

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Faith, Community and Hope ~ 50 Years and Growing

NEWSLETTER

MAY/JUNE 2014

from the Interim Rector

Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood for the Rite 13 group "NOTHING GOES WITHOUT SAYING"

How often do we think to ourselves things like, "She knows I love her – it goes without saying" or "He knows how much I appreciate all his hard work – it goes without saying"? The truth is, words can be a powerful affirmation, and the absence of the right words can leave a void that really hurts. The truth is, important things should NEVER go without saying. There are things we know, but sometimes we need to hear them loud and clear.

During the 10 AM service on Pentecost, June 8th we will celebrate an important rite of passage with members of our Rite 13 group.

This ceremony is the liturgical cornerstone of the *Journey to Adulthood* program and it is a wonderful way to acknowledge the changes that are happening in our teens. *Journey to Adulthood* gives teenagers a safe place to wrestle with these changes. It also offers ceremonies that serve as rites of passage. In our culture, the line from childhood to adulthood is blurry at best and it's hard to know when we are "grown up". The Rite-13 Liturgy is designed to welcome teenagers to the journey of becoming adults and celebrate publicly, and in the midst of our worship, God's gift of manhood and womanhood. This liturgy recognizes the holy power of creation that God gives to each one of us.

In some respects, this is a new way of saying to our young people things we have meant to convey all along – things like: "We stand with you as you make your way on the journey; we're here if you need us; we think you are terrific; we love you." We often assume that our teens feel appreciated and accepted as a vital part of our parish, but adolescence can be such a time of uncertainty that some things just can't be said often enough.

One of the unique aspects of the *Journey to Adulthood* program is that it seeks to provide rites of passage that are often lacking in our culture. We help define points along the path to adulthood that tell our young people they are making progress; they are growing; they are becoming adults. Rite-13 is the liturgical cornerstone that lays the foundation for our entire congregation to stand up and in one mighty voice tell our young people, "You matter to us. Your lives are of inestimable value. The journey you are now embarking on is significant." It is a way that we fulfill our baptismal covenant of "seeking and serving Christ in all persons."

The Rite-13 Liturgy is a rite of passage that recognizes the gift that God bestows upon each one of us: the gift of manhood or womanhood. This is a free gift that we cannot earn and need not prove. This gift is the essence of who we are. The same energy that pushes us through adolescence gives us the power to change the world. As these young people grow and mature their knowledge and skills will increase, but the core of who they are remains the same.

Here is a priceless opportunity for us to affirm all that is good in the young people who live and grow around us and to recognize them as young men and women in our midst. Don't miss this incredible chance to say out loud in a very powerful way what we have meant to say to them all along. Remember, NOTHING GOES WITHOUT SAYING!!

Pat Stelz

Sunday, May 18

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
Church School Meeting at 11:15 AM
Stewardship Thank You Dinner at 6 PM

Sunday, May 25

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
No Church School Classes or J2A

Sunday, June 1

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
Last Day for Church School Classes

Saturday June 7

Farewell to Palmisanos Party at 1 PM
at the Twomey's House in Ashland
All Invited!

Sunday, June 8

Feast of Pentecost
Eucharist at 8
Eucharist & Rite 13
Ceremony at 10 AM
Sneaker Sunday/Picnic-
Themed Coffee Hour



Sunday, June 15

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR MINISTRIES AT ST. MICHAEL'S

We heard you say at the annual meeting that you would be more willing to say “yes” if asked to volunteer if you knew what you are saying “yes” to. More specifically you want to know what you are being asked to do, what the time commitment is; are there others who will help; and can you step down if you no longer feel called to that particular ministry? To respond to your concerns, the vestry has been working hard to try to create a better communication flow between themselves and the rest of the parish. To begin with, the vestry listed all the ministries that we do here at St. Michael's. Then they created an organizational chart (*see next page*) that is circular with God in the middle instead of hierarchical. We hope that the circular model will reflect our understanding of the importance of all our ministries as we each strive to live out our baptismal covenant here at St. Michael's. Our understanding is that we are all called to ministry and that no ministry is above or below another; ministry is the normal way of life for any Christian.

In an effort to make communication easier, the parish ministries are broken into four groups:

Christian Formation and Stewardship (November and May)
 Pastoral Care and Worship (September and March)
 Administration, Finance and Property (December and June)
 Out Reach (April and October)

If you look at the Organizational Chart, you will see that all the ministries have been divided up into these four groups. For example, in the Christian Formation and Stewardship circle, we placed church school, Adult Formation, Fellowship, Stewardship and Newcomer Brunch.

After we put the different ministries with the different circles, vestry teams were formed for each of the circles. Here are the vestry teams:

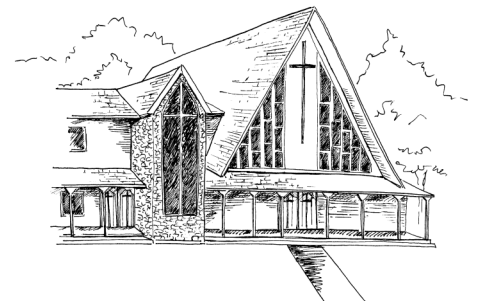
Dana Frye, Craig Miller, Ralph Stover	Christian Formation and Stewardship
Nan Malone, Jane McIntyre, Pat Weston	Pastoral Care and Worship
Joan Clark, Barbara Gardner, Frankie Gartner	Outreach
Lisa Ahronian, Ted Comstock, Pamela PinterParsons and Carl Twomey	Administration, Finance & Property

These are the vestry members that you can go to if you have a question, concern, suggestion or to just give them a pat on the back for a job well done. The teams then chose the two months that they would have time on the vestry agenda. Hopefully, this will allow the vestry to give each group the time they deserve. Of course, if the need arises, anyone can get time on the vestry agenda.

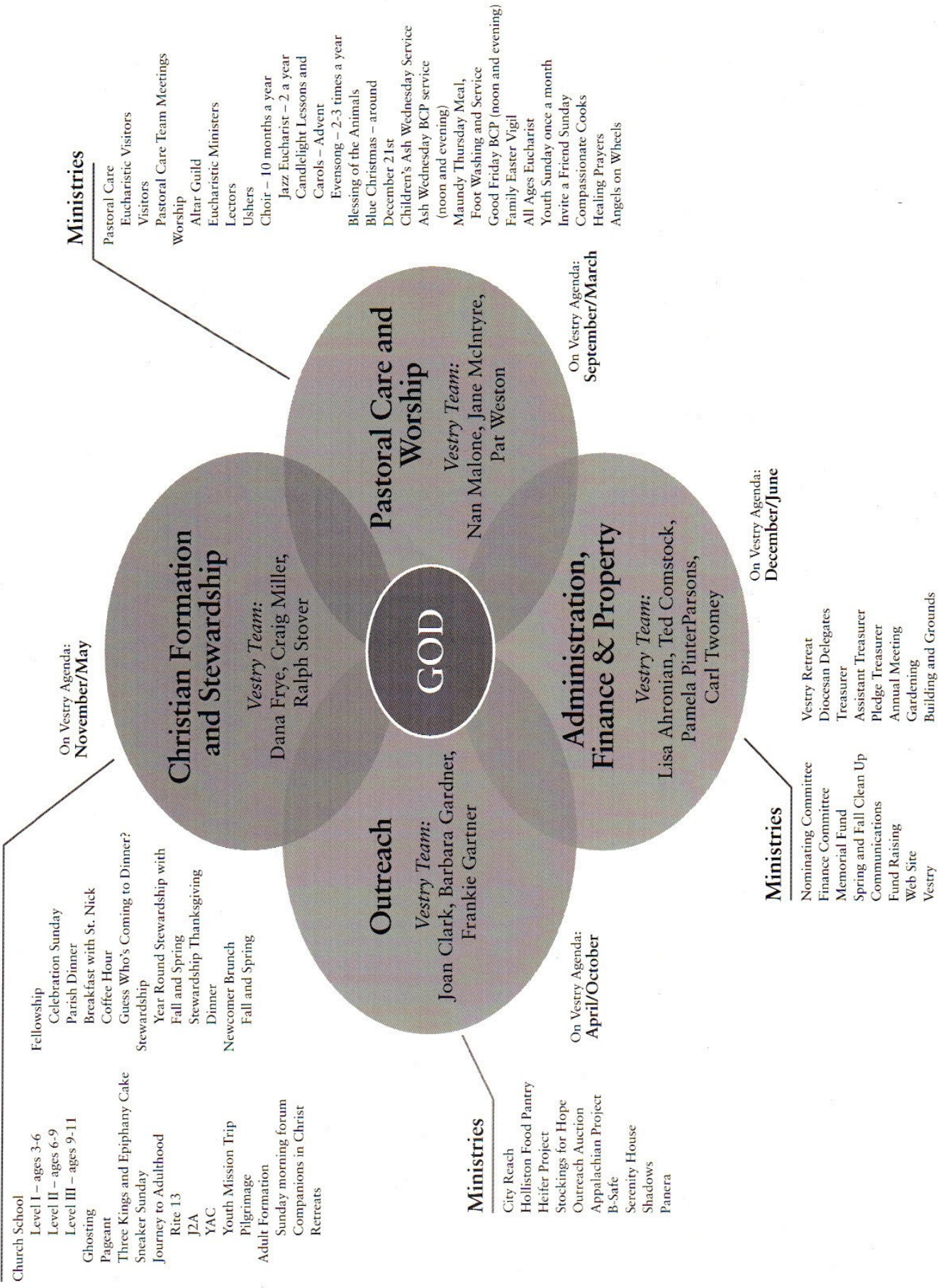
Next the vestry teams will look at each ministry to see how they can build up, support and grow the ministry. This is where you come in. The vestry will take the time to put together a fact sheet on the ministries they need help with, and they will put that information in the bulletin, in the newsletter, on the web site, send it to you electronically and talk about it during announcement time on Sunday morning.

They need your help. They need you to prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talent where the need arises. The vestry can't possibly grow the many important ministries here at St. Michael's without your help and support.

Thank you in advance for all you do for St. Michael's. And thank you to Jeff and Michelle Tate for their graphic design skills in creating the Venn Diagram that the vestry imagined.



VESTRY TEAM ASSIGNMENT CHART





AUCTION THANKS

We all “Sprung into Action” to help those locally and internationally, and what a night! Our 16th Annual Auction for Outreach took the theme *Spring Into Action* as the inspiration for an evening of new growth (Spring) and coming together to help others (taking action). It was fun for everyone who took part and it brought in a total of \$12,000.00. Special thanks to Weston Nurseries, Sunnyside Gardens, Debra’s Flowers and B. Darling Floral for sponsoring our rooms!

The auction was made possible through the help of many parishioners and friends. The names of the committee heads are listed below but a huge thank you goes out to everyone who donated, attended, bought something, brought a friend, set up or took on one of the other countless jobs that got done by many people along the way.

All the money raised will be awarded in the form of grants to parish outreach projects and to other local, diocesan and international aid projects. The Vestry will decide on outreach grants in the fall.

Special thanks to the following team leaders:

Co-Chairs: Debi & Craig Miller

Donations: Bob & Kim Murphy

Data Base Management: Cathy & Jim Harper and Paula Colburn

Raffle: Lynne DiGregorio

Decorations: Tanya & Paul Vecchione

Publicity: Lisa Ahronian

Food: Matthew & John Fitzgerald

Dessert: Bob Ervin

Beverages: Melissa & Todd Megathlin

Closing: Laura & Joe Connolly

Clean up: Barbara Gardner

Sound system: Jeff PinterParsons

Announcements: Pamela PinterParsons

Auctioneer: Guy Truedell, Jr

CLOSETS AND CLOTHES

When you're doing your spring cleaning, please save your unwanted clothes and shoes a little while longer. The Vestry recently voted to allow the Epilepsy Foundation to place a bin in the corner of our parking lot in return for a \$50 monthly payment. Once the bin is installed, we hope you will bring those items to St. Michael's. For more information, please contact Barbara Gardner (508-429-6467 or BGGEDU@aol.com).



CHURCH SCHOOL MEETING THIS SUNDAY MAY 18

Attention Parents: There will be a brief meeting right after church this Sunday May 18 to provide insight into our church school program “Catechesis of the Good Shepherd”. Kristen Walters (our Level III teacher) has graciously offered to present an example lesson to us. Please join us to share in your child's journey in faith learning. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Craig Miller (cmiller108@gmail.com).

STEWARDSHIP THANK-YOU DINNER FOR EVERYONE - SUNDAY MAY 18

The Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee will host a Thank-You dinner THIS Sunday, May 18 at 6 PM in Eva's Room. We'd like to say thanks to all at St. Michael's for their stewardship contributions of time, money and skills. **EVERYONE IS INVITED!** All you need to do is let us know if you will attend (and how many) by THIS FRIDAY, May 16. Please RSVP to Dana Frye by email (dana.g.frye@gmail.com) or by phone (508-881-2726). Again: All we ask is that you let us know if you will attend. This is a thank-you dinner and not a solicitation. So please come and enjoy some Italian cuisine and fellowship.

NEWS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

There is good news to report: the projected budget shortfall has been significantly reduced! As you may recall from the Annual Meeting, the 2014 budget had a projected shortfall of \$14,269. This is the amount we'd have to take from the reserve account to balance the budget. Since that was reported, members of the parish have responded by making new pledges, increasing existing pledges, or making one-time contributions that total \$10,715. This means that the projected shortfall has been reduced to \$3,554. The Finance Committee, and the Vestry, wish to express our gratitude to all those who have been able to contribute; this has greatly improve our financial position. We still have work to do, so if you'd like make a pledge. Increase your pledge or make a contribution, please contact Dana Frye. Thanks again! It's wonderful to see how the parish has acted vigorously and swiftly to support the important mission and ministries of St. Michael's.

FAREWELL TO THE PALMISANOS SATURDAY JUNE 7

Longtime parishioners and choir members Dom and Marcia Palmisano will be moving to Florida at the end of June. On Saturday June 7, there will be an afternoon Open House and barbecue, hosted by the Tates and the Twomeys, at the Twomey's house at 46 Lakeview Terrace in Ashland from 1:00 to 6:00 PM. All are invited!

This will be a pot luck event; If your last name begins with A-N, please bring an appetizer or a salad; if your last name begins with O-Z, please bring a dessert. There is a lake in the back yard, so bring your bathing suits! Unfortunately, Alicia will be out of town and unable to attend. Hope to see you there!



CELEBRATE PENTECOST ON SNEAKER SUNDAY JUNE 8

We celebrate the Day of Pentecost, one of the three great festivals of the church year, on Sunday, June 8. Please remember to wear red, the liturgical color of the day. As well as celebrating Pentecost we will also have the Rite 13 Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood at the Ten O'Clock Service. After the service there will be a picnic-themed coffee hour.

SPEAK ANOTHER LANGUAGE?

If you speak another language other than English and would like to be part of the reading of the gospel on Pentecost, June 8, please let Pat know (patstelz1217@gmail.com or 484-356-8119). Thank you.

LEADER/CO-LEADERS NEEDED FOR B-SAFE SUMMER CAMP

We are looking for a leader or co-leaders for our B-SAFE ministry. St. Michael's partners with B-SAFE, a summer day camp which provides academic enrichment and fun activities for inner-city children in the Boston area. St. Michael's sponsors 3 days of camp, which this year is Wednesday July 23, Thursday July 24, and Friday, July 25, by providing 2 lunches and snacks at the Epiphany School and an outing at Hopkinton State Park which includes a cook-out and activities. If you are interested in leading this important ministry or volunteering in any capacity, please contact vestry member Frankie Gartner at fgartner5583@comcast.net.



NEW BISHOP ELECTED

The following is an excerpt from the Diocesan website on the election of the new bishop. To read the complete article go to <http://www.diomass.org>.

At the special electing convention held on Saturday, April 5, clergy and lay delegates elected the Rev. Alan M. Gates, the rector of St. Paul's Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, to succeed the Rt. Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE as the 16th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. The electing convention took place at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston.

Gates's election must now receive consent from a majority of the Episcopal Church's diocesan bishops and a majority of its dioceses. Pending that consent, the bishop-elect's consecration is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Agganis Arena at Boston University, with the presiding bishop and primate of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, presiding.

"To return to the Diocese of Massachusetts a quarter century after my ordination to the priesthood there will be a genuine delight. To be called to do so as bishop-elect is an unimagined honor and a privilege beyond the telling," Gates said in a statement following the election. "I am humbled to follow the episcopate of Bishop Tom Shaw who has led the diocese with grace and courage for 20 years."

"Alan is a skilled pastor and he has an appreciation for the complexity of the Diocese of Massachusetts. I have real confidence in his ability to lead this diocese forward with creativity and dedication. It will be a pleasure working with him in these next months," Bishop Shaw said following the election.

Gates, 56, has been the rector of St. Paul's Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, since 2004. He is a graduate of Middlebury College and undertook graduate studies at Georgetown University. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1988 and served congregations in the Episcopal dioceses of Massachusetts, Western Massachusetts and Chicago prior to his call to Ohio. He and his spouse, Patricia J. Harvey, live in Shaker Heights, Ohio, and have two children.

JUNE AT ST. MICHAEL'S

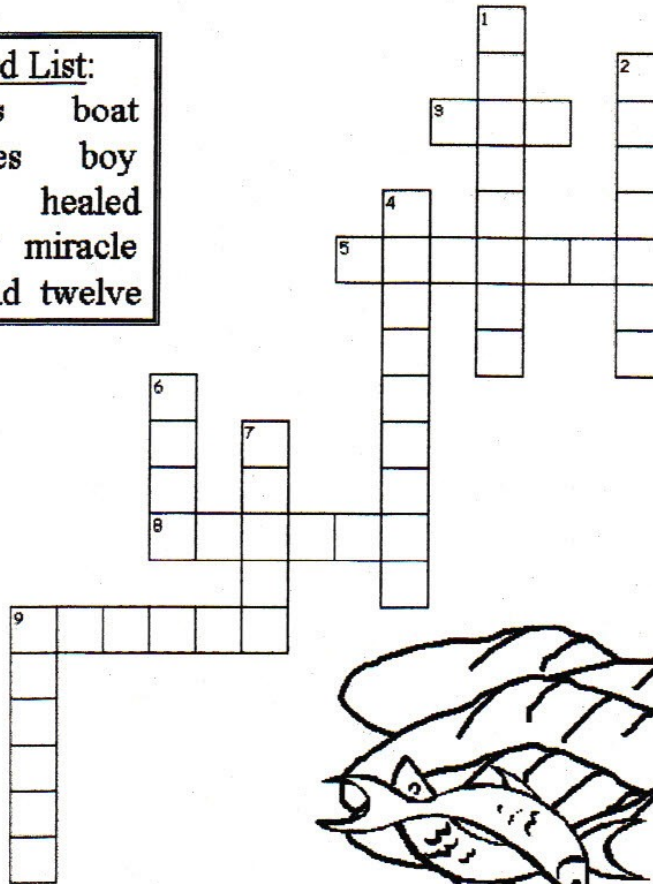
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM Church School at 9:45 AM J2A at 6:30 PM	2 Search Committee at 7PM	3 BNI Group 6:30 to 8:30 AM Girl Scouts 4:30 to 6 PM	4	5 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM	6	7 Farewell to the Palmisanos at the Twomey's Home at 1 PM
8 Sneaker Sunday Eucharist at 8 Eucharist & Rite-13 Ceremony at 10 AM No Church School Classes Picnic-Themed Coffee Hour at 11:15 AM Quilters at 5 PM	9 Search Committee at 7PM	10 BNI Group 6:30 to 8:30 AM	11	12 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM	13	14
15 Father's Day Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM	16 Search Committee at 7PM	17 BNI Group 6:30 to 8:30 AM Vestry Meeting at 7 PM	18	19 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM	20	21
22 Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM	23 Search Committee at 7PM	24 BNI Group 6:30 to 8:30 AM	25	26 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM	27	28
29 Eucharist at 8 Eucharist & Feast of St. Paul at 10 AM Quilters at 5 PM	30 Search Committee at 7PM					

St. Michael's Kids Page

Jesus Feeds 5000 Crossword

Word List:

baskets boat
disciples boy
bread healed
hungry miracle
thousand twelve



Across

3. Jesus used this persons small lunch to feed five thousand.
5. Jesus performed this on the boy's lunch and still does them today.
8. This is how many baskets of food were left over.
9. One of the other miracles Jesus did that day was that he ____ people.

Down

1. Five ____ people followed Jesus just to listen to Him and be healed.
2. Jesus filled enough of these to feed all the people.
4. The ____ doubted how they would feed all the people.
6. This was Jesus and the disciples' transportation that day.
7. The boy had 2 small fish and 5 pieces of ____ in his lunch.
9. Everyone was ____ that's why Jesus performed the miracle.



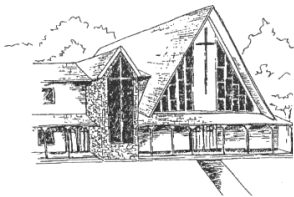
St. Michael's Picnic-Themed Coffee Hour

Sunday JUNE 8

There will be games
for the children
and plenty of food
for everyone



Please bring a dish to share



St. Michael's Episcopal Church
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Holliston, MA 01746