

# **‘How Firm a Foundation’**

## **A Reflection on Stewardship**

Dear friends,

As I was preparing to write a piece for this week’s Epistle, I discovered the following, written by our beloved Ed Springs in October of 2016. There is absolutely no way I could improve on his message, which is as pertinent to our world today as it was in 2016. I am honored to share it with you.

Chip Myers  
Sr. Warden

### A Message from Ed Springs, a parishioner at St. Mary’s, October 2016

Dear friends, as you worship here today in this beautiful space, in the middle of a spectacular fall season, I would like for you to reflect on our church and our community. My radio is always tuned to either WDAV or NPR for music and news. There are, however, two weeks every year when my listening pleasure is interrupted by the inevitable "fund drive." The good thing that comes from this marathon of pleas is that it makes me appreciate just how much I benefit and how much I enjoy it and how bad it would be if it were not there. Welcome to SMOTH FM. We do not, however, reward you with a boxed CD set or dinner at a fine restaurant. The benefits from St. Mary's are truly wonderful, and they never end! You have this exquisite sanctuary with gorgeous stained glass windows, an amazing, renowned choir, the Saint Cecilia's choir, Sunday school and other programs, outstanding leadership, and a truly inspirational, dedicated clergy. You also have a congregation that gives new meaning to the term "church family." And then there is our outreach. I wish everyone could hear firsthand some of the stories from our friends at Hospitality House. They are heartbreaking, humbling, and full of hope, as are all of our outreach commitments that are so vital to our world. Saint Mary's is a sacred place for love, contemplation, healing, comfort, and celebration. A peaceful haven in this world of increasing violence and distress. We must keep the legacy of Saint Mary's alive and growing for decades to come. My friends, your investment, spiritually and monetarily, yields returns that Wall Street can only dream of.

Thanks,

Ed Springs

P. S. We have also been known to accept support from perfect strangers!!!!