



Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin  
in the City of New York

Sunday, March 18, 2007

# AGENDA

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in the City of New York  
Sunday, March 18, 2007

- I. Call to Order, Opening Prayer
- II. Minutes of the March 26, 2006 Annual Meeting
- III. Election: Delegates to the Diocesan Convention  
November 10, 2007
- IV. Submitted Reports to the Congregation
- V. Treasurer's Report
- VI. The Rector's Report

Adjournment

# THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SOCIETY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, JANUARY 1, 2007

Ms. MaryJane Boland, *December 2006 – December 2010*  
Mr. Peter Dannenbaum, *December 2005 – December 2009*  
The Reverend Stephen Gerth, *Member since February 1999 (Rector and President*  
Mr. Larry Green, *January 2005 – December 2007*  
Mr. Steven Heffner, *Treasurer, December 2006 – December 2009*  
Mr. Thomas Jayne, *Vice-President, January 2005 – December 2008*  
Mr. David Jette, *December 2006 – December 2010*  
Mrs. Jane Daniels Lear, *December 2006 – December 2010*  
Ms. Susan Miranda, *Secretary, December 2005 – December 2009*  
Lana V. Mullen, *December 2006 – December 2007*  
Mr. Roman Schreiner, *December 2006 – December 2007*

## THE PARISH CLERGY

The Reverend Stephen Gerth, *rector*,  
The Reverend John Beddingfield, The Reverend Matthew Mead, *curates*,  
The Reverend James Ross Smith, *assisting priest*,  
The Reverend Canon Edgar F. Wells, *rector emeritus*.

## THE PARISH MUSICIANS

Mr. Robert McCormick, *organist and music director*,  
Mr. Robert McDermitt, *associate organist*,  
Mr. Lawrence Trupiano, *organ curator*.

## THE PARISH STAFF

Mr. Vince Amodei, *bookkeeper*,  
Mr. Reuben Awuni, *assistant sexton*,  
Mr. Victor Berrios, *assistant sexton*,  
Mr. Jesse Reyes, *assistant sexton*,  
Mr. Hector Rojas, *building mechanic*,  
Ms. Andrea Poropatich, *finance assistant*,  
Ms. Sandra Schubert, *administrative assistant*.

# Minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the Society of the Free Church of Saint Mary the Virgin

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the Society of the Free Church of Saint Mary the Virgin was held in Saint Joseph's Hall on Sunday, March 26, 2006. The meeting commenced at 12:45 pm with a prayer. The Reverend Stephen Gerth, Rector, was in the chair and a quorum of members in good standing was present.

Mrs. Susan Miranda was selected to be recording secretary for the meeting. The minutes of the 2005 meeting were adopted as submitted with Ms. Rebecca Weiner motioning and Dr. Leroy Sharer seconding.

The first order of business was the election of two Delegates and two Alternates to represent the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin at the Diocesan Convention to be held in Tarrytown, New York on November 10 and 11, 2006. Mr. Robin Landis nominated Ms. Rebecca Weiner and Mrs. Barbara Klett seconded the nomination. Mr. Landis also nominated Mr. Larry Green, Board of Trustees member; Mr. Sean Cassidy seconded the nomination. Ms. Linda Bridges and Ms. Julie Gillis were nominated as Alternate Delegates and accepted by acclamation.

The congregation was told about the change in term limits for the Board of Trustees. Throughout the history of the parish, Board members were elected for life terms. In 2005, the Board elected to change to fixed four-year terms with a mandatory one-year off before re-election. Mr. Robert Loper, the last life trustee, will be resigning in December 2006.

The congregation extended thanks and applause to the curates, the Reverend John Beddingfield and the Reverend Matthew Mead, for a year of hard work. Thanks and applause was also offered to the Music Department and to the parish Administrative Assistant, Ms. Sandra Schubert.

The Rector led the congregation in an overview of the printed Annual Reports. Special thanks were given to Mr. James Dennis, Jr., Treasurer, and the other members of the Brother Lawrence Guild for their vital work in hospitality at Saint Mary's. There was an appeal for the congregation to give their time or help pay for coffee hour and receptions.

Saint Andrew's Guild, led by Ms. Mary Jane Boland and Mr. Eric Peterson, which greets newcomers and invites them to brunch, was recognized for its contribution to the welcoming spirit of the parish.

Applause was given for the re-opened Gift Shop which was described as more evidence of renewal in the parish life at Saint Mary's. It was also noted that the start-up cost for the Gift Shop came from a donation by a friend of the parish and that the Gift Shop had nearly made that initial investment back in profit in only four months of operation.

Thanks and applause were given to the members of Saint Mary's Guild for their care of vestments and vessels; to Saint Raphael's Guild for dedicated ushering, especially that of Mr. George Handy, Head Usher. The Visual Arts Program was thanked for providing interesting exhibitions throughout the year in Saint Joseph's Hall.

Mr. Terrance O'Dwyer, the Chair of the Investment Committee, was recognized for his outstanding commitment and vital importance in guiding the Board of Trustees in investment and financial decisions.

The congregation was asked to note in the report by Mr. James Dennis, Jr., Treasurer, that while the parish was still running a deficit, the deficit had been cut considerably since the previous year and was on target to be less again this year.

The Rector thanked the congregation for generous pledged giving and made a special appeal for will bequests, noting the current importance of the sixth Rector, Father Grieg Taber's tireless requests for planned giving.

The Rector's Report, having been distributed was given additional comments by The Rev. Stephen Gerth, Rector. Mrs. Barbara Klett, who recently retired from the position of Treasurer, was given special thanks and applause for her ministry in organizing the Finance Office.

Dr. Leroy Sharer, who recently resigned from the Board as part of our transition to term limits, was given thanks and applause for his deep commitment to the parish. Dr. Sharer was described as being the heart of Saint Mary's. Mr. Robert Picken, Vice President of the Board of Trustees, Mr. James Dennis, Jr., Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, and Mr. Robert Loper, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, were recognized as important leaders in the congregation.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm and concluded with a final blessing, led by the Reverend Stephen Gerth, Rector.

Susan Miranda  
Recording Secretary

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# Reports from Other Parish Clergy and Staff

## From the Curate for Parish Life & Outreach

### *Membership*

In 2006 we increased our official membership by 34 people and only lost 2 persons to transfers to other churches, giving us a total active membership of 345. In addition to our official members we continue to be blessed by many friends and visitors. We have 474 neighbors (whose official membership is at another church nearby). We have 273 clergy friends. We have 76 weekday friends, 679 national friends, and 93 international friends.

### *Mission*

We've continued to help with various ministries in our area and some of our members regularly volunteer with soup kitchens and other programs with the homeless. We have continued our volunteer efforts with Common Ground Community and the annual counting of homeless persons in West Midtown and are pursuing other opportunities for partnership with Common Ground.

Saint Mary's has tentatively committed to help with Ecclesia Ministries, a new outreach ministry with the homeless community that includes a weekly, Sunday afternoon celebration of the Holy Eucharist in an outdoor park. We are supportive of the concept and interested in volunteering, but have some concerns about the organization and planning of the ministry. We will continue to discern the best way forward.

A group from our parish again went to Honduras in January, continuing to form relationships with the Deanery of Tegucigalpa and especially with the parish of San Juan Evangelista. This year Rebecca Weiner and I coordinated the trip, which invites participation from the entire Diocese of New York. Four churches were represented from our area.

With the new presence of the Community of St. John Baptist at Saint Mary's, I look forward to other opportunities for mission and invite the sisters' insights and skills in helping us to expand our witness to Christ's love in Times Square.

### *Stewardship & Giving*

In 2006 I continued to work with the Rector to coordinate stewardship, both the annual pledge drive in the fall and in ongoing consideration of donors and giving. With a new planned giving committee we were able to increase Saint Mary's focus on wills, bequests and other ways of making the parish a beneficiary and we celebrated this effort with the inauguration of the Saint Mary's Legacy Society in December. In this first year we are pleased to have 51 charter members of the society.

In the summer of 2006 we launched the Saint Mary's Momentum Fund to raise \$50,000 for plumbing and construction on the Mission House fifth floor for a residence for two nuns; \$30,000 for new kneeling cushions for the church; \$25,000 for a new hot water heater for the building; and \$45,000 for handrails in front of the church and for additional improvements to the Mission House and Church. We exceeded our goal of \$150,000 and continue to receive occasional gifts for this effort.

### *Beyond Saint Mary's*

I have continued to serve as chairman of the Diocesan Spirituality Committee and to help coordinate the Diocesan mission trip to Honduras in addition to contributing several articles to the *Episcopal New Yorker*.

In March of this year I began a simple web log at [www.beddingfield.blogspot.com](http://www.beddingfield.blogspot.com). Since I often write down my thoughts for Daily Mass sermons and always write out my Sunday sermons, I began simply posting these

on the blog. At the risk of tacky self-promotion, I decided that the opportunities for evangelism far outweigh the dangers of hubris. I have gotten into wonderful email conversations with people all over the country, a handful of people in England and Southern Africa, and even one person from Malta. My blog gets an average of 20 to 30 hits a day, from 750 to 1,000 visitors a month.

### *Conclusion*

I continue to be extremely grateful to have Father Gerth, Father Mead, and Father Smith as colleagues. I'm also grateful for the other staff and employees of the parish, and for a congregation that offers both challenge and love. The liturgy continues to surround all that I do, which, I believe, helps keep me more balanced and more faithful. I'm very grateful to God for another wonderful year at Saint Mary's.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Reverend John Beddingfield  
Curate for Parish Life & Outreach

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## From the Curate for Liturgy & Education

My third year at Saint Mary's has been excellent. As my title suggests, there are two distinct areas that take up the bulk of my time when I am not at the altar or making pastoral visits: Liturgy and Education.

I work directly with three of the Guilds who help to make Saint Mary's the wonderful place that it is. Members of the Saint Vincent's Guild serve at the altar on Sundays, on Feast Days and throughout the week. We continue to bring in new servers and train new MCs and thurifers. Additionally, in the past year it has become the norm rather than the exception that we have servers at Low Mass. Life in the sacristy is bustling and fun and I owe all of the members of the guild my gratitude for their time, their commitment to Saint Mary's, and the joy that they bring to worship at Saint Mary's. As always, we continue to welcome to the guild those who wish to serve and help out at the altar.

Members of the Saint Bede's Guild read at all of our services. The sound system has undergone some adjustment throughout the year – in particular our new ambo is a vast improvement over the old one. Our ongoing lectionary project is in its final proof stage. The lectionary project makes it easy for anyone to read, and it is hoped that this year will see the continued growth of our readers' guild. I would like to thank all of our readers for their time and efforts throughout the past year.

Members of the Saint Mary's Guild serve as the altar guild: cleaning vessels, repairing vestments, polishing everything in sight, and maintaining the sacristy and the sanctuary. A number of our vestments were repaired this past year and brass was polished again and again. I would like to thank the time and efforts of all members of the guild. In particular I would like to thank Richard Theilmann for his work restoring our Paschal Candlesticks and our "burning bush" candelabra. This work is beyond the scope of polishing and it is something that Richard has spent a great amount of time working on over the past year. A few changes in the Saint Mary's Guild are happening this year. The addition of the Sisters from the Community of Saint John the Baptist will see their oversight in vessels and vestments. Also, much of the regular brass polishing will be done by the sextons.

Saint Mary's has lots of space below the sanctuary. That space is filled with lots of stuff. Some of the stuff is important (decorations for Christmas, flower pots, old church furnishings, etc.); the rest of the stuff is trash. Over the past year the sextons and I have been systematically cleaning out the main basement and its attached rooms. We are not done, but our work so far has yielded great results. Two adjacent rooms were set aside as for flower storage. Though we have long had a flower closet on the first floor, it was cluttered and inadequate for the amount of flower pots and decorations that the church has. The flower closet and the basement rooms were cleaned, painted, and relit. Then the Flower Guild, under the supervision of Dale Bonenberger, went through and cleaned all of our seasonal decorations (Christmas, Easter, etc.) and flower

pots. These pots and decorations were then organized and stored in the flower closet and basement flower rooms. This work has been invaluable for the decorating done by Dale and the Flower Guild, and it has made a major dent in the overall basement cleaning project. Another set of rooms under the Sacristy were also part of the basement cleaning project. The sextons and I gutted one of the rooms of broken toilets and sinks and then cleaned and painted the room. The newly renovated “sub-sacristy” now houses all of our liturgical furnishings that are used once a year. An adjacent room that had been used by the altar guild in the past and is still used as our incense making room was also cleaned and organized. All in all, this “spring cleaning” has made it much easier for everyone to find and use the decorations and furnishings that the church has. I intend to continue work on the basement this year with the sextons.

Nursery care has continued throughout the past year on most Sundays and feast days. Sunday School, unfortunately, was discontinued after the two boys (brothers) unexpectedly left the parish with their father in the early autumn. The parish does not seem to lack children – at a glance there are number of children present each week. However, the children who are regularly at Saint Mary’s are not really old enough to attend Sunday School. I believe that we need to have a Sunday school. I am not sure what kind of Sunday school Saint Mary’s can accommodate with our Sunday liturgical schedule, but I plan this year to meet with the parents of the children in the parish and the Sisters of CSJB to address this issue so that we will have a Sunday School for all of the children at Saint Mary’s in the near future.

I hope to continue to attract parents and future parents to the church by reconstituting through our various community and fellowship opportunities. We have monthly movie nights throughout the spring, summer and fall months. We have had several outings to music and art events throughout the year as well as a tour of the Brooklyn Brewery. We had a very successful Super Bowl party in 2007 with over 60 people in attendance. Obviously these events are open to all, but they have also helped to foster a feeling that Saint Mary’s is not only a place to worship and learn, but also to meet others in a more relaxed environment. I hope that Saint Mary’s will continue to grow as a place where people can come to meet and become friends with other Christians who are their own age.

Christian Formation and Education for adults at Saint Mary’s had another good year. We continued to offer a Tuesday night Bible Study nearly every week during the academic year, though the birth of my son required a change of night – since the start of 2007 we meet on Wednesdays. We also offered classes on most Sundays. A small but important change (which greatly helped attendance) was scheduling the Sunday classes 15 minutes after the conclusion of Solemn Mass. Previously classes began at 1:00 PM, which was allowed just enough time for people to desire lunch more than Christian Education. Most classes now end by 1:30 PM allowing for participants to eat lunch afterwards at a reasonable hour. The monthly reading and spirituality group continued throughout the year and even presented a movie on Dietrich Bonhoeffer. I think that our current pattern is working quite nicely, and I plan to continue to expand on it throughout this year.

Although this report has been primarily about liturgy, education, I am at Saint Mary’s first and foremost as a priest. I have been blessed to celebrate and preach at Saint Mary’s almost every single day this past year. I have gotten to know many new and old parishioners in the past year and have tried to grow as a priest and as a pastor. Serving the corporate Body of Christ and preaching the good news of Jesus thrills me to no end. I have had a wonderful year, and I look forward to joys and challenges of the year to come. Thank you all for making this year so wonderful.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Reverend Matthew Hossie Mead  
Curate for Liturgy and Education

# Liturgy Statistics for the Annual Report

*This is a selected and not a complete list of services.*

Said Daily Office (Morning Prayer, Noonday Office, Evening Prayer)	851
Sung Matins (Non-summer Sundays and Major Feast Days)	49
Solemn Evensong & Benediction	35
Said Mass	512
Said Mass with Anointing for Healing	85
Sung Mass	116
Solemn Mass	63
Solemn Pontifical Mass	7
Stations of the Cross	5

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## From the Music Director

Very often I am reminded that I must be one of the luckiest musicians in the wider Church, and most definitely in our Episcopal Church. I can think of very few places where such care is taken with liturgy, and where liturgical music is prized so in its proper context. To this end, I remain grateful for the supportive and visionary leadership of Father Gerth, as well as the wonderful camaraderie I enjoy with my devoted colleagues on the parish staff.

One of my primary tasks is to maintain the personnel of the parish's professional choir. This includes hiring and retaining our "regular" or core choir members, and those singers who are with us only occasionally. We had a number of new faces in our choir this past fall, and it is a joy to work with all of these superb musicians regularly. Without fail, the singers in the choir are wonderful people as well as first-rate musicians. Saint Mary's continues to attract some of the city's finest professional singers, and currently we have regular and substitute singers who have sung with New York City Opera and other national opera companies, Anonymous 4, Chanticleer, Lionheart, Early Music New York, New York Collegium, Trefoil, Voices of Ascension, Pomerium, Vox Vocal Ensemble and many other distinguished groups. Our singers are talented and well known soloists, composers, teachers and instrumentalists. They are a constant inspiration. It remains a privilege to offer such a wide variety of liturgical choral music, some of it rarely heard, on a regular basis. In addition, the liturgy at Saint Mary's relies significantly on congregational singing. It is a joy to make music with such a talented congregation!

Brief organ recitals are offered on Sundays before Solemn Evensong & Benediction, with the exception of Lent. This series enhances our liturgy and offers many organists the opportunity to play our famous instrument. In addition, half-hour organ recitals continue to be offered before Solemn Mass on weekday feasts. I often play these myself, but we occasionally enjoy visiting recitalists. Visiting choirs provided music on numerous occasions at Sunday Evensong and other services, and we have a number of fine ensembles who will be visiting this coming spring.

While we are not currently offering a concert series, concerts continue to be offered on a periodic basis. Music at Saint Mary's will also present a number of special offerings in the coming year – watch this space!

Robert McDermitt is in his sixth year as our associate organist. His dedication, professionalism, wise counsel, and good humor are much appreciated. I couldn't ask for a finer colleague. Robert's principal duty is to play for the 10:00 AM Sung Mass, though he assists with conducting, and accompanying the choir, and most Sundays serves as the cantor for Evensong. Robert is a first-rate musician, and Saint Mary's is incredibly

fortunate to have him. His full-time position is as elementary music teacher at the James Weldon Johnson School in Spanish Harlem.

Lawrence Trupiano continues his meticulous upkeep of our incomparable Aeolian-Skinner organ. This past summer, the lower wind chest of the Swell division was re-leathered (a project last undertaken in 1980; such projects must be done every twenty years or so). As I write, the upper wind chest is undergoing re-leathering. While such a project silences a large number of valuable stops (what better time could there be than Lent?), the upper Swell will return in time for Holy Week and Easter.

The Saint Cecilia Guild provides added financial support for liturgical music. Among many other things, the Saint Cecilia Guild allows us to have brass bands for our outdoor processions, other extra instrumentalists, cantors for Sunday Evensong and weekly organ recitalists. Jim Dennis unfailingly provides leadership whenever it is required. Thank you, Jim, and to the other members of our music committee.

The coming year promises to be another exciting one for music at Saint Mary's. I thank all of you for your interest and support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert McCormick  
Organist and Music Director

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## USE OF SPACE

Saint Mary's, Times Square continues to be a source of welcome in unique and interesting ways. Our location makes us coveted property for TV and film companies looking for a place to hold their actors and crew, or to film in a big hall or church. The church, mission house and Saint Joseph's Hall have been the background and sometimes center stage for many productions. We have had big-time films including *The Devil Wears Prada*, *Spider Man 3* and *The Good Shepard* to small independent filmmakers from our local universities and colleges. We have had documentaries supporting *The Da Vinci Code* and opposing it. Our own Father Mead has been seen swinging incense in more than one religious scene for NBC nighttime news shows. Sometimes Saint Joseph's Hall is full of actors dressed in 1940s costumes (The Good Shepherd) to a roomful of actors dressed as Orthodox Jews for a segment of *Law and Order*. The Mission House was the location for a documentary on demonic possession and the church had actresses dressed as nuns who were also possessed!

Recently Saint Joseph's Hall was turned into three sets for the show *30 Rock*. The director immediately loved the space and our rickety basement stairs. The crew was not as delighted to be filming in the intense heat of the basement, but loved our large space too. One memorable scene (not in the show but as cleanup happened) were the burly workers, who did all the heavy lifting for the set, gathered around the organ as one of their own played (with permission, of course).

The rental for use of space has gone up considerably. As our good reputation grows, more and more big name productions come to us. With bigger productions we can charge more. And Saint Mary's, either through name or on film, gains a wider audience.

The experience of renting the space is both an adventure and a challenge as the work of the church must always continue despite what chaos may reign from the cast and crew of any production. The reason we continue to be so popular is that we are so welcoming. Each person who wishes to rent the space is treated the same, whether a big budget production or a small shoot of two people. You never know which extra who sits in our church for a scene may come back to worship or win an Oscar or come back and become a benefactor. The crews are always so pleased with the church and excited to know of its existence and more than one has shared their journey of faith with me. And of course it doesn't hurt that they continue to pay us.

The use of space continues to flourish here at St. Mary's, but mostly it is the holiness and wonder of our worship that makes it the place to be on any day of the week.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Schubert  
Administrative Assistant

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## Reports of Parish Guilds and Activities

### Saint Andrew's Guild

The Saint Andrew's Guild's goal is growth in membership, fellowship and friendship for Saint Mary's. We are *all* members of the Saint Andrew's Guild, but our active members make it our business to welcome visitors to Saint Joseph's Hall after Mass on Sunday and to greet people in our church whenever we and they are here. We invite friends and neighbors to church. When we have no class after Mass, a group of us invites everyone, and especially visitors, to join us for lunch at a local restaurant; our lunch participation has ranged from 2 to 20. We feel that we can look around the room at the Annual Meeting and see people whom we were the first to welcome!

Join us informally: invite *your* friends to Saint Mary's; walk up to someone you've never met in Saint Joseph's Hall and introduce yourself; join us for lunch one Sunday. Join us formally: speak to Eric Peterson, Mary Robison or MaryJane Boland in the parish hall one Sunday. Give us your ideas. Pledge your time. We need your help.

Respectfully submitted,  
MaryJane Boland and Eric Peterson  
Co-Chairs

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### Saint Mary's Gift Shop

The Gift Shop is a project of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin's Visual Arts Program (VAP) and marked its first anniversary of business since the renovation on the Feast of Christ the King, November 2005.

VAP sees the Gift Shop as a logical outgrowth of their work and ministry. From the beginning, the members of VAP have seen the Gift Shop, in part, as a fundraising tool, as a way to provide financial support for the parish's work and ministry. Fifteen percent (15%) of the shop's profits were earmarked for outreach which resulted in over \$2,000.00 being given to support La Iglesia de San Juan el Evangelista, in Villanueva, a barrio in the greater Tegucigalpa area. Father Beddingfield and several Saint Mary's parishioners took a mission trip there in January 2007. During Advent, the Shop also sold a number of Christmas gift cards, which Father Beddingfield had designed as a fundraising tool for the Honduras Mission. Finally, because of the shop's location, right off the narthex, VAP has wanted to provide the parish with an attractive, warm, and welcoming space, both for parishioners and for guests and newcomers. VAP conceives of the Gift Shop as an informal welcome center where visitors will be able to ask questions about the Episcopal Church and about the parish, its people, its life, its ministry and its clergy.

In addition to our regular stock of Saint Mary's logo clothing and incense, we have commissioned a new artisan to make a number of handmade rosaries for the Shop in 2007. We are also continuing to sell two chant CDs, which were created by two of the parish's very talented choristers, Ruth Cunningham and Ana Hernández; and we hope to be able to support the parish's music program in other ways in the future. We also carry a number of other items including crosses made by a group of Honduran artisans and original

artwork exhibited by VAP in Saint Joseph's Hall. At present, we are selling a very limited number of books, including copies of the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer, and some basic catechetical material designed to introduce the inquirer to Christian theology and spirituality; to the history, customs, and beliefs of the Episcopal Church; as well as to the history and traditions of the parish. We have discontinued the sale of seven-day votive candles due to limited shop hours.

We have been pleased and heartened by the enthusiasm and support with which the parish has greeted the shop. However, we realize that the Gift Shop will soon need to explore other markets beyond the parish's core membership. Therefore, in the near future we intend to begin exploring the options of an e-mail campaign to the wider Saint Mary's family and we also hope to develop a section of the parish website in order to advertise a few of the products.

Many people have provided VAP and its members with crucial support. We would like to thank Father Gerth for his excellent advice and unfailing enthusiasm for the project. We are grateful to Mrs. Barbara Klett and Mr. Vince Amodei who graciously accept the work of keeping our account in order. Sandra Schubert, the parish's administrative assistant, has helped us in numerous ways during this year and provided crucial help with deliveries and phone inquiries when we could not be at Saint Mary's. We are particularly grateful for our volunteers, Dale Bonenberger, Cheryl Heard, Rita Johnson and Dick Leitsch, whose enthusiasm, concern, knowledge, attention to detail and extroverted personalities have helped make the shop something more than just a store.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Miranda  
Gift Shop Manager

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## The Visual Arts Program

In the third program year of the Visual Arts Program (VAP), four exhibitions have been mounted in Saint Joseph's Hall. At Easter 2006 we exhibited paintings by seminarian Amy Coultas on the theme of symbols of the Easter Vigil. During the summer, Erwin DeLeon's photographs of figures of Mary throughout the church building were exhibited. In the fall we had the privilege of featuring a new series by the New York artist Noel Hennelly. She produced a series of dramatic wax rubbings of text and symbols from around the church.

Following that successful exhibition, we were pleased to have another striking exhibit, Santos, portraits of saints painted on wood panels by Rafael Velez. Additionally, the Visual Arts Program hosted a lecture by Lady Wedgewood, from the BBC television program *The Secret Life of Paintings*. She spoke about a painting of Saint Francis by Giovanni Bellini that is held in New York's Frick Collection.

Sales of Noel Hennelly's work totaled \$550 and she graciously donated that money to the parish Momentum Fund.

We hope that these exhibitions and activities have helped to enrich the parish life at Saint Mary's. It is our goal is to have people enjoy the visual arts that are brought into the building as exhibitions as well as to examine and cherish the rich treasures our building holds.

We would like to thank the clergy of Saint Mary's and Sandra Schubert for their unfailing support of this program. We would also like to thank all of the artists and lecturers who have volunteered their time and talent. We deeply appreciate all of the parishioners who have helped with hanging exhibitions as well as by purchasing artworks and attendance at our events.

We rely on the enthusiasm and support from the parish so we invite you to join in the work of the Visual Arts Program and help make 2007 another successful year!

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Miranda, Erwin de Leon and Jose Vidal  
Committee Members

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## Saint Raphael's Guild

Members of Saint Raphael's Guild are parishioners who volunteer to usher at parish services on Sundays and all Sung and Solemn Masses on Feast Days, as well as Evensong and Stations of the Cross. This year we have increased our numbers to seventeen members who are serving on a regular schedule. Although the schedule calls for serving only once a month, the actual number of times served is higher when Feast Days are included.

We have learned that the impression left with anyone visiting the church, whether to attend a service or just out of curiosity, can be set by the manner in which he or she is greeted and the professionalism, decorum and cordiality with which they are treated during the time they spend with us. First-time visitors will return if they feel welcome and may even become members of the church. But anyone who feels merely tolerated or ignored will have every reason to go elsewhere even though they may have been moved by our liturgy and music.

Most of us have served here or at former parishes for a long time and are able to provide an atmosphere where everyone can worship in peace and comfort away from the hustle and bustle of the Church's surroundings. Serving as an usher is not monotonous. Almost every service brings at least one visitor's expression of awe and/or the feeling of serenity that Saint Mary's exudes.

Because not everyone has served here or elsewhere for a long time – I want to thank all once again for putting up with me when I repeat instructions or reminders endlessly. Thanks again to everyone, ushers, and other members of the Church, who helped out in so many ways on Ash Wednesday. Especially gratifying was the fact that, because the “ashes only” people were greeted and given ashes without waiting in a long line, many found they had time to light a candle, kneel or sit in a pew or even stay if a Mass was being said. As we well know, our church has that effect on people.

The Guild has been the best place for anyone who wants to become an active participant in the Church. Many of our members who served first with us later became Trustees. In the fifteen years I have acted as Head Usher, eleven of us became Trustees and three are now serving in that capacity. We have been honored to usher or assist at the weddings of members who are choir members, readers, artists, caterers and Trustees.

Although our present regular schedule is now complete, we have found that we need to have a list of members who are willing to help out on such days as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and who I can ask to serve when we are short-handed.

This is an opportunity for you to meet and greet other members and visitors from all over the world. Remember we are on the web. If you are interested in joining us or have any questions about how you can help, I am available after most services and I am happy to talk about our church's activities.

I am certain that all of our members agree with me when I say it has been an honor and pleasure to serve.

Respectfully submitted,  
George Handy, Chair

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## Archives Committee

Last summer the Archives Committee began work by sorting the contents of the Archives Room which had been pretty much untouched since the departure some years ago of Nicholas Krasno, the previous archivist. Material which belonged elsewhere has been moved to the appropriate places. Material which belongs in the Archives is being gathered from the places in which it has been scattered.

A lot of time has been spent in looking over Mr. Krasno's work and in becoming acquainted with the filing system he set up.

At Saint Mary's, the parish office is regularly called upon by people who for canonical or legal reasons need records of their baptism or marriage, and by family historians and genealogists seeking various records. At present, that requires searching through the often fragile ledgers which contain the 138 years of parish records.

Because age is deteriorating those books, and to make it easier to find records, the Archives Committee has undertaken transcribing the parish records into searchable computer files. Laverne Cameron, Brenda Morgan, and Dick Leitsch have finished typing the entire contents of the Burial Registers from 1868 through 2006 onto disks, and proofreading is now underway. Work has already begun on the Registers of Marriages.

Volunteers are needed! If you can type, work in Excel have some time available and are up to the sometimes challenging work of transcribing old handwriting, speak to Dick Leitsch.

Underway also is a project to list all the wonderful benefactors who over the generations have made the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin the showplace it is. This list honors not just those who donated art works, sacred vessels and the other treasures that make up the splendid fabric of the church, but also those noble and saintly folks whose generous donations and bequests fund more prosaic and very necessary things such as maintenance and repairs, paying the light bill, funding the clergy and staff salaries and covering the routine costs of running the church and offices.

At present the Archive Committee's emphasis is on computerizing the Parish Records and organizing the Archives Room. In the near future, we would like to undertake an oral history project, organize and catalog a collection of all available photographs of the church and its activities, compile a list (with thumbnail biographies) of the many priests who over the years have served Saint Mary's as rectors, curates and assistants, and find and assist people interested in researching and writing about various aspects of worship and life at Saint Mary's now and in the past.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Leitsch

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## Flower Guild

This past year has been very exciting for the Saint Mary's Flower Guild and there is much to report. As many of you know, I took over as chair of the guild at Easter and since then, with the help of several dedicated volunteers, we have accomplished many important projects. Most importantly has been the acquisition and organization of two adjoining rooms in the basement for use as a flower studio and storage area for all the urns, stands, and Christmas decorations. Now all of the church's flower paraphernalia is stored in a logical and organized manner.

Through the generosity of several people this past year, the flower guild has also been able to acquire many items that greatly expand the current collection of urns for use on both the high altar and side chapels. I am

proud to report the following additions: a matching set of silver urns for the high altar, a matching set of four smaller brass urns that complements our current set of large brass urns, two antique porcelain urns for use at the shrine to the Sacred Heart in the nave, two faux-marble urns for use at the chancel steps and two mahogany antique flower stands.

The cost of donating altar flowers is \$200 and donors may give flowers in memory or in honor of someone. Requests should be made through Sandra Schubert in the church office no later than the Monday preceding or at least one week prior to a mid-week Solemn Mass. Checks should be made payable to the “Church of Saint Mary the Virgin” and marked as “Altar Flowers.” And just as a reminder to the parish, for those Sundays when there is no donation, there will be no flowers. We depend on your generosity!

In closing, I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped for Christmas and Easter and for the various cleaning and organization projects this past year. If there is anyone new who is interested in helping in either a large or small way with the flower guild, I urge you to consider being part of this exciting ministry. No previous experience is needed and I will be happy to teach and assign tasks for all levels of experience. Please speak to me during coffee hour as I am always looking for new help, and as any of the volunteers from Christmas and Easter can attest, in addition to getting the job done, we have great fun doing it!

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Bonenberger, Chair

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# Financial Reports

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## Financial Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

As has been the case over the past few years, 2006 saw almost all the indicators of growth at Saint Mary's pointing in the right direction:

- Pledge money received in 2006 was 18% higher than in 2005;
- Overall growth in ordinary income (money not from the endowment) was 14% higher in 2006 than in 2005; and
- We were able to hold expense growth to only 3% without reducing any services and despite several very large and unexpected repair bills related to the church's physical plant.

Our capital campaign (the Momentum Fund) exceeded its goal of \$150,000 and allowed us to move ahead with several needed capital improvements, including new hand rails in the front of the church, a new hot water system for the whole complex, and renovations in the Mission House in anticipation of the arrival this month of the sisters from the Community of St. John Baptist.

However, despite real progress, we have yet to achieve a balanced operating budget, which means that we continue to live beyond our means and continue to spend principal from our endowment. Although the rate of that endowment "draw down" decreased again in 2006 (down another 10%, from \$540,000 in 2005 to \$490,000 in 2006) and a generally favorable year on Wall Street helped the endowment's investment gains, we are still removing a half million dollars a year from our dwindling reserves—an ultimately untenable situation.

Therefore, the story of the parish finances continues to be a race against the clock. We need to improve our income picture much more aggressively in the coming two or three years if we are to continue executing the mission of the parish. A nearby Episcopal parish recently announced that it is being forced to reduce services because of its financial position. Our endowment provides us with a little more time to grow ourselves out of the problem before we are forced to do the same, but the clock is ticking. The good news is that we are still very much in the race and the Board of Trustees remains committed to winning it.

To that end, the Board and the Budget Committee produced a 2007 budget consistent with our plan of growth and based on the principle that we will not cut hours, services, programs or staff because reductions in these areas would be inconsistent with our mission and our strategy of parish growth. The 2007 budget projects a modest 5% growth in ordinary receipts with a 2.5% increase in expenses, almost all of which can be tied directly to personnel costs, including a 3.3% cost of living salary increase for clergy and staff and ancillary personnel costs such as pension and insurance contributions. Our diocesan assessment increased based on our 2006 growth by 12.5% (the maximum increase allowed) to \$77,734. We have held the line on most other expense items, decreasing administrative expenses when possible and hoping for fewer big-ticket repairs.

Our financial challenges remain significant, but building on the success of last year—including robust income growth, the successful capital campaign and the initiation of the Legacy Society—and looking to new initiatives in 2007, we can and will meet these challenges successfully. The generosity of both the parish community and Saint Mary's wider circle of national and international friends, the hard work of the parish clergy and staff, and the commitment of the Board of Trustees are the necessary ingredients, and I'm happy to report that we seem to have all of these in abundance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steven Heffner  
Treasurer

	Actual 2006	Budget 2007
<b>INCOME</b>		
Pledges	\$439,397	\$482,820
Other Plate (Easter/Christmas, Donations, Special Offerings)	161,188	157,773
Repayments (Use of Facilities)	76,782	70,568
Ordinary Income Subtotal	677,367	711,161
Capital Draw Downs @ 5% of Value	174,728	173,593
Principal Draw Downs in Excess of 5%	316,886	336,608
Draw Down Subtotal	*491,614	*510,201
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$1,168,981</b>	<b>\$1,221,362</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Personnel: Salaries	\$382,989	\$395,211
Personnel-Related Benefits	194,593	222,934
Administration (Advertising, Printing, Postage, Office, Prof. Fees)	94,827	88,945
Physical Plant (Insurance, Utilities, Maintenance, Tax, Security)	284,026	264,990
Miscellaneous & Special Purpose	1,925	3,400
Diocesan Assessment	69,097	77,734
Music	163,734	168,148
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,191,191</b>	<b>\$1,221,362</b>

\*Note: 2006 Draw Down totals represent actual withdrawals during the calendar year from investment accounts as has been the standard for reporting in previous years. The 2007 budget for Draw Down totals are based on projected budget shortfall. Were we to apply this shortfall-based reporting to 2006 figures, 2006 would show a total draw down of \$513,824 accounting for the \$22,210 net difference in income and expenses in 2006.

**Church of Saint Mary the Virgin**  
Investment Committee Report – January 29, 2007  
Results for the Fourth Quarter—2006

**1. Balances & Allocations as of 12/31/06:**

- Total endowment of \$3.17 million, of which \$2.28 million is unrestricted (72%).
- Equities comprise approximately 75% of the total endowment, within the asset allocation guidelines of between 70% and 80%.
- At period end, the Diocesan Investment Trust held 81% of endowment assets, and US Trust held 19%.

<b>Account Balances</b>					
<b>December 31, 2006</b>					
(\$000s)					
	Domestic Equity	Int'l Equity	Fixed Income	Cash	Total
<b><u>Diocesan Investment Trust:</u></b>					
Parish Account	\$2,176	\$0	\$27	\$0	\$2,202
Air Rights	0	0	0	0	0
Harmon *	53	0	134	0	186
Gregory *	28	0	72	0	100
Organ Fund *	66	0	15	0	81
Aideyan *	0	0	4	0	4
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total Diocesan Investment Trust</b>	<b>\$2,323</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$251</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,574</b>
<b><u>U.S. Trust:</u></b>					
Stout *	\$0	\$0	\$502	\$20	\$522
Air Rights	46	9	15	4	74
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total U.S. Trust</b>	<b>\$46</b>	<b>\$9</b>	<b>\$518</b>	<b>\$23</b>	<b>\$596</b>
<b>Total All Accounts</b>	<b>\$2,369</b>	<b>\$9</b>	<b>\$769</b>	<b>\$23</b>	<b>\$3,170</b>
<b>% by Asset Category</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Restricted (*)	\$147	\$0	\$727	\$20	\$893
Unrestricted	2,221	9	42	4	2,277

## 2. Analysis of Changes in Account Balances:

- Latest Quarter:** The total endowment increased \$25,000 in the fourth quarter, net of drawdowns of approximately \$116,000. Market performance was positive with equities, as measured by the S&P 500, gaining 6.6% during the quarter.

<b>Change in Account Balances vs Prior Quarter</b>					
<b>December 31, 2006</b>					
(\$000s)					
	Domestic Equity	Int'l Equity	Fixed Income	Cash	Total
<b><u>Diocesan Investment Trust:</u></b>					
Parish Account	\$46	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$46
Air Rights	0	0	0	0	0
Harmon *	3	0	(0)	0	2
Gregory *	2	0	0	0	2
Organ Fund *	4	0	0	0	4
Aideyan *	0	0	(0)	0	(0)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total Diocesan Investment Trust</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$55</b>
<b><u>U.S. Trust:</u></b>					
Stout *	\$0	\$0	\$1	(\$1)	(\$0)
Air Rights	(21)	(5)	(5)	1	(30)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total U.S. Trust</b>	<b>(\$21)</b>	<b>(\$5)</b>	<b>(\$4)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$30)</b>
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total All Accounts</b>	<b>\$34</b>	<b>(\$5)</b>	<b>(\$4)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$25</b>
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted (*)	\$9	\$0	\$0	(\$1)	\$8
Unrestricted	24	(5)	(4)	1	17

**Latest 12 Months:** The total endowment decreased \$152,000 in the twelve months ending December 31, 2006, or 4.6% of total beginning of year assets. Market performance was positive with equities, as measured by the S&P 500, increasing 15.8% during this period. Positive fund returns were more than offset by drawdowns.

<b>Change in Account Balances vs Prior Year</b>					
<b>December 31, 2006</b>					
(\$000s)					
	Domestic Equity	Int'l Equity	Fixed Income	Cash	Total
<b><u>Diocesan Investment Trust:</u></b>					
Parish Account	(\$1)	\$0	\$4	\$0	\$3
Air Rights	(69)	0	0	0	(69)
Harmon *	5	0	(2)	0	4
Gregory *	3	0	(1)	0	2
Organ Fund *	26	0	5	0	32
Aideyan *	0	0	(1)	0	(1)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total Diocesan Investment Trust</b>	<b>(\$35)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$30)</b>
<b><u>U.S. Trust:</u></b>					
Stout *	\$0	\$0	(\$1)	\$1	(\$0)
Air Rights	(83)	(16)	(25)	2	(122)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total U.S. Trust</b>	<b>(\$83)</b>	<b>(\$16)</b>	<b>(\$26)</b>	<b>\$3</b>	<b>(\$122)</b>
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total All Accounts</b>	<b>(\$119)</b>	<b>(\$16)</b>	<b>(\$21)</b>	<b>\$3</b>	<b>(\$152)</b>
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted (*)	\$34	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$36
Unrestricted	(153)	(16)	(21)	2	(188)

### 3. Relative Fund Performance:

- **Diocesan Investment Trust**

- **Fourth Quarter:** The DIT Equity Fund increased 7.02% versus a 6.64% gain for the S&P 500. The DIT Income Fund increased 1.21% in the fourth quarter versus a 1.24% gain in the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index.
- **Latest Twelve Months:** The DIT Equity Fund increased 12.94% versus a gain of 15.80% for the S&P 500. The DIT Income Fund increased 3.83% versus a 4.33% gain in the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index.
- The DIT Equity Fund's positive fourth quarter performance versus the benchmark was notable in light of underperformance in the prior three quarters. While full-year underperformance versus the benchmark was nearly 3.0%, very few actively managed funds beat the S&P 500 in 2006, and the DIT Equity Fund's performance actually compared well versus peer funds with similar mandates. Still, the DIT Equity Fund's performance bears continued close scrutiny given its underperformance and a recent modification to its strategy to include more mid- and small-capitalization stocks.

- **US Trust**

- **Fourth Quarter:** The US Trust Equity Fund increased 8.17% versus the aforementioned gain of 6.64% for the S&P 500. The US Trust International Equity Fund increased 8.63% versus a gain of 10.36% for the MSCI EAFE index. The US Trust Fixed Income Fund increased 1.19%.
- **Latest Twelve Months:** The US Trust Equity Fund increased 19.72% versus the aforementioned gain of 15.80% for the S&P 500. The US Trust International Fund increased 22.20% versus a gain of 26.34% for the MSCI EAFE index. The US Trust Fixed Income Fund increased 4.27%.
- The US Trust funds performed well in both the fourth quarter and full-year 2006 periods.

# The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin Memorial Trust Funds & Bequests

## Permanent Funds

### **Katherine Lanier Standish Fund**

This fund was established as a memorial to Katherine Standish. The proceeds of this fund are used by the Rector of the parish to support the education of persons for the priesthood of the Episcopal Church.

### **Alice L. Stout and Mabel T. Stout Memorial Fund**

The Stout Fund is a trust fund established under the will of William L. Stout and was given to the parish to be used for the care of the poor, the sick and the needy.

### **William Edward Jones Fund**

This is the Memorial Library Fund.

### **Helen G. Cushman Fund**

In October 1997 we received a \$5,000.00 donation from Phyllis Smith in memory of her sister Helen G. Cushman Fiske, granddaughter of Haley Fiske. The fund is to be used for outreach projects in the community.

### **Charles B. Harmon Fund**

This fund was established on the death of Mr. Harmon, a former parishioner. The purpose of the fund is to augment the music program of the church.

### **Hallie Wilson Charitable Trust Fund**

This fund was established in 1999 by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used only for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## New Bequest Received in 2006

### **Estate of Joan Touye**

This legacy was established by the bequest of a friend of the parish and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## New Bequests Received in 2005

### **Estate of Roy Parks**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of John Allen Gable**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Wendell Wray**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## **New Bequests Received in 2004**

### **Estate of Marion Frantz**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Florence Klaus**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Newton Carlyle Spitz**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for its ministry of music.

### **Estate of John Dexter Bush**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the Organ Fund.

## **New Bequests Received in 2003**

### **Estate of Elizabeth Sherwood**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## **New Bequests Received in 2002**

### **Estate of John G. Cadney**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## **New Bequests Received in 2001**

### **Estate of Dorothy D. Wynne**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Kenneth Marshall Allen**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Jean S. Humes**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Richard Rodney Kirk, PRIEST**

This bequest by the Reverend R. Rodney Kirk was for the Restoration Fund.

## Bequests Received in 2000

### **Estate of Margaret Rigler**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Thomas Haines**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1999

### **John Headley Memorial Bequest**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used only for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Julien Kent Powers Bequest**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used only for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1998

### **Estate of Gertrude Butler**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of John Gilligan**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1997

### **Estate of Walter John Blaile**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used only for the corporate purposes of the Society.'

### **Frederick Evans Hughes Bequest**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used only for the corporate purposes of the Society.'

### **Estate of Margaret Solbach**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1996

### **Estate of John Lloyd Rice**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Nancy Batchelder Trust**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Mary Florence Langworthy**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of James W. Cherry**

This bequest was designated for the Restoration Fund.

## Bequests Received in 1995

### **Estate of Richard P. Whitmore**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of William Lata**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Octavia Wall**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of William Ray Kirby**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Timothy Campbell Smith**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former priest of Saint Mary's and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Tom Clarey**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Robert Chase Trust**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

### **Estate of Courtney Nichol**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

**Estate of Thomas Tucker Plant**

This bequest was given to the Society to be used for the Music ministry of the parish.

## Bequests Received in 1994

**Estate of Eugene O'Brian**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

**Lily Lasham Fund**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1993

**Josephine Brown Trust**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1992

**Estate of Ruth M. Hinckley**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

**Mary Amory Turner Trust**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

**Estate of John A. McNaughton**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

## Bequests Received in 1991

**Estate of H. Lee Hennig**

This legacy was established by the bequest of our former parishioner and is to be used for the corporate purposes of the Society.

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# The Rector's Report

In preparation for writing this report I read through the weekly issues of our parish newsletter, the Angelus. I quickly realized that most of our writing through the year is related directly to worship, liturgy and mission. These emphases reflect the commitment and purposes of our common life: to glorify God, to enjoy him and to serve others in his name.

At the first meeting of the Board of Trustees this year, at the end of January, when the budget for the current year was adopted, we realized that we were \$350,000.00 short of being able to balance our expenses with income. One trustee remarked that we needed another seven million dollars in the endowment. Another said we needed to find 175 people to give \$2,000.00 each. At the same time I was scribbling on a piece of paper in front of me, "350 and \$1000.00". I know many of us worry about whether Saint Mary's is going to make it; I worry a lot. But I continue to have faith that we shall reach the "promised land" of financial stability. I don't think we need to fix Saint Mary's to get there. But I do think we need be intentional about loving her, caring for her and welcoming those whom the Lord calls to be among us.

In 2006 the parish made a special commitment to its future by undertaking several projects through what we called our Momentum Fund. As I write this report on Thursday, March 15, "Padded Wagon" movers are here to deliver furniture for the nuns' apartment in Saint Mary's Mission House. It is exciting to think that an Anglo-catholic parish in New York City again has a religious order in residence to be a part of Christ's work the local Christian community. It is such an honor for us to welcome the Community of St. John Baptist to our common life and to assist them in their vocations. It is a great joy to have Sr. Deborah Francis and Sr. Laura Katherine in residence. We look forward to welcoming the Community formally at Solemn Evensong on Sunday, April 22. I think it is fair to say that the parish and the community are open to new directions in the life that will unfold among us.

I continue daily to be grateful for the clergy and lay colleagues on the church staff, as well as the many members of the congregation who are able to be active in parish ministries. Father Beddingfield, Father Mead, and Father Smith are priests of great gifts and depth. They all have ready smiles too. Father Beddingfield has written elsewhere about mission and growth. Father Mead has written about liturgy and education. The growth and growing mission of Saint Mary's is due in no small part to the gifts they bring to us.

Our music program continues to grow also in many ways. The range and talent that our musicians bring to their work is truly extraordinary. Music Director Robert McCormick, Associate Organist Robert McDermitt, Organ Curator Larry Trupiano, our singers and all who support music here deserve our recognition and thanks.

Our church staff is not large – and few of them are here regularly on Sundays. I can assure you that every member of the staff loves this parish as much as any of us. Their loving dedication and their personal integrity are gifts that are given above and beyond the remuneration we are able to offer.

In addition to the Momentum Fund, 2006 saw the establishment of Saint Mary's Legacy Society. Under the leadership of former trustees Gloria Fitzgerald, Barbara Klett, Robert Picken, chair, and Leroy Sharer, we have put in place a new structure for assisting members and friends of the parish to make appropriate provisions for their worldly goods when they die. In the years to come, bequests will be one important component of our base as we continue to work to build up the financial structure of our parish. I don't think it escaped anyone's attention that our preacher for Solemn Evensong to inaugurate Saint Mary's Society was the Bishop of New York, the Right Reverend Mark S. Sisk. I am personally thankful to Bishop Sisk for his support and presence through the years for our efforts in this area.

The Right Reverend Richard F. Grein, XIV Bishop of New York, was with us several times across the year as celebrant and preacher, most notably on Sunday, May 21, 2006, when he celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary of consecration to the episcopate at the Solemn Mass. The Right Reverend C. Christopher Epting, ecumenical officer of the Episcopal Church, was a frequent guest as well.

Guest preachers through the year at principal services included the Very Reverend Ronald R. Clingenpeel, dean, Christ Church Cathedral, St. Louis, the Reverend Philip North, priest administrator, the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Walsingham, Norfolk, England, the Reverend James B. Lemler, director of mission of the Episcopal Church, and the Reverend Andrew Archie, rector, Church of St. Michael and St. George, St. Louis. It was a great pleasure for us to have the Reverend Andrew C. Mead, rector, Saint Thomas Church, New York City, as preacher on Holy Cross Day when Father Matthew Mead was celebrant for the Solemn Mass. Former parish seminarians the Reverend Clare Nesmith and the Reverend Dr. Ryan E. Lesh were also guest celebrants and preachers.

I have written in this week's Angelus about our parish's formal legal organization. I want to pay a special tribute today to Jon Bryant, James Dennis, Robert Loper and Robert Picken, who completed service to the parish as trustees in December. Jon Bryant and Jim Dennis were both serving as trustee for a second time, and Jim also served as treasurer. Bob Loper served as secretary of the board and Bob Picken was our vice-president. Yours truly plans to do his best to make sure that all of our officers do not rotate off again at the same time! All of these individuals and the rest of the trustees really do believe in Saint Mary's mission and future.

As we gather on the Fourth Sunday in Lent, I want to tell you that my prayer for Holy Week and for our future is that you and I will be drawn together by Christ in fresh ways for his work. Thanks to all of you for all that you do for your parish. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of this wonderful place. Thank you for calling me to be your brother in Christ.

The Reverend Stephen Gerth  
*Rector*

