



Newsletter June 2014

End of an Era: Thank you Bishop Tom!

On June 21, the Diocesan community will gather at Jamaica Pond to celebrate and give thanks for +Tom Shaw's 20 years as our Bishop. As is typical of Bishop Tom, he wants the emphasis of the day to be on the community of the Diocese rather than on him. The celebration will begin with the Eucharist at 10:30 at which former Presiding Bishop the Most Rev. Frank Griswold will preach and the Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris will offer reflections. During the offertory, every parish will present its red book of memories in thanksgiving for Bishop Tom's ministry among us. After the Lord's Table, all are invited to bring and share picnics; the Diocese will provide beverages and ice cream. A North Shore Deanery bus will leave from the St. Stephen's parking lot at 9:00am.

Over the next several weeks, I encourage everyone to write in our remembrance book. The book will be in the Galahad Area before and after services each Sunday in June. Drawings and photographs can certainly be included. Reflections may be emailed to the office, and we will print them and paste them in the book. Each Church School Class will have its turn to fill up some of the pages with words of thanks or exuberant drawings. The goal is to have the rich diversity of each parish reflected in the pages of the books of remembrance.

Certainly for St. Stephen's, the episcopate of +M. Thomas Shaw SSJE has been an important two decades. Bishop Tom's investment in youth made a huge difference in the life of our parish. Before my time, the identification of St. Stephen's as a Diocesan Center for Mission brought a million dollars to the parish for urban outreach and youth ministry. We know the blessing to the parish and city of Jason Cruz, lots of adult volunteers, and all the now adults of Sr. and Jr. CLYDE. From the first class of the Youth Leadership Academy until today, St. Stephen's young people have built skills and relationships through the YLA. And, from its opening in 2007 until now, St. Stephen's has provided campers and staff for the "Camp that +Tom Built" in celebration of the historic leadership of Bishop Barbara Harris.

Bishop Tom's commitment to the mission of the church in the city resulted in the creation of the Urban Assistant program, which we piloted with Cliff Brown and from which we have benefited over the years with Matt Stewart, Courtney Davis Shoemaker, Dorothea Littlepage, and our July arrival Sarah van Gulden. And, of course, the Diocesan Intern program launched by +Tom brought us Adam Shoemaker, Chris Kanyua, Charlie Knuth, Andrew Phillips, Paul Daniels, and Dan Bell, who will be back with us again next year. In addition, Kids in Community has consistently received support from the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. And, we hope that Bishop Tom's last creation, "the mission hubs" will bring much needed resources to St. Stephen's to support our outreach ministries in the city.

Finally, as we remember last summer's scaffolding and wait for our stone to dry, we give thanks for the TogetherNow Campaign that inspired us and provided technical assistance to raise over \$400,000 to launch our current restoration work.

The visionary leadership of Bishop Tom has transformed our Diocese and parish. Now is our time to give thanks. Write in the book; get on the bus on the 21st; offer a prayer!

Jane⁺

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today is Wednesday, 21 May 2014, and it is about four months since the Rev'd Jane Gould first contacted me back in January to ask if I might be able to come out of retirement again to assist in the ministry at Saint Stephen's on a very part-time basis through the end of June. I was delighted with the invitation and the opportunity to be with and among the beloved people and staff of Saint Stephen's for a second tour of duty! But, I must say that the time has flown by quickly, and here we are on the doorstep of the month of June with my last Sunday scheduled to be 22 June and my last Monday as 23 June! Hence, the Rev'd Jane invited me to write a message to the parish for the June newsletter.

You will remember my earlier reference in a newsletter and in two sermons to a favorite television show of my youth growing up in New York City in the 1950s entitled: "Kukla, Fran, and Ollie" (KFO). What I recall most clearly for our lives together again at Saint Stephen's is the theme song from KFO entitled: "**Here We Are Again**" which we joyfully sang as a community on my two sermon dates in March—the second time it was especially for Jane because she had been away from the parish the first time around. This made our hearts glad and is a wonderful memory for me. But, dear friends in Christ, "**Here We Are Again,**" preparing to say farewell and goodbye to one another in the next several weeks.

Saint Stephen's is a wonderful and beloved parish to me, and I have treasured my time here with you, and I have many special memories that I hold dear in my heart, mind, and soul. Recently, I was asked by someone outside the parish what Saint Stephen's was like. As a response, two things came to mind: one from the Scripture and one from a famous prayer. As for Scripture, Saint Stephen's is a solid, strong, and living branch and manifestation of Christ's teaching where he says: "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing" [John 15: 4-5]. Saint Stephen's is an "abide" church and bears much good fruit; it has blessed my own life and the lives of many others. As for prayer, Saint Stephen's lives out the Prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila: "Christ has no body on earth but yours; yours are the only hands with which he can do his work, yours are the only feet with which he can go about the world, yours are the only eyes through which his compassion can shine forth upon a troubled world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours." This prayer captures, I think, the essence of the ministry of clergy and people at Saint Stephen's.

I am grateful to the Rev'd Jane, the people of Saint Stephen's, and Linda Midland [Office Manager] for the opportunity to work and minister here. It has been a blessing to me and always will be. Please know that you will live on in my heart, mind, and soul, and please remember that we are always together as friends in Christ who is the One who brought us together in the first place. We can never be separated from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord as Saint Paul tells us in Romans 8. And so, dear friends I leave you in prayer with the "Mizpah Benediction": "The Lord watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other" [Genesis 31:49].

I pray that you may always know the peace of God which passes all understanding, the healing power of Christ Jesus, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ, who has brought us together as friends,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

THESE STREETS

“I had rather be a door keeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.” These words from Psalm 84 (Ps. 84b, KJ) have often come to my mind over the decades, expressing the priorities I hope may guide my life. Just recently they became a practical reality, as I stood at a locked door in our church nave, allowing individuals to leave or enter.

I was there for three hours while the church hosted the wake for a local black teenager recently shot to death in an altercation. Hundreds of family and friends passed the open casket, paying their last respects in silence, in prayer, in conversation, in tears, in wails, in speech, or in song. As door keeper in the house of my God, my task was to open the way for them, by ones or twos, to access the bathrooms.

Many of the young people and children were wearing tee shirts proclaiming: “These streets don't love you like your family does.” Our rector later suggested that the church was able to offer its space and the mourners were able to accept it because their need to grieve was seen and was responded to, while there were no questions or judgments. While the Church is people, and we are good people; the hospitality also depended on the Church, the well-prayed-in building, a asylum from the streets where the city and state police were watchfully attending.

As I was “keeping the door” I prayed, “God, have mercy on this family; God, have mercy on our city; God have mercy on our nation.”

“These streets don't love you like your family does.” Indeed, love may blossom in a family, but the family is not alone—“it takes a village to raise a child.” In America the kids have a village--the streets and the schools--and too often it is not loving.

I witnessed this tragedy bringing family and friends and sympathetic church members together in a common and meaningful experience and in large numbers. I couldn't help but compare those numbers to the fewer numbers of those with whom I had stood one day earlier and a block away at a “May Day March and Rally for Immigrant and Worker Rights.” There, a crowd estimated in the local paper to be about a hundred persons, heard and cheered community efforts to keep families together, to enhance educational opportunities, and to encourage employment. To make “the streets” more nurturing and loving.

Tragedy and grief bring people together.

Hope doesn't succeed so well as tragedy does.

Joanne Droppers. Vestry Member
May 14, 2014

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD: A REFLECTION BY DAN BELL

As I look back on the past several months that I have been serving as Diocesan Intern at St. Stephen's, many different feelings well up inside me. First and foremost, I feel gratitude for my time with all of you so far. I'm grateful for the youth and young adults I've gotten to know and work with on awesome projects like CPPK. I'm thankful for all of the support and encouragement I've received, and for all of the kind friends and mentors I've made along the way. I'm also grateful for the many opportunities I've had at St. Stephen's to continue exploring and testing my sense of call to the priesthood through preaching, pastoral care visits, community organizing, working with children and youth, and in so many other ways. On a related note, I'm deeply thankful for each member of my discernment committee, which wraps up this month, and the time they've offered to help me thoughtfully and prayerfully discern my vocation.

I feel challenged as well by the experiences I've had at St. Stephen's since August. As a staff member and parishioner, I've seen firsthand how difficult it is to cross "lines of color, class, culture, and generation" to make "Christ's Gospel of love, compassion, and justice known." These words from our mission statement call me to leave my comfort zone, which I have done many times at St. Stephen's, though not on every occasion. My experience so far has taught me a great deal about my strengths and weaknesses as someone who wants to pursue ordained ministry. They've shown me where I need to take more risks, think more "outside of the box," and dive more deeply into relationships and the life of the community.

As I prepare to leave on June 15th to spend the summer at BCH as the Camp's Faith Formation Director, I'm excited to know that I will return for a second year at St. Stephen's in August! As an Emmaus Fellow in the Life Together program, I'll be taking on additional responsibilities in Boston (including another year of intentional community) while also committing to more hours at St. Stephen's. While I know this won't be easy, I look forward to staying on at St. Stephen's, deepening my relationships within the church community and beyond, and continuing to embrace the challenge of making the Gospel known.

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

SUNDAY, JUNE 22 WE BID REV. EDWARD KIENZLE ADIEU. Join us on June 22 as we thank Rev. Edward for his time with us this winter and spring, and say "Good bye for now." We hope and trust that he will back among us in the months ahead to provide priestly presence when the Rector's away or just to bless us with his presence.

URBAN ASSISTANTS COMING AND GOING. On Sunday, June 29 we welcome the Shoemaker Family back to St. Stephen's-- the Rev. Courtney Davis Shoemaker (Urban Assistant 2008-2011), the Rev. Adam Shoemaker (Diocesan Intern 2001-2002 & sponsored for ordination by St. Stephen's), and Malcolm Shoemaker (age 22 months). Malcolm is making his first trip to Massachusetts so that he can meet all of his parents' friends and fans. On Sunday, July 6 we will welcome Sarah van Gulden to St. Stephen's. Saturday, June 7 Bishop Shaw will ordain Sarah as a Deacon and she will begin with us as Urban Assistant in July. In January, Bishop Alan Gates will ordain Sarah to the priesthood.

VESTRY UPDATE. April 24: approved 2013 Parochial Report; updates on interviews for new Urban Assistant & renewal of Dan Bell's appointment as Diocesan Intern; discussion of building needs (3 downstairs doors replaced, exploring reasons for continued leaking in chancel, gathering bids for asbestos removal & downstairs accessibility); report on grants in progress (Green Grant to complete Anderson Building window replacement, Mission Hub with Salem, Beverly & Gloucester, Congregational Development for Kids' Choir, Church School & family ministries, House of Mercy for community family outreach, and Sears Family, UU, Old Neighborhood, Sending Serving, & Clippership [no] for KIC); KIC update; and reports on Hub, Not-for-Profit Governance, mission & prayer workshops attended by Vestry members in March. **May 18:** budget summary & full financials; voted to host Diocesan Convention on November 8, 2014; discussed needs for Big Money Raffle—Kick Off June 8; Drawing Party July 20; reviewed 2014 calendar; community building with leadership of Kiswahili Congregation.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SOUL CELEBRATION SUPPORTERS. Please thank the individuals and patronize the businesses that supported our 2014 Soul Celebration, which raised over \$13,500. Many thanks to: American Door, Window and Insulation Company, Bay State Eye, Beacon Communities, LLC, Christine Blaski & David Hunt, Clark Brothers Fuel, Marilyn & Rick Cloran, Richard C. Colucci, Councilor Ward 4, Cuffe McGinn Funeral Home, Joanne Droppers, ECCO, Episcopal City Mission, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, Equity Resource Investments, LLC, Ernie's Harvest Time, Fame or Juliet, Goodrich Funeral Home, Sally Gosselin, The Gould Family, Grant Haley, The Rev. Angela Ifill, IUE Local 201, Dolores & Howie Jackson, The Rev. Edward and Beverly Kienzle, Klein Hornig, LLP, Lancelot Janitorial & Paper Products, Lynn Community Health Center, Lynn Housing authority & Neighborhood Development, Pat Marino, Mayor Judith Flanagan Kennedy, MCAN, Mr. Specs Opticians, Peter Munkenbeck, Nadworny Funeral Home, Neighborhood Legal Services, North Shore Labor Council, Parker Funeral Home, Don & Beverly Phillips, Tim & Debbie Potter, Vicky & Mark Provost, Rickenbacker Resources, The Shoemaker Family, Solimine Funeral Home, Con Squires & Bonnie Bishop, St. Stephen's Kids' Choir, St. Stephen's Vestry, Paul Stonkus, Ruthanne & Steve Switzer, Gertrude Tidestrand, Joyce Wallace, WB Mason, Robert Quinn, and Richard Vitali, PC.

PRE-PAY YOUR PLEDGE FOR THE SUMMER! Pledge payments are running close to 100%, which is essential for our operating budget. Rather than falling behind this summer, think about pre-paying your pledge in June. We count on complete pledge payment from everyone. If life has changed and you would like to adjust your pledge up or down, please contact Treasurer Heather Collis Puro.

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

LUNCH & LEARN WITH REV. EDWARD JUNE 1 AT 11:45. In May more than 20 people gathered for Economics 101 with Rev. Edward. The learning continues June 1 as we consider Christian perspectives on economics and economic life. We will engage such questions such as: What is the basis for a Christian perspective? What is the role of Scripture? What is the role of Tradition? What does a Christian perspective contribute to our understanding of economics? Finally, to close, we will consider inequality and growing inequality in the distribution of income in the United States. Lunch will be provided.

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION ON JUNE 1. On Sunday, June 1 at 10:00, we will celebrate First Communion honoring the participation of children in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please join Akiah, Dakota, Franklin, and Jaleah on this special day.

HEALING PRAYER TEAM MEETS THURSDAY, JUNE 5. On Thursday, June 5 at 10:30, the Healing Prayer Team will meet with Rev. Edward for check-in and discussion of “Absence”—Part 3 of Barbara Brown Taylor’s Gospel Medicine.

CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH—PENTECOST, JUNE 8. On Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and Christ’s commissioning his followers empowered by the Spirit to spread the good news. We celebrate with COMBINED WORSHIP IN KISWAHILI & ENGLISH; BAPTISMS—Baptism Preparation Class held Thursday, May 29; BIRTHDAY GIFTS FOR THE CHURCH—take a gift idea flame from the post in the Galahad Area; PEACE IN A MULTITUDE OF LANGUAGES—let Rev. Jane know if you can say “Peace be with you” in a language other than English; WEAR RED; and BUY BIG MONEY RAFFLE TICKETS!

BIG MONEY RAFFLE KICK-OFF JUNE 8-- PENTECOST. On Sunday, June 8, **\$100 Big Money Raffle tickets go on sale.** Tickets can be sold to individuals or groups of up to 10 people. We need everyone selling tickets because this fundraiser works only if all tickets are sold. Last year tickets sold out; buy your tickets soon so that you and your family and friends have the chance to win! **On July 20, we will gather at the Porthole Pub for dinner, dancing, and the Big Money Raffle drawing.** Winners will receive a grand prize of \$5,000, and other cash prizes of \$1,000, \$750, \$500, and \$250. To get involved or to get your tickets, talk to the BMR Team of Irene Axelrod, Heather Collis Puro, Sally Gosselin, and Carolyn Hoy.

SUMMER COOK-OUTS BEGIN JUNE 8 WITH PENTECOST PARTY. As we Kick-Off the Big Money Raffle, we will launch our Summer Cook-Outs with a Parish Pentecost Picnic. Mark your calendar now for lunch at St. Stephen’s on Second Sundays-- June 8, July 13, August 10, and September 14. This is a great chance to bring family members and friends to church with you. We provide grillables and you bring salad, chips, or dessert. Activities and art projects for children are part of the fun. Sign up in the Galahad Area to let us know what you will bring and talk with Neil O’Donnell if you would like to help.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? On May 18, our Community Family Dinner Group prepped and planted a vegetable garden in the Church Yard. If you can help tend the garden this summer, please talk with Joanna Gallagher or Audrey Gutfreund. The garden needs lots of friends for regular watering and weeding as well as garden pros to work with KIC Campers.

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN. June has lots of Sunday celebrations but once we get to July, we need weekly hosts to set up, clean up, and bring some light snacks for us to enjoy after worship at 10:00. During June, we could use volunteers to help with set up and clean up. Please talk with the clergy if you can help Sunday hospitality run smoothly.

SUMMER FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES. BIBLE STUDY: Adventures with the Apostle Paul continue on Wednesdays at 6:30. TEA AND TALK ABOUT FAITH continues on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 as we come together to read and discuss short, spiritual reflections.

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

OASIS NEWS: MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH A SUCCESS!

Youth and young adults (along with some adult helpers) hosted a wonderfully successful Mother's Day Brunch on May 11th. Between services, guests ate breakfast casseroles, fruit, and sweet treats while dining in the Graham Suite and enjoying one another's company. All mothers as well as all who mother young people in our church received thank you art blocks for being "keys to success."



OASIS MEETS JUNE 13 & 27 AT 6:30. All teens are invited to join the fun as we move forward with PROJECT 135, our campaign to support MA House Bill 135, an Act Providing Housing and Support Services for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth. In addition, we'll be celebrating our seniors as we welcome new 8th and 9th graders into the group.

"SPRING INTO THE COMMUNITY!" YOUTH CLEAN-UP DAY JUNE 7. All 7th, 8th, and 9th graders are invited to our Neighborhood Clean Up on Saturday, June 7th, from 11am to 3pm! We need adult volunteers to serve as team leaders and to bring our potluck lunch. Tools and supplies will be provided but bring work gloves and tools if you have them. To sign up or ask questions, call Dan Bell at 631-807-6725 or email him at dpb3022@gmail.com.

YAs CONTINUE TO ORGANIZE. Young adults joined the St. Stephen's ECCO Team in May for a joint dinner and story-sharing time. The next YA Dinner is Tuesday, June 10th, at 6:30pm. We will continue discussing involvement in social justice work in our community. We'll also chat about possible plans for this summer and next fall, including a possible retreat!

CHURCH SCHOOL WRAPS UP JUNE 8th! The last day of Church School classes is June 8th. Teachers will gather in the Graham Suite at 12:30 (having gotten food from the Pentecost cookout!) to discuss how the year went and brainstorm ideas for next fall. Anyone who is interested in serving as a Church School teacher for 2014-2015 is also welcome to join us. On Graduation Celebration Sunday on June 15th, we all will have an opportunity to thank our teachers for their faithful work this year sharing their faith with our young people.

GRADUATION CELEBRATION SUNDAY JUNE 15. On June 15, our high school seniors will take the lead in offering reflections during our 10:00 worship. We also will celebrate all others completing degree programs. **If you**

or someone in your family is graduating this spring, please call the office or sign up in the Galahad Area. In addition, we award St. Stephen's Scholarships for higher education on the 15th.

ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOLARSHIPS—JUNE 1 DEADLINE. Thanks to the generosity of past and present members of St. Stephen's, the parish awards about \$3,000 in scholarships each June. Scholarships support higher education and students may receive awards up to four times. Awards are based on financial need and parish involvement. Applications must be submitted each year and are due by June 1, 2014. Recipients are expected to attend the June 15 Graduation Celebration Award Ceremony.

BCH SUMMER CAMP APPLICATIONS ARE PAST DUE. BCH Camp begins June 28 and runs through August 2; some weeks are already full. This week many outdoor adventure opportunities exist as well as specialty camps. There also is a 2-week camp option. BCH remains committed to making Camp accessible for all young people who want to attend. For a 4th-12th grader to go to the Camp—parents must complete registration forms, physician signed health forms, and clergy-signed scholarship request forms. In addition, if a family cannot pay at least 1/3 (\$192) of the cost for a week, the Camp requests a note explaining the need for extra financial assistance.

SIGN UP FOR BCH FAMILY CAMP JUNE 26-29! For families with children too young for BCH Summer Camp who would like a weekend of fun and faith at the Camp, sign up now for Family Camp. St. Stephen's and the Diocese want to make Family Camp affordable for families in the parish. Please talk with the Rector if your family would like to go to Camp the last weekend in June.

KIC STARTS JULY 7. KIC (Kids in Community) is a free, fun summer program that meets at St. Stephen's on weekdays during July. Any child who has completed 1st-5th grade is eligible, and registration has already begun. Registration forms are available in the office and Galahad area. KIC will run for four weeks, until August 2nd, and campers can look forward to days filled with art, games Zumba, poetry, gardening, field trips to the Aquarium and Museum of Science, getting to know their fabulous teen mentors, and much more!

KIC NEEDS ADULTS TOO! KIC still has lots of volunteer slots to fill, and interested adult volunteers are needed for both one-day and more extended commitments. There are things to do working more directly with kids, and a few tasks that are a little more behind the scenes. We particularly need folks who would like to read to children, to help maintain the garden, to teach basic cooking (especially healthy cooking!) and to assist daily with serving lunch and breakfast to campers. KIC is a team effort that depends on volunteers, so please consider helping out. Please get in touch with Audrey Gutfreund, KIC Director, at [617-435-3325](tel:617-435-3325) or audrey.gutfreund@gmail.com if you're interested in volunteering.

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

CIVIL WAR OBSERVANCE COMES TO ST. STEPHEN'S. As the church honoring Lt. Col. Charles Redington Mudge who died at the Battle of Gettysburg, we are a big part of Lynn's Civil War history. Saturday, May 31 there will be St. Stephen's tours, city Civil War bus tours, and Civil War commemorations on the Common. Sunday, June 1 Civil War commemorators will hold a special service in our Garth at 9:30am. All are welcome to participate and to join our St. Stephen's hospitality team. Speak with Marilyn Cloran if you can help.

ECCO IS ON THE MOVE. We have until June 10 to collect 60,000 signatures to place raising the minimum wage and providing workers with sick time on the November 2014 ballot. Our **St. Stephen's goal is 500 signatures**; sign up the Galahad Area to join a signature collecting team or visit the Office to get materials to start your own signature collecting opportunities. **Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 the St. Stephen's ECCO Team will meet.** We've been taking time to hear each others stories about economic insecurity, immigration, and the

criminal justice system. Anyone who wants to make a difference in Lynn, please join our ECCO Team.

Wednesday, June 18 at 7:00 we want major St. Stephen's turn out for the ECCO Assembly to celebrate signature success and to plan for passing our ballot initiatives and organizing our Gubernatorial Forum in the Fall. Also, there is an **ECCO Retreat July 18-19** and we hope that several St. Stephen's Team members will be able to participate.

EPISCOPAL CITY MISSION ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 10. We have ten seats for ECM's June 10 dinner and meeting. This is a night for St. Stephen's to celebrate Bishop Shaw and witness to the vitality of Episcopal urban congregations. Rev. Jane Bearden will be receiving the Bishop Barbara Harris Award and we want to be there to raise the roof for her. Donations to Rector's Discretionary Fund of \$35 or whatever you can pay appreciated. Dinner choices chicken, fish or veggie.

MY BROTHER'S TABLE NEEDS YOU JUNE 22. Sunday, June 22 we serve lunch at MBT. Please join the serving team from 1:00-4:00 or, if you can't come on Sunday, please bring desserts we can share with those who come to eat.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP STARTING. In collaboration with Operation Bootstrap, St. Stephen's will offer a conversation group for English language learners to practice skills in conversation with native speakers of English, while everyone makes new friends. Emphasis will be on listening and speaking rather than on reading, vocabulary, or grammar. The group will meet at 7:00pm on Mondays starting at some point in June. Interested learners as well as interested native speakers may sign up at the church office ([781-599-4220](tel:781-599-4220)) or contact Joanne Droppers (joanne@thedroppers.com).

DIOCESAN LIFE

DEANERY MEETING JUNE 2 AT ST. PETER'S BEVERLY. The North Shore Deanery Assembly will meet at 6:30 on Monday, June 2 to elect new conveners and to vote on Sending-Serving and House of Mercy Grants. Anyone who would like to join our Deanery delegates at the meeting is welcome to attend.

SIGN UP FOR THE BISHOP TOM CELEBRATION IN BOSTON. June 21 is the concluding event of our Season of Service and Celebration as the Diocesan community gathers on Jamaica Pond for a Jesus-style picnic. Families should bring their own picnics but the Diocese will provide beverages and ice cream. Seats are limited on the North Shore Bishop Tom celebration bus, which will leave St. Stephen's at 9:00am. Sign up as soon as possible to reserve your place; seats are limited and will be filled on a first come first served basis. Contributions to help fund the bus are greatly appreciated but we are not charging for seats on the bus.