

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

June 16, 2014

From: Gary Texter

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

Adult Faith Formation

A *Following Christ* reunion will be scheduled for Sunday , September 7, 2014 for all who have attended for a chance to reflect on how we are using what we shared in *Following Christ* in our continuing journey with the Lord. At that time, we will announce the start date of *Sharing Christ* which is the third in the 3 part series we are presenting which will begin next spring.

Kerry Roberson and I will facilitate this year's summer series in which we will use Fr. Barron's Faith Clips – A brief description of the series is as follows: **Faith Clips** Join Fr. Robert Barron as he answers 50 frequently asked questions about the Catholic faith on a diverse range of topics from God, Jesus and the Trinity to the sacraments, prayer and the spiritual life. We will choose some of the 2 to 5 minute clips to center our discussions around on Monday evenings in August from 7pm to 8:30 pm—the time frame that worked so well the past two years for the *Catholicism* series. After that time we will consider offering it monthly.

'Making ALL Things New'

Our cluster response to the preliminary recommendations from the Archdiocese of New York Making All Things New Advisory Committee has been submitted on time. They will meet as a group at the end of this month to review and submit to the Cardinal or come back to us with questions. The Cardinal will have the summer to review and will come out with his decisions in September. It should be announced to the parish where we are in the process and that the Collaboration Model which our cluster supports (as opposed to consolidation) is supported by the Archdiocesan committee in its preliminary recommendations.

Ecumenical Outreach

We have the info about our SummerFest on July 19 in the Greater Middletown Interfaith Council Newsletter which has been published last week and will be going out to the congregations over the upcoming weeks. Hopefully this will add to our attendance.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church Trustees have agreed that their church will once again serve as host for The Warming Station – for the 2014-2015 season – the Warming Station's 7th season. The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council's next fund raiser for The Warming Station will be its *Festival of Booths* carnival on Sunday afternoon September 7 at Temple Sinai. As in the past, I will lead a team of volunteers from Our Lady of the Assumption to help with the afternoon and everyone from OLA is invited to be there with those from the other houses of worship.

Bringing Back the Greeters

Mary Donnelly and I have discussed a gathering of the greeters and those who would consider taking part in this ministry. The date is tentatively set for July 8 at 7pm. The evening will include prayer and a discussion on the calling and purpose of the ministry.

God bless you all,
Gary