

The Bishop is coming for a visit. . .

A fun guide for children in the
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts



The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts has a bishop and a bishop suffragan, or assistant bishop.

Our bishop is THE RT. REV. ALAN M. GATES

Bishop Alan Gates became the 16th Bishop of Massachusetts in 2014, after serving as a parish priest for more than 25 years. He was born in Massachusetts but has lived in many other places as well, including Connecticut, Ontario, Indiana, Vermont, Maryland, Illinois, and Ohio! Bishop Alan can speak Russian, which he studied in Russia when it was still called the Soviet Union. He worked for the U.S. government before he went to seminary.

Bishop Alan has a wife, Tricia Harvey, whom he married in 1980. They have two sons who both live in New York City. Philip is a stage theater director, and Ethan is a film archivist.



Bishop Alan's family - his wife Tricia and their sons Philip (left) and Ethan (right)

Some fun facts about the Bishop:

- Since he was 7 years old, he has collected old post cards. Now he has about 20,000 cards!
- He loves to sing all kinds of music – hymns, folk songs, and silly songs.
- He and his family love to hike in the woods – especially if there is a waterfall along the trail.
- He used to play the viola. Now he is trying to learn to play the hammered dulcimer.

Do you play an instrument?

Can you speak another language other than English?

Bishop Alan loves the church because it is a family of all kinds of people, sharing happy times and sad times, singing praise to God, and supporting each other while trying to make the world a better place.



Alan has a cat named Olivia

Bishop Alan's favorite passage from the Bible is Ephesians 3:20-21

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

What's your favorite passage in the Bible?

THE RT. REV. GAYLE ELIZABETH HARRIS, Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Gayle Elizabeth Harris was ordained and consecrated a bishop on Jan. 18, 2003, at Trinity Church in Boston. She serves as bishop suffragan (assisting bishop) in the Diocese of Massachusetts. What she likes most about being a bishop is visiting a different church every Sunday and meeting new brothers and sisters in God.

Here is why Bishop Gayle loves the Episcopal Church:

- ✿ We welcome everybody to worship with us and be a part of us.
- ✿ We are like a big tent – room for all kinds of people!
- ✿ There aren't any tests to be an Episcopalian; people from other churches and faiths are welcome.
- ✿ We don't have to agree on everything, and it is okay to ask questions and not be absolutely sure.
- ✿ Believing in God is about love, not a list of *no's* and *don't's*. Instead, being an Episcopalian is saying *Yes, to life!*
- ✿ We have many different ways to pray and worship God.
- ✿ We sing all kinds of music with many instruments from around the world.
- ✿ We give great parties with good food...every Sunday and other times too.
- ✿ We laugh a lot and have lots of joy.
- ✿ We know that to love God we must love others.
- ✿ We care about life on this planet: people, animals, plants, water, air – everything created by God.
- ✿ As Archbishop Desmond Tutu has said, we know God is too big to be a part of only certain groups.
- ✿ **God loves all of us all the time – even when we aren't sure!**



Bishop Gayle has a dog named Piccola (Italian for “Little One”) a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, who sometimes comes to work with her at the diocesan offices.

Do you have a pet?

Bishop Gayle loves to sing and has two favorite hymns from two different hymnals.

*From Lift Every Voice and Sing, hymn #2 ***Behold Your God***

* From the Hymnal 1982, hymn #711 ***Seek Ye First***

Do you know these hymns? Can you find them in the hymnal? What is your favorite song to sing in church?

Bishop Gayle's favorite passage from the Bible is Isaiah 61:1-3

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

What's your favorite passage in the Bible?

What does a bishop wear?

When the bishop comes to a church for a visitation, he or she wears a cope and a mitre, and carries a crozier. Bishop Alan and Bishop Gayle each have sets of copes with matching mitres for each liturgical season. These

were made especially for them when they became bishops. When they come to visit your church their vestments will match the specific color of our church calendar.

Check to see if the bishops match the colors in your church when they walk in the door.



The Bishop's Vestments

The cope

The cope is a very long cape or cloak, open in front and fastened across the chest with a band or clasp.

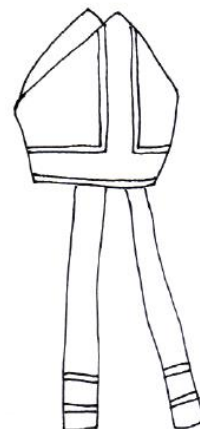
The crozier

The crozier is a staff carried by a bishop. It is in the shape of a shepherd's crook, and reminds us of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

The mitre

The bishop will usually wear a mitre, a pointed hat that symbolizes the point of flame that the disciples, who became apostles, received at the first Pentecost. We

remember that the bishop is a successor to these apostles. The mitre has "lappets" or tails that hang down the back.



More Bishop's Vestments

The cassock

The bishop wears a purple cassock that belts at the waist. A cassock is something like a long robe, which often has buttons down the front.



The rochet and chimere

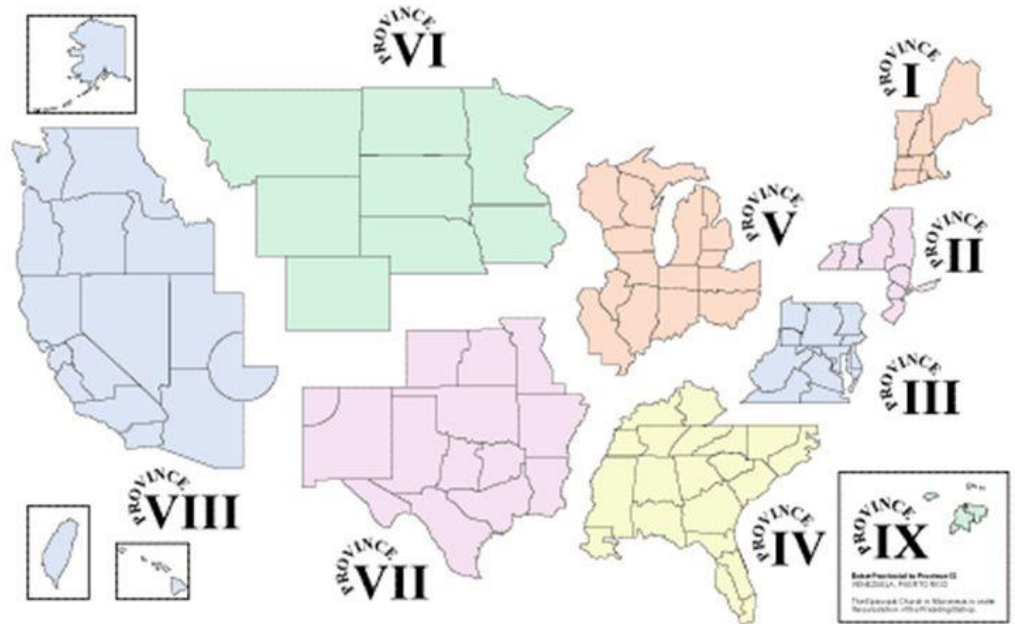
Over the cassock the bishop wears a white rochet - a funny word pronounced like 'rocket', except instead of a 'k' it's a soft 'ch' sound, like the 'ch' in 'church'. The rochet has billowy sleeves gathered and enclosed with wrist bands. Over this a bishop wears a red chimere (pronounced 'shimeer'), which is like a long vest open in the front.



Question for the bishop: Does it get hot wearing all these layers?

What is a Diocese?

Think of a diocese kind of like a state. In fact, the Episcopal Church was set up by a lot of the same people who helped to shape the government and Constitution of the United States. Because of that, a lot of our structure looks similar to U.S. government. So all the dioceses together make up the Episcopal Church, but each diocese is a geographical area with a bishop. Each diocese is in a Province. **Can you find where we are on this map?**



The Diocese of Massachusetts



The Diocese of Massachusetts is one of the largest dioceses in terms of population in the United States. We are made up of 185 parishes and chaplaincies. Our chaplaincies are at places like Harvard University and St. Paul's School in Andover. We have some very old churches (more than 300 years) including Christ Church, Quincy; St. Paul's, Newburyport; and Old North Church in Boston.

Originally we were not just the diocese in eastern Massachusetts, but for all of New England except Connecticut. As the Episcopal Church grew, other dioceses were formed beginning with eastern Massachusetts in 1810.

The diocese is divided into 12 deaneries in order for neighbor churches to help one another and share resources with other Episcopal churches close by them.

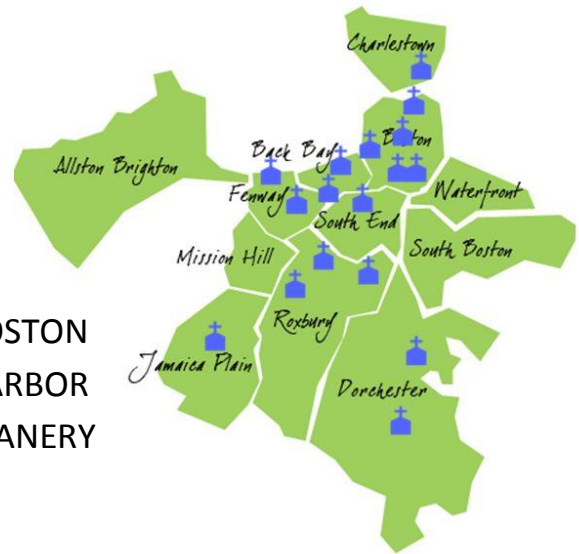
Can you find which deanery your church is in?

Here are the individual deaneries – Find which of the symbols is for your church. . .

ALEWIFE DEANERY



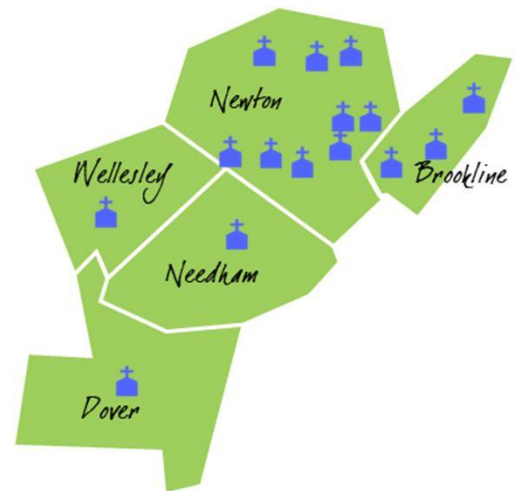
BOSTON HARBOR DEANERY



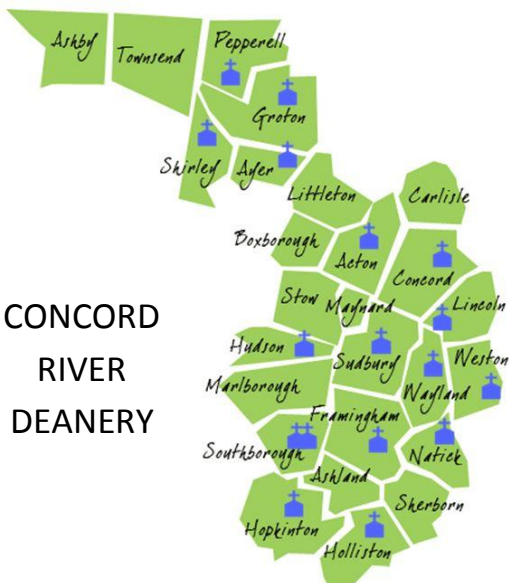
CAPE & ISLANDS DEANERY



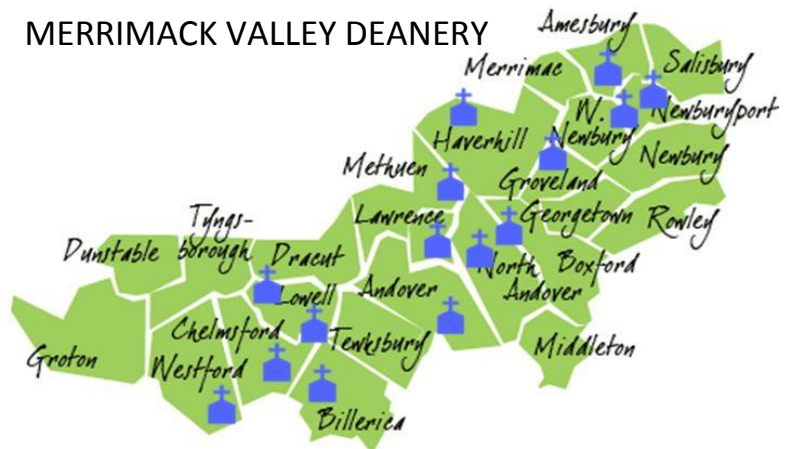
CHARLES RIVER DEANERY



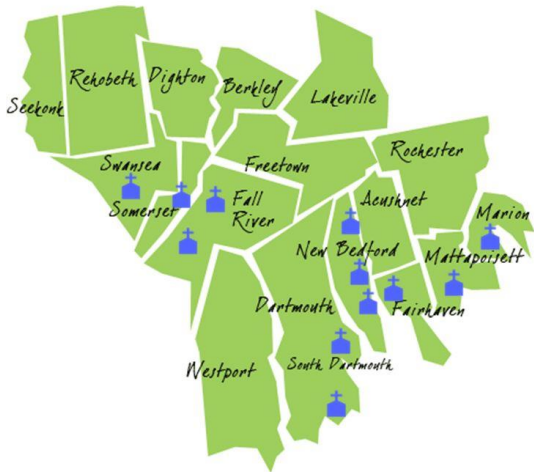
CONCORD RIVER DEANERY



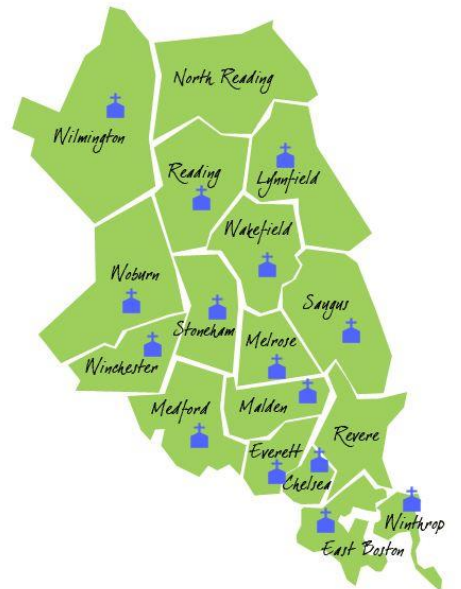
MERRIMACK VALLEY DEANERY



MT. HOPE-BUZZARDS BAY DEANERY



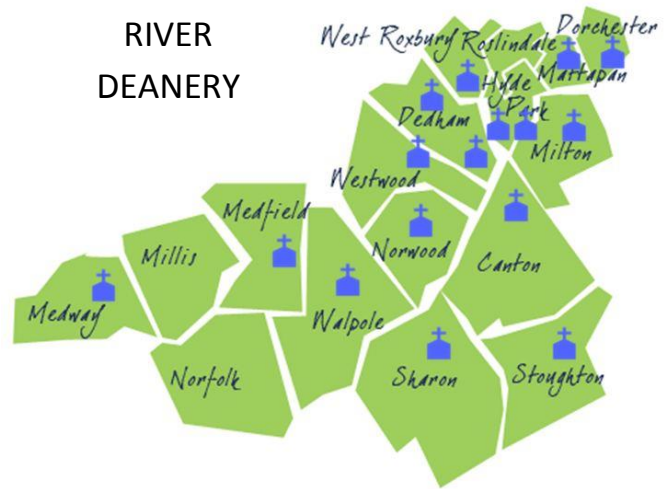
MYSTIC VALLEY DEANERY



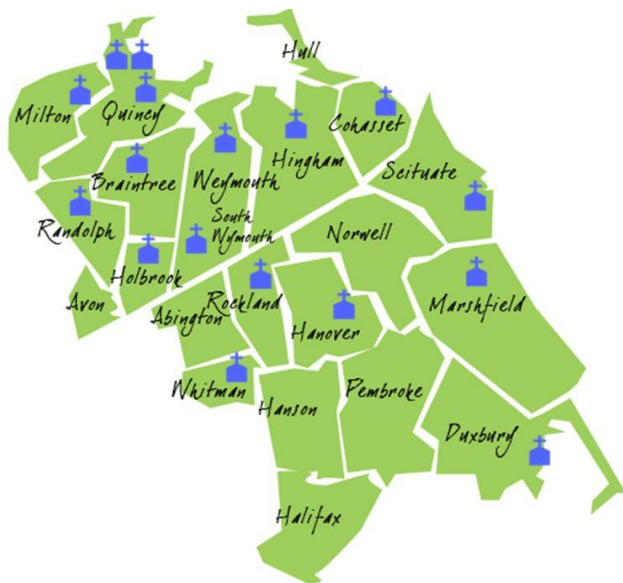
NORTH SHORE DEANERY



NEPONSET RIVER DEANERY



SOUTH SHORE DEANERY

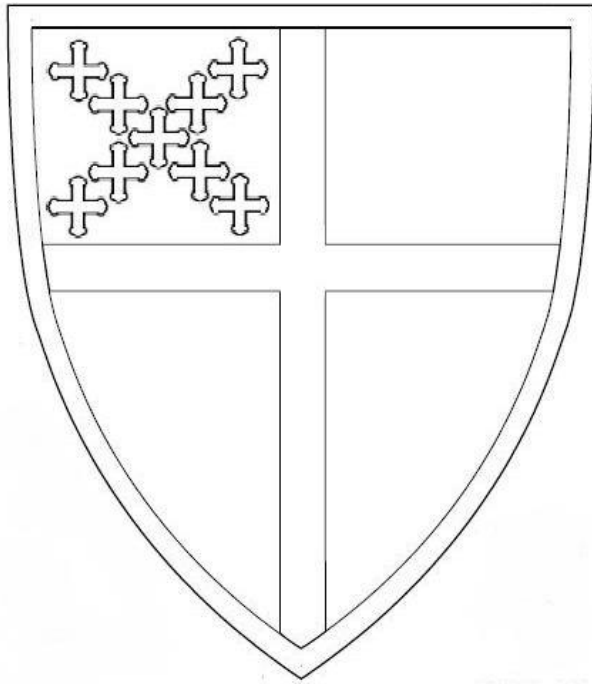


TAUNTON RIVER DEANERY



Symbols of the Episcopal Church

Episcopal Shield

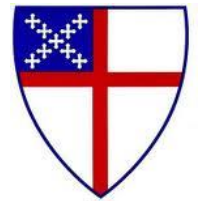


The large, red cross that divides the shield is a cross of St. George, the cross of the Church of England, and it represents our ties with our mother church.

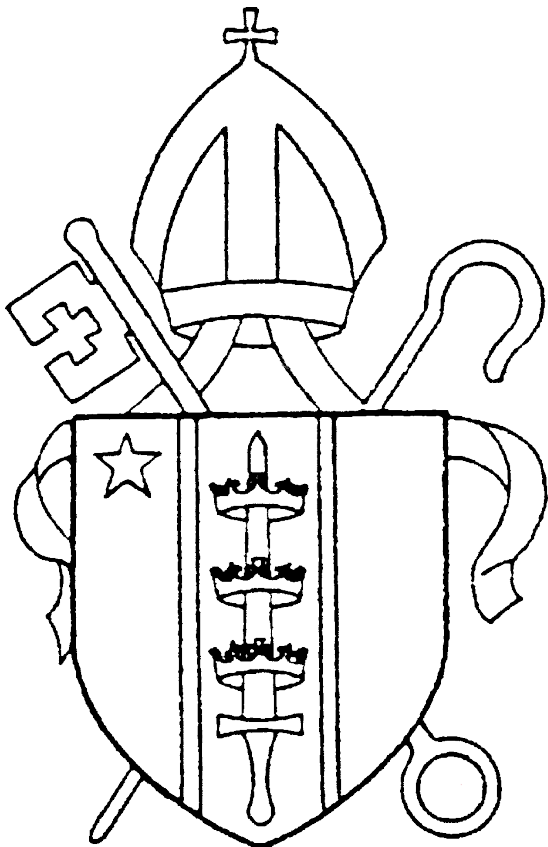
There are nine small crosses arranged in a St. Andrew's Cross, the cross of the Church of Scotland. This cross honors the role the Church of Scotland played in the birth of the Episcopal Church in America by ordaining our first bishop - Bishop Seabury in 1784.

Each of the nine small crosses in the St. Andrew's Cross represents one of the nine dioceses that in 1789 founded the Episcopal Church in America. The shield's layout is similar to an American flag.

Can you color the shield following the colors to the right?

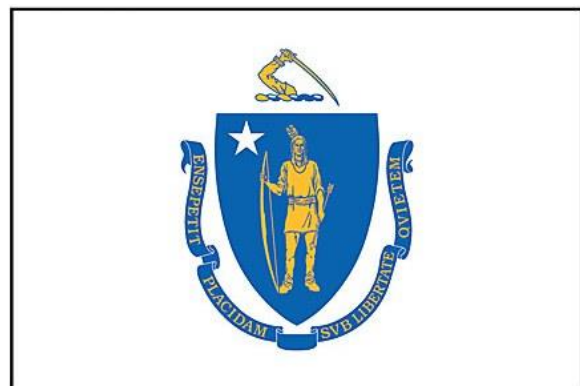


The Diocesan Shield for Massachusetts



Around 1900 this shield was designed for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts and references our state flag. The original background was blue with a star like the flag. The sword is a traditional symbol of St. Paul and reminds us that the seat of the bishop in our diocese is St. Paul's Cathedral. The three crowns come from the coat of arms for Boston, England.

What other symbols do you see in the seal?



MA state flag

The Diocese of Massachusetts

What is a Cathedral?

“A **cathedral** is a church that contains the diocesan bishop's seat, throne, or **cathedra**. The cathedral is the principal church of the diocese. As the symbol and center of diocesan ministry, the cathedral is an appropriate place for diocesan celebrations and episcopal services.

The **dean** is the clergyperson with pastoral charge of the cathedral. The dean may be assisted by other clergy, known as **canons**.

The **cathedral chapter** consists of members who serve as the vestry in all matters concerning the corporate property of the cathedral and the relations of the cathedral parish to its clergy. Not all Episcopal dioceses have cathedrals, and most cathedrals are parish churches used for diocesan purposes.”

(Thanks to the online dictionary for the Episcopal Church at www.episcopalchurch.org)

Cathedral Church of St. Paul

In the diocese of Massachusetts, our cathedral is the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. The diocesan offices are in the building right behind the church. Built in 1820 and established originally as St Paul's Parish, it was the first example of Greek revival architecture in Boston. (Doesn't it look like a Greek temple?)

Nearly 100 years later, Bishop William Lawrence turned the parish into the Cathedral, calling it “A House of Prayer for all people.” Located in downtown Boston, near the State House and City Hall, the church is strategically located as a diocesan center and a voice of the church in the world. To show unity with its Anglican tradition, stones from St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and St. Botolph's Church, Boston, England, were incorporated into the building, and a stone from Valley Forge represents its conception as an American church. Because of its location in the heart of Boston, our cathedral tries to help the poor and homeless right in the middle of Boston. Also, our cathedral is often host for many significant diocesan events including annual diocesan conventions, confirmations, and ordinations.

St. Paul's turned 100 in October 2012! (That's a lot of candles!)

Do you know how old your church is?



Notice the new sculpture at the top - or "pediment" - of the building. This lights up at night and can be seen from all over Boston Common. It is in the shape of a nautilus shell against a blue background. What does that remind you of?



Our cathedral is being renovated and soon will have a new look on the inside. No more box pews - instead there will be moveable seats, more light, and more multi-media.



Diocese of Massachusetts Word Search

**Can you find the words listed below?
Circle each word as you find them.**

E E W B E C A T H E D R A L G Y I Y
N G Y E R W P A I T M R B P P C U Q
A E L O V L I D F S C O I Q W R E L
R I S H N A R I I E N C S U H O M A
Q S W R J P N O V I S H H E C Z Y V
W D S A Z O I C I R T E O B R I Y I
Y N D T N C E E S P T T P S U E X T
L G D S O S K S I B E Z M L H R P S
O M E C I I A E T P S X H P C F G E
J P A H T P K U A M U S T O L E L F
N E N A A E E A T L H A C F I L Z I
W R E S R P S X D W C Y P L N Q Z Z
D T R U C K A I Q F A D Z K B E B C
I I Y B E Z P M B M S B A P T I Z E
V M U L S E T W V N S E D T M R A E
M X Q E N S G E D A A G M Q W E H J
Z U Q G O M G N I R M I E Z J I S D
F W J O C T W B K S M C O N F I R M

Baptize	Cross	Mitre
Bishop	Crozier	Priest
Cathedral	Deanery	Ring
Chasuble	Diocese	Rochet
Church	Episcopal	Star
Confirm	Festival	Stole
Consecration	Massachusetts	Visit

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