



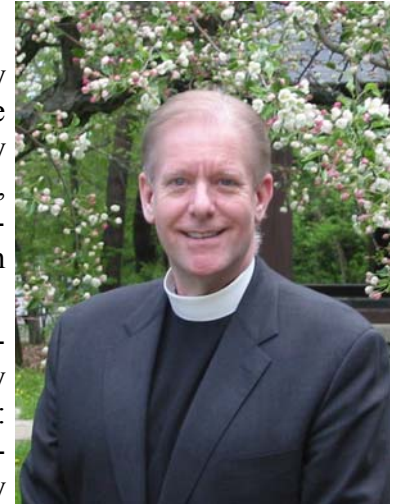
Rector's Reflections: Renewal, Rebirth, and Resurrection.

Dear members of the S. Mary's family, near and far:

We have just experienced one of the most profoundly-affecting Holy Week and Easter journeys that I can recall. So many people offered their time and talent in areas both spiritual and eminently practical. Between Saturday evening's Great Vigil of Easter and the two Sunday morning Easter liturgies, 550 people of all ages gathered to proclaim Christ risen. As I said in my sermon of April 19th, the real message of Easter is not that Christ *has* been raised—a one-time event, albeit miraculous—but that Christ *is* risen.

And Christ is risen at Saint Mary's. So much is taking place in our community that you can feel how we are rising to new life. This is true in many areas, but perhaps none as marked as our increasing commitment to outreach: with financial support to many worthy and deserving programs and institutions, but also with hands-on involvement. as a community, we are clearly engaging ourselves, in the word of our Baptismal Covenant, to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves."

Another opportunity to serve our neighbors is now on the horizon. Beginning on Friday, May 22nd,



(See Rector - continued on page 4)

A Young Parishioner Practices his Faith

Patrick Diamond works to raise awareness of the world's challenges.

Patrick Diamond has long demonstrated a sense of greater purpose. A committed member of St. Mary's congregation and Outreach Committee, he has also spent his last four years at Cheverus working for social justice issues. His efforts have been rewarded: On April 13, he was recognized as one of six to receive the "Teens Who Care" award.



The April 8 edition of the Portland Press Herald enumerated his accomplishments during the last four years: Patrick has led initiatives to raise awareness about global poverty through the Haiti Solidarity Club's Web site. He also created an eBay store to raise money for Cheverus' sister school in Haiti. During Fair Trade Awareness month in October, Patrick also educated the students, staff and faculty about "fair trade" products and unfair trade policies that cripple developing countries. Patrick left for the Dominican Republic on April 17th for a week with a group of 10 students to work with disabled children in an orphanage.

This fall, Patrick plans to attend Loyola College in Maryland for economics or global studies. He said he wants to gain a greater understanding of the problems that challenge the world in order to help alleviate them and eventually hopes to work for an organization that embraces a social justice mission.

From the Deacon's Corner:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month I wrote to you about what it was like to be away for two months this winter and what it was like to come home to our life on Turtle Cove in Raymond and to S. Mary's. This time I want to tell you a little about coming "home" to the Maine Correctional Center. I had been visiting there once a week before we went to Florida, and I have very happily resumed that routine. When I arrive on Thursday mornings my brother deacon, Chaplain Aaron Perkins, is going through the requests he receives from the inmates for visits. Often the requests are for a Bible or a rosary. Aaron selects requests he wants me to follow up on and we set off for the "pods" which is a bit of a walk from the chaplain's office located in the chapel.

I have been visiting on B-pod where both men and women are housed, and they spend a good part of their day locked in their rooms. They are usually housed two to a room and, of course, have nothing to say about who their roommate is and that, in itself, can create problems. The Corrections officer in the central control area will call each inmate I ask to see out of the housing area into a hallway where there is a small visiting room, and that is where I meet and talk with the inmates who need pastoral care. So many of them are struggling, at first, with getting off drugs and/or alcohol. They are lonely and frightened, angry, and even in shock about the reality of the environment in which they find themselves. I have been visiting at MCC for over two years and have yet to have anyone tell me they don't belong there, but knowing that doesn't make it easier.

Last week I was there when a small group of male inmates was preparing to get together for a Native American smudging ceremony. They were in the chapel with their leader who is a volunteer from "the outside" who comes to be with them once a month. Three of the participants are men I have gotten to know who came to chapel services when I served as deacon, so they very generously invited me to join them for the ceremony. There is a gazebo outside the building where they meet and they have their smudging ceremony and prayer accompanied by a Native American flute and large rattle. They honor their culture and find great comfort in the spiritual ritual of the ceremony, and I felt honored to have been invited to join them.

Next week I will begin co-facilitating a grief group for women in the "pods" with a social worker who is employed at the Correctional Center. I also have hope that there may be another opportunity to offer "Walking the Mourner's Path" again to inmates in the Women's Center. I am so grateful to God for leading me to ministry at the Correctional Center. I find myself challenged and touched every time I have a conversation with an inmate. I find God there in amazing and wonderful ways. I ask for your prayers as I continue in ministry there. Your prayers will bless me to be a blessing each time I go.

In His Love, Deacon Christine



Scripture Readings May 2009 - Year B - RCL

May 3, 2009, Fourth Sunday of Easter

Act 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

May 10, 2009 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:24-30
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 17 2009, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 21, 2009, Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

May 24, 2009, Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17,21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 31, Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:25-35, 37b
Romans 8:22-28
John 15:26-27,16:4b-15

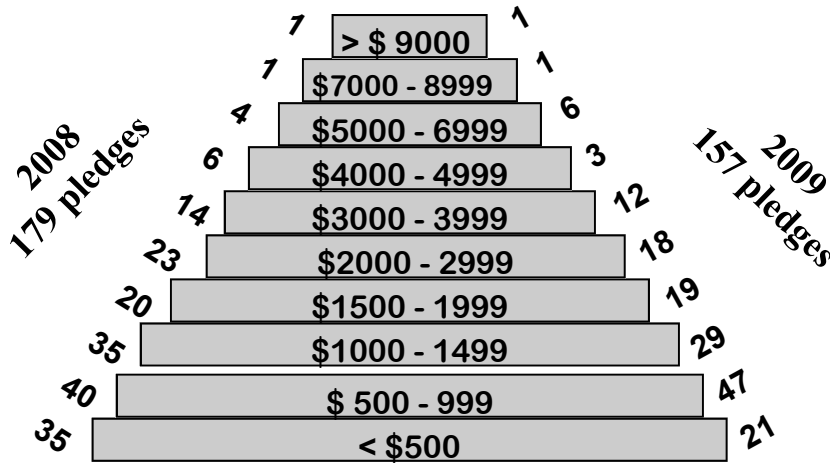
Have you taken your steps?

By Tom Donaldson, Stewardship Chairman

First, I want to thank all of you who helped with a fine effort in these difficult times in getting our pledge totals to \$240,365 so far this year. Everyone has made a wonderful effort to make this campaign a success. We have increased the number of parishioner and families of the parish. We have 16 new families who have begun to pledge to insure the future of this parish.

Last year, we had a total of 179 families who pledges a total of \$266,832. So far this year, as the graph shows, we have a total of 157 pledges for 2009 totaling \$240,365. We still have about 15 families who have not yet pledged in 2009. To those folks, I hope you will all do what you can to bring this campaign to a close before June 30th.

The theme of the graph is “WILL YOU STEP UP?” Many of you have increased your pledge. The vestry and I hope everyone who has not yet pledged will take the current rays of hope in the economic recovery and be stimulated to join us in our support of this wonderful parish.



Vestry Highlights

Due to Easter and Father James’ well-deserved mini-vacation, the April Vestry meeting was held on April 29, 2009. Highlights of this meeting will be reported in the June AVE.



CINEMA PARADISO

Cinema Nite at S. Mary’s

Wednesday, May 13, 2009, 7pm

FREE Admission Refreshments available for donation

The Feature of the Evening will be “The Eagle Has Landed”

(1976) Oberst Steiner (Michael Caine), a German parachute unit commander, is sent to England on a covert mission to kidnap Prime Minister Winston Churchill and bring him to Berlin. The seemingly impossible assignment becomes more and more feasible as the mission grows nearer with Steiner and his men arriving in England to a very real possibility of success. (131 minutes)

Come enjoy a movie, coffee, tea and hot fudge sundaes!

Notes from the Choir Loft

by Bruce Fithian



This past period of Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter was very powerful, and the choir really enjoyed being part of this journey. A lot of time and effort went in to preparing the music, but it was truly undertaken with great joy, even though many times the music underlined very difficult emotions such as in Holy Week. The choir will continue to offer some wonderful anthems through Trinity Sunday, such as Mendelssohn's greatly loved 'He watching over Israel' and Evertt Titcomb's 'Behold Now, Praise the Lord'.

The Saint Mary Schola will offer a spring concert of delightful music on Sunday May 17th at 3 pm. The concert is entitled 'Ecco la primavera' which means 'here comes spring!' I know we all are looking forward to warmer springtime days and new flowers. Our concert will feature some Medieval music for the season ('Sumer is icumen in', Landini's 'Ecco la primavera' and Dufay's 'Ce moys de may'), as well as solo and ensemble madrigals by the great early baroque master, Claudio Monteverdi and Gesualdo. This concert will also present the addition of two violins, recorder and flute in such works as a beautiful church trio sonata by Corelli. Since this year we are celebrating the 250 anniversary of the birth of Henry Purcell, we are looking forward to presenting excerpts from his masque, 'King Arthur', which includes foot-tapping hornpipes, passacaglias and famous songs such as 'Fairest Isles'. The admission is \$20 at the door; the beautiful May weather, however, is free.

We, in the Schola, love to make music together and are so fortunate that the Saint Mary community has welcomed us as part of our family.

(Rector - continued from page 1)

and on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, Saint Mary's is hosting a "Souper Supper", a community meal, free of charge, from 5-7 in the evening. We gather in the auditorium for a simple dinner: a hearty soup (or occasionally, casseroles), rolls, dessert, and beverage. All are welcome to come, "eat and be satisfied", and we are hoping that by offering even two suppers a month, we may be able to assist people in making ends meet in these challenging economic times.

We will be publicizing our *Souper Suppers* through various venues; if you would like to post some flyers informing the public about these community suppers, they will be available in the parish office. We also will be counting on our stalwart parishioners to assist with the prep work, set up, serving and clean-up—we'll need approximately 12 volunteers for each dinner. You can also help by contributing desserts: cookies, brownies, cupcakes are all most welcome.

The idea of our "Souper Supper" is the brain-child of our own Jennifer Gregg; I am so grateful for her ability to "think outside the box", as I am grateful for the enthusiasm for this project which is already snowballing. What a great way to meet new people, make new friends, and build on our growing reputation for being a community that cares, looking beyond our walls to engage in the work and ministry that Christ would have us do.

"I was hungry, and you gave me food", Jesus tells his disciples at the end of Matthew's gospel; "When, Lord, did we feed *you*?" "Whenever you fed one of my sisters and brothers, you did feed me." Many people in our community are hungry—for food, for fellowship, and for caring hands and hearts. How wonderful it is that we can provide those very things!

James +

Highlights from Buildings & Grounds

by Jim Stoddard



Spring has sprung, the grass has riz,
I wonder where the birdies is?

B&G committee had our meeting last month to draw up a list of projects for the summer. They entail work (repair and maintenance) to be done in and around the church, parish house and rectory.

The torrential rains just before Easter caused minor flooding in the church basement due to a malfunctioning sump pump. A new pump was purchased and the problem was resolved.

I wish to thank, in advance, all who participate in the Spring Cleanup on May 2 to help the campus look glorious. There is still work to be done with the upcoming Tag Sale on May 16. If anyone could help with setup and dismantling of tables, please e-mail me at jbstod@myfairpoint.net.

Lastly, we are working now to negotiate the best possible contract terms for oil delivery for winter 2009/10. I will keep you posted. Until next month, Jim



Join Your Fellow Parishioners at the Falmouth Walk for Habitat for Humanity

Saturday, May 9

7-9am Pancake Breakfast 
7:30-10:30am Registration

Walk 4 miles--to Foreside Community Church and Back
Can't Walk? Consider sponsoring a St. Mary's Walker

www.firstgiving.com/stmarysepiscopalchurch

www.firstgiving.comstmarysyouthgroup

to make a difference in someone's life!





Saint Mary's reaches out - Near and Far

Souper Supper

Parishioners are cordially invited to attend, invite and/or volunteer for this new community-wide fellowship offering, scheduled to begin on May 22.



S. Mary's will offer a complimentary meal of hearty soup, rolls, dessert, and beverage to the greater Falmouth and Portland communities on the second and fourth Fridays of every month from 5-7pm in the auditorium.

No reservations required. Just bring your family and friends and enjoy!

We will be soliciting desserts (e.g. cookies/brownies) and approximately 12 volunteers to staff each event. If you wish to help, please see the sign-up sheet in the Guild Room.

Annual Saint Mary's

BRIDGE-A-THON

Friday, May 15th 1-4 PM



Contract Bridge enthusiasts of all levels are invited to form a table for an afternoon of friendly bridge. Tea, Coffee and sumptuous refreshment included in price of admission.

Prizes for high scorer at each table.

20 tables available.

Reserve your table by calling Beth Shaw 781-3366

Admission: \$40 per table / \$10 per person

We will be raffling off a *gorgeous bridge tablecloth*, hand-crafted by the very accomplished Anne Hilliard. This rich and beautiful cloth will be on display at S. Mary's in the week preceding the drawing. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each. You need not be present to win.

Saint Mary's reaches out - Near and Far



MISSION STATEMENT: *According to the Gospel imperatives, The Outreach Committee of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin responds to local, state, national and global needs. Working through and with the congregation, the committee will focus on those lacking food, housing, and those who are in physical and emotional need, giving special attention to programs which*

St. Elizabeth's Essential Pantry

Tuesday, March 31, 9 - 11:00 A.M. S. Mary's day to volunteer at St. Elizabeth's Essential Pantry from 9 - 11 a.m. Held at St. Luke's Cathedral in Portland. Enter through the back entrance on Park Street. It's fun! Call me with any questions please. Betsy Elliman 899-1039; or email at betsyelliman@msn.com.

Soup Kitchen - is May 24th

We are always looking for volunteers. We can use people for "prep work" starting at 11am; people to serve from 11:45 - 1:00pm; and very important: - people to help clean up starting at 1pm. Anyone 12 years old and up are welcome. Volunteer time may vary: Set-up and cooking is 10am - 1pm, while serving the meal is from 11:45am - 1pm, plus clean-up. To volunteer, please contact Marian McCue at 761-1936 or mmccue@maine.rr.com



Falmouth Food Pantry is always looking for donations of canned veggies & fruit, cereals, baking goods, juices. The Falmouth Food Pantry serving Greater Falmouth is located at Falmouth Town Hall, Falmouth Road and is open on the 1st & 3rd Mondays from 8am - 10am and on the 2nd Thursday from 5-7pm.

We're getting closer to our ARK goal.



S. MARY'S TAG SALE

Saturday, May 16th, 9am - 1pm

[Rain Date: Saturday, May 30th]

We're planning on 35 tables! Don't miss this special event!

Get great bargains while supporting Heifer and S. Mary's .

For more information on the Tag Sale or to inquire about having your own table contact Becky Pride or the parish office at 781-3366

May Christian Formation - RAY Beams



Rotation #9 The Early Church *Power to Witness* (May 3rd, 10th & 17th)

Peter & John Healing (Acts 3&4) - *Arts & Crafts*

Stephen the first Martyr (Acts 6&7) - *Music, Drama & More*

Secret Signs & Symbols - *Cooking*

Sunday, May 24th (Memorial Day weekend) will be the final MOVIE DAY at 10:00 am (no Family Chapel).

Mother's Day, Sunday May 10th - Family Chapel will meet in the church at 9:15 am.

Father James will give a special tour of the stained glass windows and explain how they honor not only Saint Mary but several other important female saints and women and mothers everywhere. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Last Day for Guiding RAY - Sunday, May 31st

We will spend the last day learning about Pentecost and reviewing our yearly theme of "Living God's Word" by playing some fun trivia games. We will briefly acknowledge (as a group) all the children and teachers who participated in our program this year and a special gift will be presented to all the "graduating" 6th graders.

Attention High Schoolers...Have you contributed community service hours at S. Mary's?

Many high schools have a community service requirement for graduation. So, think about the ways you have donated time to our parish during the last school year... Christian Formation, Nursery, Soup Kitchen, Habitat, Sparkles, etc. Teens will need to have a re-

cord of the dates, times and specific projects. Just bring in a volunteer card from your school and have the hours "signed off" by the supervising adult parishioner.

Plastic Eggs Collected in the Parish House -

In an effort to reduce, reuse and recycle we are collecting donations for NEXT YEAR. A large plastic bin is in the parish house lobby to collect plastic eggs and Easter trinkets (no candy please). Donations will be saved for next year. The hope is to save a little money and keep this plastic out of our landfills.

Children's Choir

If there is adequate interest, we would like to have a children's choir sing in church on May 17th. HOPEfully, all the great singers from Christmas Eve will sing again and all kids 5 and up are welcomed and encouraged to join in! If your child is interested, you may contact Katharine Echavarri by e-mail :bernkatk@maine.rr.com.. FYI-to be successful, the group needs to rehearse after church on 4/26, 5/3,5/10, and before church on 5/17-the performance date!



Calling all Campers!

Camp Bishopswood, owned and operated by the Diocese of Maine, is an overnight summer camp located on Lake Megunticook in Hope, Maine and is for boys and girls entering grades 2-10. Sessions run weekly in July and August. For more information please visit the website at www.bishopswood.org. Printed brochures are also available, contact Director Georgia Koch at georgia@bishopswood.org and one will be sent to you. Scholarships are available; please speak to Father James if you are interested. For additional Church-affiliated camps in Maine

Our Lenten and Easter Journey



Father James burns the palms in preparation for Ash Wednesday



Our children at the Family Stations of the Cross on Good Friday



The Altar of Repose

Come and join us as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo and welcome in our newest members of St. Mary's!

You're Invited!

Date: Sunday, May 3rd

Location: The Smithwick Home
4 Preservation Dr- Falmouth

R.S.V.P - Chris & Missy Smithwick
781-0929
missy8@maine.rr.com

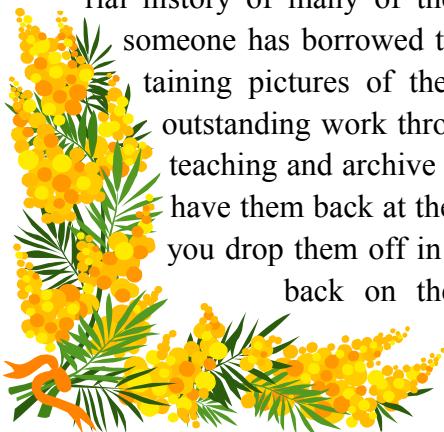
Welcome to S. Mary's

Sunday afternoon, from 4-6pm, the Welcoming Committee is hosting a gathering for newcomers at the home of Missy & Chris Smithwick, 4 Preservation Drive, Falmouth from 4:00 – 6:00pm. Some of you will have already received invitations; if you are new to Saint Mary's and would like to attend, please contact the heads of our Welcoming Committee, Missy and Chris Smithwick, at 781-0929, or e-mail them at csmithwi@maine.rr.com. Hope to see you there!

News & Notes

(Send your 1-3 line notes, announcements or thanks to Beth at admin@smary.org by the 15th of the previous month)

The Altar Flower Guild is pleased to honor God by adorning the altar at Saint Mary's with beautiful floral arrangements weekly and seasonally. There is a pictorial history of many of these arrangements, and someone has borrowed two photo albums containing pictures of the Altar Flower Guilds outstanding work throughout the years. For teaching and archive purposes, we'd love to have them back at the Parish House. Could you drop them off in the office or put them back on the bookshelves in the guild room. Thanks so much.



"We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and condolences on the recent passing of my father. It has made life much easier knowing that our friends have kept us in their thoughts and prayers. We will always treasure these moments deep in our hearts."

Carla, Arthur, Justin, and Adam Birt

Host an Exchange Student!

Teens from China or France
Seeking host families in Greater Portland.
Through EF Homestay
Susan Hatch, 865-0270
susanhatch@yahoo.com

CLYNK FOR S. MARY'S!!

S. Mary's is using CLYNK, a new recycle program offered by Hannaford Bros., and is extending the service to your households! S. Mary's will provide you with a bag (free of charge) for your clean, dry, returnable bottles and cans, labeled with the S. Mary's CLYNK account number. When you drop off the bag with our label, your returnable refund will be credited to the S. Mary's account.

You simply drop off the bag at any participating Hannaford's Shopping Center (Yarmouth and West Falmouth accept these bags) – no waiting, no sorting, no fuss, no muss, and you are earning income for S. Mary's! Bags and labels are available during the week and on Sundays in the Guild Room.

S. Mary's Grounds Clean-Up - Come one...Come ALL!

Saturday, May 2nd, 8am - 1pm

more after church on Sunday the 3rd if needed.

Grab you rakes, tarps, work gloves and leaf blowers!

This winter has left a mess on our campus. Help us get it in shape before the Habitat Walk, Bridge-a-Thon, Tag Sale and Memorial Day parade

Mass on the Grass!

beginning on Thursday, June 4th, our Thursday evening, outdoor Eucharist resumes. This year, it will start at 6:00pm, and lasts around 30 minutes or so. We'll meet on the labyrinth. If you can bring a lawn chair with you, that's terrific; if not, a blanket will work just as well.

Informal, inspirational, spiritual, and intimate.





Here are some updates in our Saint Mary's parish family



Happy May Birthdays to:

1 Judy MacDonald	7 Jonathan Hicks	17 Madeline Harris
2 Grace Brown	7 Jim Kane	17 Patrick Shaw
2 Nancy Hill	7 Sam LaPlante	20 Lynda Conner
3 Virginia Bernstein	8 Henry Funk	21 Morgan Harris
3 Louise Downs	8 John Raeke	23 Paul Varga
4 Holly Bernstein	14 Stan Eaton	26 Robert Cott
4 Samantha Heinzman	15 Ross Isacke	26 George Lord
5 Doris Hurdman	16 Sydney Billings	26 Shelly Maher
6 Nate Hicks	16 Charnette Chadwick	30 Tillman Rhoades
6 Larissa Norman	16 Dave Fenderson	
7 Rob Billings	16 Michael Richards	

We'd love to include good wishes on your Birthday and Anniversary if we have the dates; please send yours and your family's special dates into the parish office and we'll be sure to include them on your special month admin@smary.org or call 781-3366 or drop a note to 43 Foreside Road, Falmouth.

HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

2 Jill & Donald Hansen	21 Jean & David Lloyd-Rees
11 Margaret Jean & Len Taylor	19 Mary & Hugh Smith
15 Anne & Geoff LaFond	25 Edie & Lad Taylor
15 Lynda Means & Jim Zimpritch	27 Marilyn & Al Milliken
19 Cindy & David Wilson	31 Susan & Gary Conway





SUNDAY

8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00AM Choral Eucharist, Rite II

THURSDAY

10:30am Holy Eucharist

Thursday, May 21st , 6:00pm



**Ascension Day
Choral Eucharist
in the church**

Followed by a reception at the Rectory
bring *something delicious* to share.!

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN**

**43 Foreside Road
Falmouth, Maine 04105
Tel: 207-781-3366
Fax: 207-781-3369**

**E-mail: smary@smary.org
Website: www.smary.org**

The Reverend

James P. Dalton-Thompson, *Rector*
The Rev'd Christine Bennett, *Deacon*
Bruce S. Fithian, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Beth Shaw, *Parish Administrator*
Meg Hurdman, *Dir of Christian Formation*

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00am to 3:00 pm

June 09 AVE deadline is May 20th

Saint Mary's Vestry 2009

The Reverend James P. Dalton-Thompson, Rector,
781-2371, fatherjames@smary.org

Jennifer Gregg, Sr Warden 781-2665,
jgregg@maine.rr.com

Hugh Smith, Jr Warden, 797-9310,
hughsails@maine.rr.com

Mary Smith, Treas., 797-9310, mmsmith@maine.rr.com

Rob Billings, 846-0616, bsir@ix.netcom.com

Carla Birt, 829-5779, Katie_43@yahoo.com

Lowell Brown, III, 781-8577, lowellbrown3@gmail.com

Brannon Claytor, 899-1856, rbclaytor5@yahoo.com

Betsy Elliman, 899-1039, betsyelliman@msn.com

Jack Heinzman, 797-6867, jack@planyourmortgage.com

Jody Liddell, 781-4925, jlidl@aol.com

Harold Otte, 781-2322, hotteprod@aol.com

Ginny Stelk, 847-3602, stelk2@aol.com

Jim Stoddard, 829-2026, jbstod@myfairpoint.net

Greg Unfricht, 865-9031, gunfricht@unum.com

Patricia Wheeler, 829-2724, tjwheel@maine.rr.com