

To: Father Stephan
Lisa Dyer
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Council

February 18, 2013

From: Gary Texter

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

Adult Faith Formation

The DISCOVERING CHRIST Team continues its work. On Sat. February 16th four team members participated (at their own expense) in a special training for Discovering Christ along with over 20 other parishes from the Archdiocese. The training day was provided directly by ChristLife, the originators of the Discovering Christ series for Evangelization. It was fortunate that the team came in from Baltimore again to offer it locally (at Sacred Heart in Monroe) and the timing was great for us as we begin on April 7th. Registration for Discovering Christ at Our Lady of the Assumption begins after the weekend Masses on Feb 23rd and Feb 24th. After the short invite DVD, we will invite those who wish, to sign up after Mass in the gathering area. Kerry Roberson and I continue to work with each of our leaders and are gratified that the journey is a joyful and faith filled experience for those participating. We believe, with God's help, this movement will help many to seek and obtain a deeper relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ, while getting most of the church involved in some way. We hope also that those who attend Mass only a few times a year will receive the message of hope in the Lord and more fully participate throughout the year.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick/Homebound

Our annual Pre-Lenten Breakfast had to be cancelled due to the snow. We were, however able to communicate by phone about serving at the hospital on Ash Wednesday. Seven of our ministers distributed ashes at the O.R.M.C. outpatient pavilion, providing ashes to patients and families coming or leaving from tests or procedures, nurses, doctors and other hospital personnel, many of whom would not otherwise have been able to receive them. Over 135 people received ashes from our ministers between 7am and 2pm. We serve at the hospital under the direction of Deacon Trapani. The other 14 Catholic Churches served at the main hospital under his direction on Ash Wednesday.

Ecumenical Outreach

The Warming Station for the homeless in Middletown is now accommodating about 25 men and woman each night. Most of the money to operate this season has been raised. The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council is putting on another concert to benefit The Warming Station. Gail Johnson is organizing this for March 3rd. The concert will take place at 3pm and some from Our Lady of the Assumption will sing also. The concert is free. There is a free will offering and, people have proven to be very generous in the past.

God bless you all,
Gary