

# St. Mary's Church

## Investment Committee Report for 2007

Total market value of St. Mary's endowment at DIT at year end 2007 is shown below, compared to a year ago:

	<u>12/31/2007</u>	<u>12/31/2006</u> <u>Change</u>
Unrestricted Funds	\$1,724,893	
\$1,752,770	+ \$27,867	
Restricted	<u>\$ 398,208</u>	<u>\$ 407,615</u>
+ \$9,417		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,123,101</b>	<b>\$2,160,385</b>
+ \$37,284		

The total return of the endowment fund in 2007, including interest and dividends, was approximately 4.15%. The Funds various investment returns were:

<u>Stocks</u>	<u>Return</u>	<u>Amount Invested</u>
DIT Stock Fund (4 Funds)	3.1%	\$1279000
<u>Bonds</u>		
DIT Income Fund	7.0%	\$881000

---

These performances compare to overall market indices as follows:

<u>Stocks</u>	<u>Return</u>
S&P 500 Index	5.5%
International Large Company Index	7.2%

### Bonds

Citigroup Broad Investment Grade Bond Index 7.2%

St. Mary's Endowment Fund has an investment allocation of 60% stocks and 40% bonds. The poor performance of the DIT Stock Fund was due to poor performance of one of the four funds it holds. Legg Mason Large Cap Core was on a "watch list" for replacement by the DIT going into 2007 and will now be replaced some time in 2008.

2007 marked the first year that Saint Mary's employed a "percent of market value" drawdown of 4% from the unrestricted endowment in order to finance a portion of its operations.

For 2008, the percent of market value drawdown requested by Vestry is 4.5%. The Investment Committee believes this to be a reasonable and prudent percentage to expect the endowment to support all the while continuing to grow in excess of inflation over time.

Investment Committee: Ariel Acuña, Alicia Bowman & Rick Gordon

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**  
(Data as of 1.18.08)

With enormous gratitude to each of you who have contributed to our 2008 stewardship campaign, I am pleased to report that, as of January 18, pledges have reached \$244,680, or 94% of our 2008 goal. Total pledges received to date are approximately 1% less than the total amount pledged for 2007. Since pledges represent 70% of our annual revenue, each pledge is critical to our obligation to be good stewards of St. Mary's. Thus far, 111 parishioners have responded, representing 87% of the potential pledge population. We are optimistic that outstanding pledges will meet, if not exceed, the 2008 budgeted amount.

First-time pledges and increased pledges from existing members provided \$20,201 in incremental commitments, 9% less than 2007. Forty-eight parishioners increased their pledges, and nine made first-time pledges or resumed pledging in 2008. The average pledge amount has been increased to \$2,204 from \$2,148 last year.

<b>\$ PLEDGED *</b>	<b># 2008</b>	<b># 2007</b>	<b># 2006</b>	<b># 2005</b>	<b># 2004</b>	<b># 2003</b>
\$500 or less	28	30	33	30	34	37
\$501 - \$1,000	23	23	21	21	31	32
\$1,001 – 3,000	35	39	35	35	30	38
\$3,001 - \$5,000	16	15	12	9	14	9
\$5,001 - \$9,999	5	4	4	6	5	5
\$10,000 & Over	4	4	4	1	3	3
<b>Total # Pledging</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>124</b>

*\*As reported at Annual Meetings each year; subsequent gifts not reflected.*

A loss in prior year pledges from parishioners who died, moved or are no longer able to commit at the same level created an offset of \$17,450. Aggregate losses for the past three years total \$39,965.

In addition to the pledging parishioners, I want to acknowledge Mike Stevens, our treasurer; Norman Budge, our outside accountant; our dedicated Stewardship Committee (Mary Lou Kilmon, Paul Pyzowski, Mike Stevens, Jeffrey Hughes and Elisabeth Comer); the Vestry; our stewardship reminder team (Jane and Dick Sabin, Susan Griffin and Olive Patrick); and the essential Denise Flanagan, our church secretary. Peter has again provided invaluable guidance and counsel, helping us to maintain the appropriate spiritual perspective on the fundraising process. Thank you, one and all!

It has been my pleasure and privilege to lead the stewardship activities for the past three years. I am deeply grateful for the responsiveness, commitment and generosity of each pledging member as well as those above who participated in the pledge process. You have contributed to a meaningful and important personal growth opportunity for me. Recognizing that stewardship is a process, not an event, our Stewardship Committee will continue to address all aspects of stewardship in the coming months. As always, we welcome your thoughts, ideas, any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Green  
Stewardship Chair

**St. Mary's Church**  
**Property Report for the Year 2007**  
**Given January 27, 2008**

Planned work done in 2007

1. Paint east wall of Parish Hall, front and north side of Rectory
2. Replace Rectory Garage doors and complete kitchen floor
3. Replace Rectory hot water heater
4. Trim and wire trees

Un-planned work done in 2007

5. Installed termite control system
6. Recovered from smoky event in the heating system
7. Installed an additional fire EXIT sign

Organizational

8. We are working toward an ongoing Property Committee. Participants to date are John Higgins, Andrew Hodgdon, Allan Klumpp and John Turtle. You are welcome to join us.
9. We are working toward more budget-aware maintenance decisions and maintenance-aware budget decisions

Planned work for 2008

10. Paint east wall of church and portions (as funds allow) of front
11. Continue phone system modifications
12. Increase energy efficiency
13. Perform energy audit

Submitted by:  
Tom Holtey

## 2007 Outreach Report for Annual Meeting January 27, 2008

Elisabeth Comer, outreach vestry liaison

Outreach opportunities at St. Mary's are varied and wide both in the time, talent and treasure given. Treasure for St. Mary's outreach supports over 50 non-profits and comes from 4 different sources:

- The Women of St. Mary's who raise money through a variety of activities including holiday bazaar, pot luck suppers and other activities and yields approximately \$12,000/year
- St. Mary's 175<sup>th</sup> Endowment Fund created in 1988 for outreach endowment which yields approximately \$4,800/year.
- St. Mary's Budget for outreach is \$2,000/year
- Barbara Robinson Fund- set up in memory of Barbara in order to promote education in the area of Hispanic studies and has about \$6,000 interest currently available.

(See attached lists for detail.)

There are many OPPORTUNITIES for outreach of your time and treasure at St. Mary's as well: Including ongoing OPPORTUNITIES:

- Service of dinner at Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen in Framingham – the 1st Thursday of every month from 4-7... speak to Andrea Gordon, if interested.
- Food pantry- cans basket in the back of the church
- Furniture Donations for Katrina and local neighbors in need
- Glasses for the needy- collected at back of church
- Toiletries (sample size like the ones from hotels) for Rosie's Place – collected at back of church
- Crayons for children in Ghana (speak to Gail Jessup)

Seasonal or Calendar of OPPORTUNITIES include:

- Mission Trips- (currently one to El Salvador May, 2008, Katrina territory- Biloxi, Mississippi- see Tim Green)
- Toy Drive for Rosie's Place at Christmas
- Mitten Tree at Christmas
- Attending Cathedral on the Common, where we deliver food and clothing and participate in service on The Common
- 

The Vestry is exploring ideas of one particular type of Outreach that the entire congregation can get behind to celebrate our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary which is approaching in 2013. We welcome ideas.

## MUSIC COMMITTEE REPORT 2008

In addition to providing music for the regular Sunday worship services throughout the past year, the music program presented and sponsored the following special musical events:

### March

- \*Special Music Sunday, March 11 – Adult Choir presents *Songs of Peace and Freedom*, a service of readings and music, with drummer Tom Foote, flutist Willy Ulbrich, and pianist Jonathan Yasuda

### April

- \*Palm Sunday - April 1 - Peter Lea-Cox conducts St. Mary's Choir and string quartet in a Passion Cantata by Dietrich Buxtehude
- \*Easter Sunday, April 8 – Special music for Adult and Junior Choirs with Ken Laing, trumpet
- \*Carole Lawton serves as substitute organist while Kirsten's broken wrist heals

### May

- \*Junior Choir Step-up Sunday and Babson Night performance – May 20

### June

- \*End-of-the-season choir party

### September

- \*Adult Choir retreat on Martha's Vineyard at the home of Dick and Jane Sabin

### October

- \*Bishop's Visitation - Special music by Adult Choir and Ken Laing, trumpet

### December

- \*December 2 - Swedish music by the SWEA Choir for First Sunday of Advent
- \*December 9 - Advent Lessons and Carols service with Adult and Junior Choirs, and guest instrumentalists Deborah Fabiciewicz (harp) and Andrea Bonsignore (oboe)
- \*5 p.m. Christmas Eve service with Christmas Pageant, "People, Look East," a service of Christmas Lessons and Carols presented by youth of the congregation and the Junior Choir
- \*10:45 p.m. Special Music for Christmas Eve – *Christmas Cantata* by Daniel Pinkham performed by the St. Mary's Adult Choir and brass quartet

I feel fortunate to work with many enthusiastic and talented musicians at St. Mary's. A special thanks to those who give of their time and talent to participate in the choirs. I want to recognize the Adult Choir section leaders – Rosemary Halloran, Lynn Edwards, Glen Wright and Robert Kluter – and thank them for their leadership throughout the past year. Also, thanks to the members of the Adult and Junior Choirs for their commitment to the music program. Finally, I appreciate Denise's assistance in the office and Peter's continued support of my efforts.

Kirsten Johnson, Director of Music

**The Women of St. Mary's Annual Report To the Parish For 2007**  
**January 27, 2008**

The Women of St. Mary's follows a program of prayer, education, work and giving in order to fulfill the mission of the church. Organized in 1835, the Women of St. Mary's functions under the guidance of board members who meet on an almost monthly basis from September through May. The board meetings are preceded by a service of Holy Eucharist led by the Rector. All the women, in the parish, are automatically members.

Monetary gifts and outreach are made possible by our major fund-raising event: the Foods 'n Fancies Bazaar. Lynn Farnell and Mav Tornesello were the chairmen for the Foods 'n Fancies. This year it was decided not to hold a spring Rummage Sale because it was thought the income from the sales had been too small for the amount of work that went into holding the customary rummage sales.

In May 2007, the Women were able to give a total of \$12,000.00 to 46 organizations and/ or funds as outreach through five categories of recipients: our Parish, the Diocese, the Community, the Nation and the World.

PARISH: St Mary's Discretionary Fund, Special Music Fund, Altar Guild and for folding chairs

DIOCESE: Epiphany School, Episcopal City Mission, Esperanza Academy, Margt. Coffin Prayer Book Society, Massachusetts Council of Churches, St James Educational Center in Roxbury and St. Stephen's, South End.

COMMUNITY: Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music, Bristol Lodge in Waltham, Can Do, Committee to End Elderly Homelessness, Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries, Crittenton Hastings House, Green Decade-Newton, Habitat For Humanity, Hospice of the Good Shepherd, Hurley House, Massachusetts Audubon Society, MUSE, Newton Community Farm, One Family Scholar, Newton / Wellesley Alzheimer Center, Parmenter Wayside Hospice, Wayland, Partners Home Care (Newton/Wellesley), Project Bread, REACH (Support Committee for Battered Women), Rosie's Place, Second Step, Transition House, SOAR (Retired Senior Volunteers), West River Hospice and Women's Lunch Plate.

NATION: Church Women United, Loaves and Fishes, Biloxi, Mississippi and National Council of Churches

WORLD: Church World Service, Episcopal Relief and Development, Grassroots International, The Nature Conservancy, Sister Parish in San Salvador via Paul Pyzowski, Women for Women and World Council of Churches.

A fire displaced six families living in affordable housing in St. Mary's neighborhood. They lost everything. A special donation was made to our neighbors via the New Falls Fire Fund.

The Women of St. Mary's fund raising event was strengthened by the fellowship shared through our educational and social activities. Four or five Craft Workshops were held to make

handcrafted items for the Foods 'n Fancies sale. Evening workshops took the place of the Stitch 'n Chat evenings. Other workshops were held during the day. The Kneeler program's funds are held separately from those of the Women, yet are deposited in the WOSM's account. Some of the needle-pointers working on the kneelers are Board members.

During our Lenten studies, a series of guest speakers spoke on the theme "Understanding and Respecting Nature". A representative from the MWRA spoke on our water source, protections and conservation measures. Christine Price, from Mass Audubon's Broadmoor Sanctuary spoke about vernal pools. A speaker from Mass Interfaith Power and Light discussed energy usage, Greg Maslowe from the Newton Community Farm spoke on locally grown food and Barbara Howell, amateur naturalist, read from some of her writings.

A musical program followed the 2007 February Pot Luck Supper. F.J Wheeler presented a garden program after the May Annual meeting. Our Spring Outing took us to the gardens at The Trustees of Reservations' property, Stevens Coolidge Place, followed by lunch at the Andover Inn and a tour of FYJ Wheeler's beautiful garden following that. Jean Holtey, from Needlepoint in Weston, was the speaker following the October Welcoming Dinner. She handed out needlepoint material, complete with needles, and went around the audience helping folks with their samples. The year concluded with the Christmas dinner party, Carols and a Yankee Swap. Donations of Gift Certificates for stores, accessible to the women at Rosie's Place, plus unwrapped gifts for their children, age 10 – 14, were collected at the supper. The gifts were accompanied by wrapping paper and ribbon so the mothers could wrap their own children's gifts themselves.

Again, we thank those women of St. Mary's who have helped to make this organization a successful, important, and caring component of our parish life. We especially thank Ruth Auger and Lucy Coles for their many years of service to the Board. We will miss them. We ask for the support and participation of all the women of St Mary's.

B. Howell, Recording Secretary

# Annual Report of the Christian Formation Committee 2008

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
258 Concord Street  
Newton Lower Falls, MA 02462

The 2007-2008 church school year at St. Mary's has included a number of special events and achievements, Babson night, the Pentecost birthday party, and the Church School Celebration Sunday. A census was made of our Sunday School aged youth. The series of classes is listed below. Also included are some planned programs for 2008.

- **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd I** *3-6 years old/Pre-Kindergarten through Kindergarten*
  - Taught at 10:00 AM Sunday by Susan Walko. Regularly attended by 6 children.
- **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd II** *6-9 years old/Grades 1-3*
  - Taught at 10:00 AM Sunday by Joanne Flatley. Regularly attended by 6 children.
- **Intermediate Curriculum** *9 - 11 years old/Grades 4-6 Intermediate*
  - Taught at 11:00 AM Sunday by Joanne Flatley. Regularly attended by 4 children.
- **Pre-Confirmation Class/Confirmation Class** *ages 12 and above/Grades 7 on up*
  - This class is taught by Andrew Hodgdon and Jeffrey Hughes with the help of other volunteers. Regularly attended by 4 youth.
- **Post-confirmation**
  - A majority of the Post-confirmation students have gone away to college. However, as mentioned above the Confirmation Class is being partially taught as a Post-confirmation class.
- **Adult Forum**
  - Adult classes have been presented on the following subjects.
    - Special Music – Kirsten Johnson
    - Church School Presentation
    - 3 Adult forums conducted by Rabbi Ron Weiss
    - Plus subjects on environmental issues, depression, and Episcopal Church
- **Other Activities Included**
  - Cathedral on the Common
  - Picnic at Warren School
  - Blessing of the Animals
  - Reading of Passion Narrative on Palm Sunday
  - Christmas Lessons and Carols and Pageant

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Acuña, Chairman  
January 27, 2008