

### ***Matthew 14:13-21 - Dramatised***

**Readers:** Narrator, Jesus, Disciple 1, Disciple 2

**Supplies:** 5 bread rolls, two paper ‘fish’, lots of baskets, any costume items. Signboards for characters can prove helpful.

**Narrator:** Today’s reading is from Matthew’s account of the Good News. It relates the story in which Jesus has compassion on a hungry crowd. It goes like this:

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd. And he had compassion for them and cured their sick.

When it was evening, the disciples came to Jesus had the following conversation:

**Disciple 1:** This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late. Send the crowds away, so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.

**Jesus:** They need not go away. You give them something to eat.

**Disciple 2 (or 1):** We have only five small loaves and two fish.

**Jesus:** Bring them here to me.

[*looking up – as if at the crowd*] Rest your feet. Find a spot and be seated on the grass.

[*Lift the loaves and fish, perhaps in a basket, and look up, as if to heaven.*]

Holy One, bless these five loaves of bread and two cooked fish, that they may be shared amongst all who are here today.

[Tear the loaf in pieces, and the fish. Place the pieces in other baskets/plates. Distribute the baskets/plates to the Disciple(s ).

**Narrator:** After Jesus blessed and broke the five loaves and the two fish,  
and gave them to the disciples, the disciples gave them to the crowds. All ate and were filled.

**Disciple 1:** Everyone is fed. Let us take up what is left over of the broken pieces.

**Disciple 2:** There are still twelve baskets full! And all have eaten, about five thousand men, and women and children, too!

**Narrator:** Here ends the reading.

May God bless our hearing with understanding.