

MINISTRY FOR TOMORROW



When our Junior Warden was asked by Saint Nicholas if the children and parents of St Andrew's had a Christmas wish, the answer was a resounding "News that our MFT renovation project would experience no delays." Saint Nicholas could only promise that he'd do what he could.

In addition to looking out after children, sailors and firemen, Saint Nicholas may also be the patron of MFT programs. It looks like he did very well by us, indeed! Recent estimates by our prime contractor indicate that we may be able to "reclaim" our Nave, Chapel and Narthex as early as February. This is great progress on a most complex and important aspect of the MFT campaign. Many thanks to all who have shepherded this work along. It's an inspiring enhancement to our worship and evangelism potential in so many new and exciting ways. Plans are underway now for a liturgy to celebrate the return of our worship into the welcoming and adaptable Nave as soon as that space is fully ready.

This great news brings a reminder that we have significant bills to pay, and that our 2008 financial commitments to the MFT campaign need to be honored as rapidly as possible. It's also a reminder that those who have not yet committed to this effort will have an opportunity to do so in February when our 2009 MFT canvass resumes. Our goal is for every membership unit to make a financial commitment to the \$2.1M campaign goal. As the New Year began, we had achieved 2/3 of the goal. We need to hear from every family as we expand the commitment to the full amount necessary to pay for the extensive renovations and obtain the new property that enables an expanded physical plant. The legacy we leave through MFT will enable significantly enhanced Christian education for our parish, and expanded witness and ministry to the Burke community for many years.

Canvass teams under the leadership of Dale & Dodie Hruby will be contacting all not-yet-committed families in February. Many thanks to all who have already risen to the MFT occasion, and to all whose prayerful consideration this month will ensure the complete success of the campaign this year!