The story of the miraculous catch of fish is told to us on the 18th Sunday after Pentecost. Jesus filling Simon’s nets and boat with fish is only one part of the message we receive. We see that Jesus is Master of all the elements. We learn that we must always trust God, even when we think we know better. Most importantly, it becomes clear to us that all things are divine, miraculous and come from God so we must never forget to be thankful. We need to have Faith in God and believe in Him, and trust that He is always seeking the best for us.

With God’s help we can spread His message of love and build His church like Simon, James and John.

And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon’s, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.

Please use the symbols to discover what we learn from the Miraculous Catch of Fish.

PRAYER
Great are You, O Lord, and wondrous are Your works, and no word will suffice to hymn Your wonders.

- Holy Baptism -
Lesson Objective: To have children understand the importance of the Bible story about the Miraculous Catch of Fish.

Introduction: The story of the miraculous catch of fish is told to us on the 18th Sunday after Pentecost. Jesus filling Simon’s nets and boat with fish is only one part of the message we receive. We see that Jesus is Master of all the elements. We learn that we must always trust God, even when we think we know better. Most importantly, it becomes clear to us that all things are divine, miraculous and come from God so we must never forget to be thankful. We need to have Faith in God and believe in Him, and trust that He is always seeking the best for us. With God’s help we can spread His message of love and build His church like Simon, James and John.

Bible Reading: And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon’s, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him. Luke 5:1-11

Highlights: 1. One night, Jesus came to Lake Gennesaret. There He found Simon, the fisherman putting away his empty fishing nets after having an unsuccessful day fishing.
2. Many people had followed Jesus and were eager to hear Him preach. He went on Simon’s boat and told him to push away from the shore so that more people could hear Him.
3. When Jesus was done, He told Simon to go into deeper water and cast his nets. Simon, an experienced fisherman, knew that if there had been no fish all night, there was no chance of catching any at this hour.
4. Miraculously, Simon’s nets filled with fish and were so heavy that he called for James and John to help him. They were all surprised as their boats all filled with fish.
5. Simon knew this was a miracle and fell to his knees in front of Jesus. He told Jesus that he was a sinner and Jesus told him that from this day on, he, James and John would be His followers and would spread the message of God’s love to many people. They would be “fishers of men”.

Activity: Have children use the symbols to discover what we learn from the Miraculous Catch of Fish. ALL THINGS COME FROM GOD. WE MUST NOT FORGET TO BE THANKFUL.

Prayer: Great are You, O Lord, and wondrous are Your works, and no word will suffice to hymn Your wonders. - Holy Baptism -