



**St. Mary's Episcopal Church
2008 Annual Meeting**

January 27, 2008

2007 Highlights: Peter Chase Top Ten (I)

- We made substantial progress with St. Mary's Katrina outreach initiative.
- St. Mary's long standing relationship with its sister parish, Santa Maria Virgin in El Salvador, was twice reaffirmed.
- St. Mary's unveiled a new, user-friendly website and an expanded capability to communicate with parishioners online.
- For the first time, invitations to the newcomer's barbeque on September 23rd were extended to the entire Newton Lower Falls neighborhood.
- The involvement of our youth set new records and inspired us all during 2007.

2007 Highlights: Peter Chase Top Ten (II)

- On November 24th, St. Mary's church building survived a potentially devastating fire.
- St. Mary's hosted Spiritual Life Day for the Wellesley chapter of Church Women United on Friday, October 26th with the largest group in years attending to hear Rabbi Weiss and me reflect on interfaith and spiritual life.
- A new Coffee and Connection forum held in the parish hall occasioned discussions on the well-being and direction of our parish.
- Our new pictorial directory is nearly complete.
- The Women of St. Mary's once again raised more than \$10,000 from Foods'n Fancies.









2007 Highlights: Vestry

- Finished year within \$355,000 budget
- Working with Investment Committee, transitioned endowment support to “percent of market asset” model
- Revitalized membership recruitment and retainment initiatives

2007 Highlights: Vestry Membership

- New Program Initiatives
 - *Welcome Back BBQ*
 - *Coffee and Connections*
 - *New Website*
 - *Olan Mills Directory*
- 13 new families joined in 2007

Summary of Proposed 2008 Budget

- Proposed budget of \$375,000 (~5.5% increase)*
- Drivers for budget increases:
 - Increased utility costs
 - Fully fund estimated property
 - Reserve for hiring an additional Sunday School teacher

* 2007 CPI was 4.1%

2008 Vestry: 200th Anniversary Planning

“Encourage a parish-wide conversation on the future of St. Mary’s as we look to our third century, and to take the first steps in putting in place concrete plans to realize this future.”

2008 Vestry: Supporting Initiatives

- Property Committee: Perform energy audit
- Property Committee: Estimate costs of potential capital improvement projects
- Membership: Consolidate program initiatives from 2007
- Christian Education: Review current programs and implement any needed changes

The Reverend Alfred L. Baury Society

- New stewardship program to be implemented in 2008
- Recognition for members that include St. Mary's in their estate plans
- Self-reporting - no "paperwork" required
- Plan to honor all members with a dinner later this year

