By Libby Saxton, Music Director

St. Michael's parish is a very active and healthy parish. We are welcoming and prayerful, faithful and loving. But, what can make us better? Have you ever been to another church service and been blown back by their dynamics? The people assembled at the church want to participate and when it comes time for their response, you hear it – your blown away by it. They all respond. They all sing. They all acclaim and proclaim the greatness of God. The Mass is by the people and for the people and we the people orchestrate it and own it. The Mass, the living liturgy is fully alive in us.

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I would like to help in any way possible and by no means hurt your participation. That is why St. Michael Parish is in year one of the five year plan to a fully singing assembly. Year one is about observation and evaluation. If you see me running around before Mass on the weekends with clipboards, run! No, don't run, volunteer to help me out. Seriously, I am asking random people at each Mass to fill out a quick sheet on how well people are responding. A quick evaluation on when people are more likely to sing during Mass and what songs people didn't sing along with. Maybe it has something to do with the song – too high, too fast, too new, too loud, etc. – this is your chance to tell me. Maybe it has something to do with the space – not enough people singing around you, too many people around you, etc. – this is your chance to consider what holds us back from fully participating in our living liturgy here at St. Michael's.