## From the Desk of The Very Reverend Dr. James A. Kowalski

"The Cathedral has been my village, my center, for years...

I want it to forever remain a place where people
can make spiritual connections."

— Marsha Ra

Dear Friend,

For Marsha, the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine has been a spiritual haven ... a sanctuary where she can find fellowship with others in her community who are committed to our mission of *generosity, tolerance, compassion and justice*.

Your loyal support tells me that you are equally dedicated to these principles. And with our restoration and rededication accomplished, we are able to share our ideals with a wider audience, transforming our troubled world for the better.

That is why I'm writing today to ask you to consider a powerful way to make our sacred values a part of *your* legacy — through a planned gift to the Cathedral.

You may choose to add a charitable bequest to the Cathedral in your will. Your bequest — large or small — will sustain worship services that renew the spirit ... dialog to advance understanding and justice ... educational programs which nurture the mind ... and celebrations that uplift the soul. And your generous bequest will help ensure that future generations benefit from the preservation of this blessed space.

Of course, there are other ways to make a planned gift that may better fit your personal situation. Through the Episcopal Church Foundation, you can establish funds, such as *charitable gift annuities*, which <u>offer you or your loved ones an income for life and substantial tax savings</u>. At a time when popular investments have become risky, many of the gifts described in the enclosed brochure are *once-in-a-lifetime opportunities*.

I am eternally grateful for your generosity which sustains our work each and every day. I pray that you will consider a planned gift to the Cathedral. Your deepened commitment will set an example for others to support the values you cherish most.

With heartfelt appreciation,

The Very Reverend Dr. James A. Kowalski

Dean of the Cathedral

P.S. I'd like to share why Marsha chose to make a planned gift. Her words say so much more than I could: "I named the Cathedral as a beneficiary in my will about 10 years ago — it was an easy process. I wanted to leave something behind that will have a real impact. I believe it will make a difference."