



The Anna Eliza Hunt Society

All Saints' Church
Chelmsford, MA

The All Saints' Parish Endowment Fund

In 1999, All Saints' Parish established an endowment fund for the first time. It was begun with remaining funds from the 1997 Stone by Stone Capital Campaign as well as bequests from the estates of Eleanor Parkhurst and Barbara Conlogue. Per the guiding policies regarding the use of the Endowment Fund, its purpose is to enable the Parish to fulfill its mission more completely by developing its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating funds. Distributions from the Fund are to be limited to capital improvements, outreach ministries, seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects, and such other purposes specifically designated by donors to the parish whose gifts are included in the Fund.

In the years since it began, the Fund has been invested and overseen by the Endowment Committee, as directed by the Vestry. A portion of the Endowment's yearly income is used for various Parish needs, which have included re-pointing the stone walls of the chapel, roof repair, and support towards the purchase of a new furnace. The Endowment Fund cannot be used for the Parish's annual operating costs, and its principal is invested to allow for yearly distributions for Parish use.

In 2004 the Endowment Committee made the decision to create a legacy society to honor and thank those who have made estate provisions and to encourage others to do so in the future. The name chosen for this group was the **Anna Eliza Hunt Society**.

The Legacy of Anna Eliza Hunt

Anna Eliza Hunt was a laywoman from Charlestown who journeyed out to spend her summers in Chelmsford in the 1850's and was instrumental in organizing a Sunday school here. She noted that there was "an enfeebled state of religion" in the town, the Baptists and Unitarians being the only two organized religious groups at that time. Through Anna Eliza Hunt's efforts, Episcopal services were begun, initially led by The Reverend Dr. Theodore Edson, rector of St. Anne's Parish in Lowell. In the late 1860's Anna Eliza led the fundraising effort to buy land for a

congregational meeting place, ultimately resulting in the construction of what is now the All Saints' chapel, in 1882. She was still actively working to keep the church funded in the 1890's when there was a shortage of money to adequately pay the rector, The Reverend Wilson Waters. All Saints' Church today owes a great debt to Anna Eliza Hunt for what she accomplished. Without her perseverance and dedication, this church might never have been established.

The Ministry of Planned Giving

Giving is a very personal matter and reflects our values and priorities. What we do with God's gifts to us ultimately reflects the character of our life and the depth of our spiritual understanding and commitment. Planned giving is one way to wisely use the resources God has entrusted to us. It is both a ministry for the donor and the church, and it provides the opportunity to help perpetuate our church's heritage, both physical and spiritual, for the future.

Making a will and keeping it up to date is critical in the stewardship of your resources. Without a will, there is no guarantee that designations of your worldly assets will be realized.

The most common way of making a planned gift is through a bequest provision in your will. This involves adding a brief few sentences to your will designating an amount or a percent of your estate to All Saints' Church. You may also designate All Saints' as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, a trust, or a retirement plan. Provisions should be made for "The Endowment Fund of All Saints' Parish, 10 Billerica Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824." Bequests are tax deductible for estate tax purposes.

Gifts of cash during your lifetime may also be given to the Endowment Fund. As with any charitable donation, donors of outright gifts are eligible to receive an immediate income tax deduction. Please note Endowment Fund on your check or when making a gift of cash or stock.

Honoring a loved one through a bequest or outright gift to the All Saints' endowment fund is an especially meaningful act. It pays tribute to someone who has been a vital part of your life and

provides a way to keep the memory of that person alive. You can choose to designate the Endowment Fund when making a gift through the Christmas and Easter flower/memorials giving.

If you have already made an estate provision to benefit All Saints' Church, please let us know so that we may thank you and include your name on the Anna Eliza Hunt Society membership list. If you wish to remain anonymous, your request will be honored. For more information about making a bequest, please contact endowment@allsaintschelmsford.org.

Front cover: Samuel C. Hunt Memorial Window in All Saints' Chapel photographed by Harry Taplin 2011

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