11.60%	10.11%	0.93%
S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Value Index	16.30%	39.54%	13.14%	12.54%	11.85%	8.49%	

^ Annualized \* Since Inception date is 5-2-2005

**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 or visit [www.avemariafunds.com](http://www.avemariafunds.com) for the most current month-end performance.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Fund had strong returns in the energy, financial and consumer discretionary sectors, up 68%, 21% and 18% respectively. On an individual security basis, the top three performing stocks were Texas Pacific Land Corporation (royalty income – oil and gas) Pioneer Natural Resources Company (exploration and production) and First Horizon National Corporation (regional bank).

The weakest returning sectors for the Fund were in health care, consumer staples and information technology. All three sectors were up for the first half of the year, 7.3% 7.4% and 11.0% respectively. The bottom three performing stocks were ANSYS, Inc., (application software), Chemed Corporation (health care services) and VF Corporation (apparel).

During the first half of the year, four positions were eliminated from the Fund: Cisco Systems, Inc. (communications equipment), Eaton Corporation PLC (electrical components), Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc. (medical devices) and Kellogg Company (packaged food). Three of the four positions were sold based on valuation, as their share prices exceeded our estimated intrinsic value. Kellogg Company was sold for better alternative opportunities.

Five new positions were established in portfolio: Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. (private equity), Chemed Corporation (health care services), Jack Henry & Associates, Inc. (data & transaction processors), Rentokil Initial PLC (building maintenance services) and Brown & Brown, Inc. (insurance brokers). All five have the attributes we look for when establishing new positions, which are listed below.

The Fund's investment strategy is to identify companies that in our opinion have strong balance sheets, operate with sustainable competitive advantages, and consistently produce above-average cash flow and dividend growth. The goal is to buy these companies when they are out of favor and undervalued. We remain confident in the long-term merits of this strategy.

We appreciate your investment in the Ave Maria Rising Dividend Fund.



# AVE MARIA RISING DIVIDEND FUND

Q2 2021 COMMENTARY

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

As of 6-30-21, the holding percentages of the stocks mentioned in this commentary are as follows; Texas Pacific Land Corporation (5.0%) Pioneer Natural Resources Company (2.6%), First Horizon National Corporation (3.8%), ANSYS, Inc., (1.0%), Chemed Corporation (2.0%), VF Corporation (2.1%), Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. (2.1%), Jack Henry & Associates, Inc. (2.0%), Rentokil Initial PLC (1.0%) and Brown & Brown, Inc. (1.0%). Fund holdings are subject to change and should not be considered purchase recommendations. There is no assurance that the securities mentioned remain in the Fund's portfolio or that securities sold have not been repurchased. The Fund's top ten holdings as of 6-30-21: Texas Pacific Land Corporation (5.0%), Medtronic PLC (4.8%), Lowe's Companies, Inc. (4.7%), Visa, Inc. Class A (4.7%), Texas Instruments, Inc. (4.3%), First Horizon National Corporation (3.8%), Microsoft Corporation (3.8%), Genuine Parts Company (3.7%), Accenture PLC (3.6%) and Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (3.5%). The most current available data regarding portfolio holdings can be found on our website, [www.avemariafunds.com](http://www.avemariafunds.com). Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

**The Adviser invests only in securities that meet the Fund's 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 Fund may underperform or outperform the stock market as a whole. All mutual funds are subject to market risk, including possible loss of principal. The Fund's investments in small- and mid-capitalization companies could experience greater volatility than investments in large-capitalization companies. AVEDX invests primarily in dividend paying companies and it is possible these companies may eliminate or reduce their dividend payments.

The investment performance assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions. Performance data reflects certain fee waivers and reimbursements. Without such waivers, performance would have been lower. The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Value Index is a market-capitalization-weighted index developed by Standard & Poor's consisting of those stocks within the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index that exhibit strong value characteristics. The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index is a capitalization weighted unmanaged index of 500 widely traded stocks, created by Standard & Poor's. The index is considered to represent the performance of the stock market in general. Indexes do not incur fees and it is not possible to invest directly in an index.

**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 online at [www.avemariafunds.com](http://www.avemariafunds.com).** Distributed by Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC.



**AVE MARIA**  
MUTUAL FUNDS

1-866-AVE-MARIA (1-866-283-6274)

[avemariafunds.com](http://avemariafunds.com)

04-05-101521 / 13200560-UFD-7/19/2021