

CROSS CURRENTS

Saint Mary's



Saint Mary's Episcopal Church in the Village of Barnstable, MA 02630

Volume xx Number 12

December 2006

DEAR FELLOW PARISHIONERS,

As we look forward to a new year as a parish family, we are once again confronted with the reality that we are not living up to our financial challenges. Following immediately on the heels of our existing deficit, we are anticipating another sizeable deficit in our 2007 budget. The facts speak for themselves. One fifth of our parish membership is not contributing financially to St. Mary's. Our median pledge is below the diocesan average. In 2005, for the first time ever, we invaded our endowment and decreased its overall value to cover our expenses. We are in the same position this year and next year looks no different. This is not sustainable.

As you are all aware, our parish has recently received a very generous gift from the estate of Edwin and Virginia Deal. After considerable prayer and discernment, the Vestry has chosen to utilize the income from that gift to assure sustained care and maintenance of our church gardens, grounds, and buildings. A portion of that income will fund our outreach programs, doing Christ's work with the needy in our community. In this way, we honor the legacy of Edwin and Virginia, who were committed to outreach, and ensure the preservation of the beautiful physical property with which we have been entrusted. The preservation our facilities being assured for the future, collectively we must now look to the present.

All of us have a stake in this. To those of us who are contributing all that they can to St. Mary's, even tithing, we want to say thank you. The time has come for the rest of us to follow your example. To those of us who are able to contribute more, we must ask what is holding us back, and when we reflect

on this prayerfully, what is our fair share in supporting St. Mary's? And to those of us who are not contributing at all, we want to ask for a change of heart. Pledging is vital to the financial health and stability of our parish family. Our goal is 100% participation in stewardship. Please pledge whatever amount you can.

Here is the simple truth. If the 50 or so households not currently contributing financially to our parish gave \$25 per week, and if the 216 households who pledged in 2006 increased their pledge by \$5 per week, we would more than erase our current \$80,000 budget deficit. Let's all think about this as we go into the holiday season. Let's put behind us our historic deficit spending so that we can offer the ministry and pursue the mission God intends for us. Let's make this coming year the one in which we turn the corner together, and make stewardship the sign and seal of our community's faith and life.

Matt Palmer, Senior Warden
Marian Ferguson, Junior Warden

Sharon Donegan, Stewardship Committee Chair

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DEAR FRIENDS



The Season of Advent comes to us in the Northern Hemisphere just as the world tilts us farthest from the sun. Light is fleeting, and the increasing shadows stir a primordial longing for peace in our restive souls. It is the end of one year, and for those of

us who live by the rhythm of the ecclesial seasons, the beginning of another. All around us, the culture works itself into a fevered frenzy of consumption. But we are asked to make this a time of watching, a time of listening, a time of waiting.

I know, in myself, these simple actions, watching, listening, waiting require some discipline. I am too easily distracted, too quick to speak and act, too much caught up in the fury of mindless preparation. I wonder what it will take to bring me back to my senses, to make this a time of coming into full possession of my soul.

Will it be noticing the last leaves making their descent to blanket the sleeping ground? Or seeing the first light as it crests past the Solstice to turn back the dark? Will it be listening to waves, or watching the buffleheads cavort? Will it be in singing the achingly beautiful songs this season brings? Will it be lifting my eyes and my heart to behold the mystery and wonder of Incarnation?

And for you, my friends, what will this Advent have in store? My hope and prayer is that whatever it is, it will give to you true peace and lasting joy and the abiding sense that Divine Love has you in its firm embrace.

+++++++

After two years of having Jeannette away as a student at Harvard Divinity School, it has been wonderful to have her graduated, and for us to be living together on the Cape. Jeannette has been

developing a private practice in psychotherapy and spiritual direction this fall, and I am delighted that, as a part of this, she is able to offer us opportunities in group work focusing personal and spiritual growth, starting in January. These are detailed in this issue of Cross Currents.

Faithfully,
Steve+

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE



A brief word about Christmas services at St. Mary's. With Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday this year, our service schedule will be as follows (please note we will not hold an 8:00 a.m. service on Christmas Eve):

- Sat., Dec. 23rd, 5:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist
- Sun., Dec. 24th, 10:00 a.m., The Christmas Pageant with Holy Eucharist
- Sun., Dec. 24th, 7:00 p.m., Festival Eucharist with Choirs and Oboist
- Sun., Dec. 24th, 11:00 p.m., Festival Eucharist with Choirs and Celtic Harp
- Mon., Dec. 25th, 10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist

*Advent Peace and Blessings
to you all!*

ADVENT

Advent begins on December 3. Advent is a wonderful season in our church year, a season that encourages us to take the time to prepare for the birth of Jesus that we will celebrate at Christmas. In our hectic and material world, it is all too easy to let the craziness of Christmas preparations completely eclipse Advent. This year three special events at Saint Mary's will help you prepare for the coming—the advent—of the Christ Child.

On **Sunday, December 3** there will be an **Advent Wreath Workshop** in the Parish Hall following the 10:00 service. People of all ages are encouraged to come make an Advent wreath to take home. Advent wreaths are a wonderful way to focus each day on preparing for what is to come. Materials are provided and a donation is requested to help cover material costs.

On **Sunday, December 12** at 4:00 pm the choir will present its annual **Service of Lessons and Carols**. This candle lit service of scripture readings and music provides a wonderful respite from the hustle and bustle that seems to intrude into our lives.

On **Tuesday, December 12** we will gather at 6:00 pm for a **potluck dinner and Jesse Tree celebration**. A Jesse Tree is decorated with ornaments that depict Old Testament symbols that are related to the coming of Jesus. We'll make ornaments and trim the Jesse Tree and finish with Compline. Please sign up in the Sun Room.

Please consider observing Advent by joining us for these events.



NOTE FROM KRIS



Liturgy is a word that we use a lot around Saint Mary's. *Liturgy* comes from two Greek words, *laos* which connotes people, and *ergon* which connotes work. Thus *liturgy* literally means "work of the people."

We use this word to refer to what we do during our services, the forms of worship outlined for us in the Book of Common Prayer and the way we enact those forms as we come together before God.

Although our liturgy is structured for us in the prayer book, there are many ways to enact that liturgy. In the Episcopal Church you sometimes hear a distinction made between "High Church" parishes which embrace a more "catholic" form of worship—the use of incense and perhaps sanctus bells, more elaborate ritual and vestments—and "Low Church" parishes which tend to be more spartan in their look and feel. In between are the "Broad Church" parishes, those who draw from both high and low church traditions and it is here where Saint Mary's falls. We wear vestments, use candles, sing parts of our service on occasion; some of us cross ourselves at certain points in the service, some of us bow or genuflect at other times. Some of us stand during the Eucharistic prayers and some of us kneel. Some of our services use Elizabethan language and others employ more contemporary language and metaphor. Saint Mary's worship represents the diversity of liturgical practice that is characteristic of the Episcopal Church.

The clergy and staff and a dedicated cadre of parishioners who are part of the Liturgy Committee and the Liturgical Guilds (ushers, lectors, altar guild, acolytes) expend considerable time and energy in planning and carrying out the liturgy each week. Effort is made to ensure that things flow smoothly, that the congregation is involved, that an atmosphere conducive to worship is procan

do thing the “correct” or “proper” way but rather because liturgy helps us to express ourselves before God. Liturgy is a means to glorify God, not an end in itself. It is a vehicle which allows us to come together as a community, to worship and to celebrate the Eucharist together. It is an important part of what knits us together as the Body of Christ.

During Advent in the Adult Forum we will be exploring the central part of our liturgy, the Eucharist. On December 3 and December 10 we will meet following the 10:00 service to talk about the history of our celebration of the Eucharist and the customs we follow in our celebration of it. On December 17, Advent 3, there will be an Instructed Eucharist at the 10:00 service. In lieu of a sermon we will pause at several points during this service to talk about what we are doing and why.

Elsewhere in this issue is a glossary of liturgical terms. Of course, whole volumes have been written defining such terms; what is provided here is just a primer to help us in our quest to speak a common language. Over the coming months I hope that we can continue to explore our liturgy and live into the richness it provides for us..

Blessings

Krista

Liturgical Notes

Saint Mary’s Liturgy Committee meets monthly to discuss matter pertaining to our weekly services. This committee is headed by Russ Fales and is comprised of the heads of the Liturgical Guilds (Jim Phillips, Eucharistic Ministers; Connie Phillips, Altar Guild; Pete Gouger, Ushers; Kris Lewis, Acolytes), Minister of Music Joan Kirchner, Vestry member Ellen Culver, and the clergy. The Liturgy Committee strives to ensure that our liturgy meets the varied spiritual and aesthetic needs of the congregation and is in accord with highest traditions of the Episcopal Church.

At its last meeting, the committee discussed how we might best provide the congregation with

liturgies that express the fullest breadth of our Prayer Book tradition. To that end, the committee decided to continue using Morning Prayer Rite II at the 10:00 am service on the fourth Sunday of the month, and on fifth Sundays to use Holy Eucharist Rite I. We will continue with the tradition of rotating Eucharistic prayers by season, and to use contemporary language liturgies at the Saturday 5:00 pm service.

The Liturgy Committee meets on the first Saturday of the month* at 8:30 am in the Saint James Room. Interested parishioners are always welcome to join in.

**Please note the time change for the December meeting—December 9 at 8:00 am.*

A Primer of Liturgical Terms—Vessels and Linens Used for Holy Eucharist

Chalice—the cup used for the blessing and sharing of the wine at the eucharist. Traditionally chalices have been made from a precious metal such as silver or gold, but they may also be made of wood, pottery, or glass.

Paten—the plate on which the bread consecrated and from which it is distributed to the people.

Ciborium—a container or box with a lid that is used to hold the wafer bread used at the eucharist. At Saint Mary’s, the term is reserved for the container that holds the reserve sacrament—consecrated wafer kept in the tabernacle. The container holding the unconsecrated wafers is simply called the “bread box.”

Cruet—a vessel of glass or precious metal used to hold the wine and water used in the eucharist.

Lavabo bowl—bowl used for the ceremonial washing of the celebrant’s hands before the eucharist.

Fair linen—a long white cloth that covers the top of the altar. It typically hangs down some distance over the ends of the altar. The BCP directs that at the eucharist the altar “is spread with a clean white cloth during the celebration” (p. 406).

Corporal—a square of white linen, spread on the altar during the preparation of the altar, on which the bread and wine are placed. The term is from the Latin corpus, “body.”

Purificator—a small square of white linen, usually with an embroidered cross and folded in thirds, used to wipe the chalice after use at the eucharist.

Pall—a square, stiffened white linen cloth that is used to cover the chalice at the eucharist. There may be a design on the side of the pall that does not touch the chalice.



MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S

There are many reasons why people love the holiday season. In my preferences, a major reason is because singing becomes more popular.

Christmas is the only time our "local" classical station broadcasts vocal music (which is why the rest of the year I tend to listen to WGBH!). It's the only time modern

Americans ever gather around the piano, wander out into their neighborhoods to carol, and even attend church, primarily for the purpose of singing Christmas carols. People who set up elaborate displays in their front yards sometimes broadcast a suitable soundtrack, and though I'm sure there are exceptions; the police receive far fewer complaints from neighbors than if these overactive decorators were having a loud party in July. It becomes acceptable to appreciate and even participate in the music of the season. So our modern, technology-obsessed culture, without knowing it, is united to centuries of singers before us.

The word carol once meant to dance in a ring, and this association with dance (requiring a lively beat) is one characteristic which made the carol the beginning of modern music, distinguishing carols from the flowing plainchant melodies of the church. The Oxford Book of Carols sums it up in this way, "the typical carol gives voice to the common emotions of healthy people in language that can be understood and music that can be shared by all." Though there are some carols which are secular, the majority are religious and "they dance because they are so Christian." Though we associate carols only with the celebration of Christmas, there are carols for every season, and they are refreshing, handy choir anthems to pull out all year.


Our annual celebration of Advent Lessons and Carols on December 10 celebrates the origin of carols, after the Dark Ages when dancing became acceptable and a spirit of humanism began to filter through society. Up to that point communal singing was not encouraged in church the people milled about the naves of the great cathedrals doing business and only paid attention at the elevation of the host at communion (thus the beginning of organ pieces known as "elevations" and the use of Sanctus bells, to call the masses away from their chatter). Some of the music at this year's service will be new to most ears, some well beloved. Some hearken back to what was the common language of the church and the educated, Latin, and some use the vernacular of their original German & English in our program. There are also examples of a hybrid form, called a macaronic carol, where lines of Latin from the well-known parts of the mass were interspersed with the vernacular, the best known example being "In dulci jubilo" (#107 in our hymnal; "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice." There are several other examples of carols from this period in modern hymnals which we will be singing, so come prepared to join in!

The choir will be joined by Thom Dutton on medieval harp, recorders and crumhorns from my Renaissance group Oyez! And a few hand bells. We invite you to take a respite from the whirlwind of shopping and decorating to spend an hour with us in celebration of the season.

Joan Kirchner





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>8am – 9am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10am – 11am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11:15am - 12:30pm Advent Wreath Workshop 11:15am – 11:45am Community Choir in Church 11:15am – 12:15pm Adult Forum - Library</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>9am – 10:30pm ECW Board Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>7am – 9am Men’s Breakfast</p>	<p>10am – 11am Holy & Healing Service 11am – 1pm EWC with Guest Speaker 1pm – 2pm Staff Meeting 3:30pm – 4:30 pm Heatherwood 7pm – 8:30 pm Adult Forum</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>8am – 9am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10am – 11am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11am – 12 pm Outreach Committee 11:15am – 11:45am Community Choir 11:15am – 12:15pm Adult Forum - Library 4pm – 5:30pm Advent Lessons & Carols 4:30pm - 7:30pm Rite 13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>No Events</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>9:15am – 9:30am Newsletter Deadline 10:30am – 12pm Prayer Group 6pm - 8pm Jesse Tree</p>	<p>10am – 11am Holy & Healing 1pm – 2pm Staff Meeting 3pm – 4pm Finance Meeting 7pm – 8:30pm Adult Forum</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>8am – 9am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10am – 11am Holy Eucharist, Rite II/ Instructed 11:15am – 11:45am Community Choir 4:30pm – 7:30pm J2A</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>No Events</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>7am – 9am Men’s Breakfast</p>	<p>10am – 11am Holy & Healing 1pm – 2pm Staff Meeting 7pm - 8:30pm Adult Forum 7pm - 9pm Vestry</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>10am – 11am Christmas Pageant/ HE Rite II 24 7pm – 8:30pm Christmas Eve Service/HE Rite II 11pm – 12pm Christmas Eve Service/HE Rite II 5:30pm – 7pm J2A</p>  </div>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 10am – 11am Christmas Service/HE Rite II</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>Boxing Day – OFFICE CLOSED Linda Keedwell – Vacation Day</p>	<p>Linda Keedwell – Vacation Day 6pm – 6am Men’s Breakfast Overnight</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>8am – 9am HE, Rite I 10am – 11am HE Rite I</p>			



day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2
		All Day Holly Fair – Set up	9am – 2pm Holly Fair 8:30am - 3pm Safe Church Training- Holy Spirit Church 5pm – 6pm Holy Eucharist
8	7	8	9
Eucharist program Meeting Eucharist at ult Choir	7:30am – 9am Holy Eucharist & Breakfast Group 5:30pm – 6:30pm Contemplative Prayer – HS, Orleans 5:30pm – 8:30pm Diocesan Council 7pm – 8pm Book Group 7pm – 9pm AA Meeting	10:30 – 12:30pm Altar Guild Training	8am – 9am Liturgy meeting 9am – 4pm Eucharistic Visitor Training 10am - 12pm Choir Rehearsal in Church 5pm – 6pm Holy Eucharist 8am – 9am Liturgy Committee Meeting
13	14	15	16
y Eucharist Meeting & Budget ult Choir	7:30am – 9am Holy Eucharist & Breakfast Group 9:30am – 1:30pm Cape Cod Auxiliary Hospital 7pm - 9pm AA Meeting 7pm – 9pm Buildings & Grounds Committee	10:30am – 12pm Altar Guild Meeting	9am – 10:30am Pageant Rehearsal 5pm – 6pm Holy Eucharist
20	21	22	23
Eucharist Meeting ult Choir y Meeting	7:30am - 9am Holy Eucharist & Breakfast Group 7pm – 9pm AA Meeting	No Events	9am – 10am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 5pm – 6pm Holy Eucharist
27	28	29	30
vacation Day Hospitality	Linda Keedwell – Vacation Day 7:30am -9am Holy Eucharist & Breakfast Group 7pm – 9pm AA Meeting	Linda Keedwell – Vacation Day	5pm - 6pm Holy Eucharist



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettias for Christmas

If you would like to give a poinsettia in memory or thanksgiving for a loved one, or simply to grace our space at Christmas, please send donations to the Church office no later than December 19. Please be sure to include the name(s) you would like included in the bulletin.

Book Club

Thursday, December 7th is the next meeting to be held in The St. James Room at 7:00pm

The book to be discussed is *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion. Sara Magruder will be leading the discussion.

Thursday, January 4th will be the first meeting for 2007 at 7:00pm in the St. James Room.

The book we will be discussing is *Death Be Not Proud* by John Gunther. Stephen Jones will be leading the discussion.

Gifts for the Animals

The Animal Ministry Group is sponsoring a Present for a Shelter Pet toy drive from now until Dec. 22. We welcome new or gently-used toys with a special request for rubber bones and toys that are able to stand a good deal of wear and tear. These toys are used for training and/or stress relief and there's a lot of both! There will be a box in the sunroom for donations. If there are any questions call or email Amy Crocker 385-6630/crocams@aol.com

Vestry Notes

The vestry met on Wed, Nov. 16th to review progress of the current pledge drive, the parish

nurse initiative, the painting and carpeting of the office area. The bulk of the meeting addressed the budget deficit. This year the deficit is likely to be about \$60,000. While this is less than expected, it is not a path we can sustain. Can we present to the parish yet another deficit budget in 2007? Is there a way to increase pledge income? Will we need to cut program or reduce staff? Do we need additional initiatives to educate the parish on the expectation of pledging as a responsibility Episcopal church membership? We will actively seek ideas from members of the parish, consider a membership drive, and pray that those who have not yet pledged will do so.

Note From Jeannette Hanlon

Having graduated from Harvard Divinity School in June, I am now happily ensconced in Mashpee and I am grateful to be more regularly in your midst. I am presently fulfilling a lifetime desire to practice as a psychotherapist and spiritual director. My combined degrees and life experience allow me to draw from the myriad schools of thought and teachers in each arena as I practice in both. At this moment, I am particularly excited about offering group spiritual direction, and groups in self-leadership using the Internal Family Systems model. Throughout 2007, starting January 3, I will be offering workshops in both these areas. Furthermore, I am now practicing as a psychotherapist, consultant, coach and spiritual director. Please consider availing yourself of these opportunities and pass this information on to your friends and colleagues.

Faithfully,
Jeannette Hanlon, LICSW, M.Div.

The following opportunities will be facilitated by Jeannette Hanlon, LICSW, M.Div. Contact her at: selfinsight@comcast.net or 508-477-5704.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT)

Claiming Self-Leadership in Our Lives

Do you sometimes feel like your inner light gets clouded by parts of your self that undermine you? In this eight week workshop, you'll be able to tease out the various parts of yourself and transform those that no longer serve you. You'll develop more kinship with your soul and develop a greater capacity for calmness, curiosity, clarity, compassion, confidence, creativity, courage, and connectedness.

This workshop will be based on the Internal Family Systems model. For further information, go to selfleadership.org and under "about" click on "Internal Family Systems Model."

It will take place in Mashpee, Massachusetts, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Friday, January 5 through Friday, February 23. Cost: 23.00 per session. Pre-registration is required.

Group Spiritual Direction

Spiritual Direction will give you support to more fully notice and claim God's workings in your life even as you more keenly seek God through your prayer and meditation. Join with others committed to facing the Holy with greater intentionality.

This group will meet Wednesday afternoons, at a time to be determined by its members, every other week, from January 3 through April 25. Meetings will be held at St. Mary's. Cost: 23:00 per session. Pre-registration is required.

We will be modeling our experience after Shalem Institute's Group Spiritual Direction program. Under "publications" at www.shalem.org, see "Group Spiritual Direction".

If this schedule doesn't work for you, find six or more people who would like to join you either of the above offerings and I will work with you to schedule the group at a time and location convenient to your Cape/South Shore community.

Pluses and Minuses

Finance and Budget Review Committee's report
For the eleven month period January 1, 2006 to October 31, 2006

MINUS: PLEDGE INCOME was \$6,448.50 in AR-REARS for the eleven month period.

PLUS: Unpledged Income was \$72.20 more than budgeted.

PLUS: \$3420.50 of the 2005 pledge arrearages have been received which is \$1,163.50 more than Budgeted.

PLUS: Open Plate Offerings were \$1,474.21 more than budgeted.

MINUS: Gifts and Special Offerings were \$4,045.19 less for this period.

PLUS: ECW contributed \$1,000 for the Church School Youth Program.

PLUS: ** Investment Income of \$142,260.39 was used for Operating Expenses.

PLUS: The Diocesan Assessment of \$45,558.40 was paid up to date.

PLUS: Actual Expenditures in several categories were slightly less than budgeted.

MINUS: "THE BOTTOM LINE" – NET DEFICIT OF (\$30,967.90)

[Total Income \$381,852.71 – Total Expenses \$412,820.61]

—————HOWEVER—————

Without the appropriation of \$142,260.39 of Investment Income the Operating Fund "Bottom Line" is a DEFICIT OF \$173,228.29.

PLUS: The Virginia M. Deal Trust fund of \$2,084,609.00 was received on September 8th at A.G. Edward & Son's, Inc. \$1,784,609.00 will be entitled "Edwin M. and Virginia M Deal Legacy Fund" and \$300,000 as St. Mary's Charities-Deal Outreach Fund. Thus the major portion of the Earned Income from this fund will be used of the cost of the upkeep of the Church properties and the balance will be used for Outreach. NONE will be used for ordinary Operating Expenses.

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!
AND
"PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW"*

Gertrude P. Waters, Chair



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

YOUTH FORMATION

Please note the following time changes to the Youth Group schedules:

Rite 13 will meet earlier from 4:30pm - 7:30pm on December 10 for a movie showing and discussion period afterwards.

J2A will meet at their regular time (5:30 - 7:30pm) on December 3 but will meet from 4:30pm - 7:30pm on December 17, also for a movie and discussion.

Both groups will take December 24 and 31 off for the holidays. Rite 13 will resume meeting first, on January 7.

Thank you to all the parents who have provided a meal and beverage this past fall.

Outreach Opportunity for All - 2007 calendars needed for Seafarers

Youth and Church School are working on a joint outreach program outlined in Christian Education News from Cathedral Crossing Resource Center. We can feel a particular connection to this because of where we live. The Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey is collecting and distributing 2007 calendars to seafarers. Episcopalians are encouraged to save 2007 calendars they receive in the mail or from local businesses. We all seem to get extra ones, don't we? The Institute will collect these calendars—from pocket to wall size—from now until the end of January 2007. "The monotony of life at sea can become unbearable. It is so easy for a seafarer to lose track of time of their connection to those of us on land. A calendar helps to link them to events at home and enables them to create a diary of their travels," said the Rev. Andy Moore, director of SCI's International Seafarers' Church in Port Newark (*reprinted from November newsletter*). A collection box will be placed in the sunroom

through December and until the beginning of January for those extra calendars that you may receive this year. We will also be distributing some to local fishermen and mariners out of the Cape.

In addition to the calendar collection, our Church School is making Christmas and Easter cards for seafarers and America's river mariners that will be distributed by chaplains and volunteers of the Seamen's Church Institute of New York & New Jersey. There are also more ways to help listed on the website, www.seamenschurch.org.

Thank you to all our Nursery and Classroom Helpers and Teachers for a wonderfully lively fall. In the coming months we will share the Advent and Mystery of Christmas Godly Play Stories. We'll be there for the children each Sunday morning at 9:45am.

A few calendar items:

Cape and Islands Deanery Safe Church Training on Dec. 2 in Orleans.

Advent Potluck Supper on Tues., Dec. 12, 6 to 8 pm. Jesse Tree Decorating!!

Sign up for the Pageant will take place on Dec. 3 during the Advent Wreath Workshop. Rehearsal will be on Dec. 16th, 9:00 to 10:30 am. The Christmas Eve Pageant will take place during the 10:00 am Service.

ADULT FORMATION

The Adult Forum will return in Advent with a three week series on the Eucharist, beginning December 3. On the first two Sundays of Advent we will explore the origins of our Eucharistic celebration and the theology underlying our Eucharistic liturgy, meeting following the 10 am service in the Parish Hall. The series will culminate with an instructed Eucharist at the 10 am service on Advent 3, December 17.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)



HOLLY FAIR

Since the first Saturday in December is the 2nd this year, you no doubt have already attended the 2006 Holly Fair. As I write this column, the excitement is growing, and I anticipate that the report written for the January issue will be filled with glowing news of the Fair's success. We plan on setting up a table in the parish hall once again on Sunday morning, filled with items remaining from the fair. This has proved quite successful in the previous 2 yrs, as everyone is not able to attend on the actual Fair date.

*Peace and Joy to all during Advent preparation,
and the Holy Christmas Season.*

*JOY TO THE WORLD, THE LORD HAS
COME
LET EARTH RECEIVE HER KING*

DECEMBER MEETING

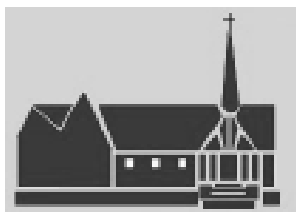
Wednesday, December 13th the ECW will have their annual Christmas Luncheon and Yankee Swap. The festivities will begin at 11:15 with the Yankee Swap followed by lunch at Noon. We remind you that all the women of St. Mary's are members of the ECW, and we cordially invite you to join us for lunch (ECW expense), fun and entertainment. The luncheon, catered by the Barn Company of Yarmouth Port, will be your choice, Crab Cakes or chicken, each served with salad, dessert and coffee. **IMPORTANT!!!** To give us a correct count, we ask that you sign up with your name and choice before Monday, December 11th. If you plan on participating in the Yankee Swap, please bring a wrapped gift (unmarked) with a value of no more than \$5.00. An exciting, joyful musical program presented by the choir from the Sturgis Charter School will be performed for your listening pleasure.

WON'T YOU PLEASE JOIN US?

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Georgann Ramage	1	Hannah Howes	12	Barbara Brown	28
Sarah Greene	1	Philip Buddington	14	Walter Gadkowski	28
Caryl Steward	2	Kalie Crocker	14	Jean Lonsdale	28
Ruth Welsh	4	Jennifer Visco	15	Steven Oney	28
Kris Lewis	4	Robert Byrom	15	Dorothy Horton	29
Stacey Moran	4	Schuyler McMahon	15	David Aittaniemi	29
Heather Warner	5	Estelle Trzcinski	16	Sarah Colwell	29
Callie Atkins	5	David E. Allen	16	Peter Chant	30
Richard Lopes	6	Robert Frazee	16		
David Condon	6	Newell Bearse	17		
Barbara Chesnut	6	Patricia Bergfors	18	Betty-Lou Chant	8
Sami Rabideau	6	Samantha Steward	18	Peter Chant	
Dorothy Pettibone	7	Richard Crocker	19	Margaret Moran	11
Michael Hersey	7	Nicholas Orcutt	19	Jack Moran	
Aaron Langlais	7	Betty-Lou Chant	20	Phyllis Davis	14
Richard Marchand	8	Katherine Oney	20	Waters Davis, III	
Ed Trzcinski	10	Sally Tingley	21	Elizabeth Moran	14
Constance Flood	10	Eileen Lonsdale	23	Thomas Moran	
Christopher Colbert	11	Mary Cox	24	Becky McClenahan	20
Susan Jilson	12	Lucile White	26	Bob McClenahan	
Randall Chase	12	Leslyn Thorne	26	Betsy Byrom	28
David Wood	12	Grace Cotoia	26	Bob Byrom	
Raymond Cericola	12	David Leary	27		

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