

To: Father Paul
Joe Hershel
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Council

October 9, 2017

From: Gary Texter

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

Below is Pastoral Assistant's Report – October 9, 2017

Adult faith Formation

We began Bishop Robert Barrons' *Faith Clips* on Monday evening, October 2. I am pleased to report that we had 12 parishioners able to come to our first evening where the Topic was God. The class was well received and there was great discussion and prayer. There is no class scheduled this evening or next month when the Council meets. There are parishioners in the group who have been with us for many years as well as some who are newer to OLA and two who were fully initiated into the Catholic Faith last Easter. The four remaining classes will focus on: The Trinity, Jesus, Prayer, and Spirituality. The remaining dates are October 16 and 23, and November 6 and 20. All are welcome, and are able to join up with the group at any point along the way as each class can stand on its own.

Operation Archangel

In keeping with the Archdiocese plan to better protect its priests, parishioners, and churches, we are moving forward in our efforts to implement Operation Archangel. We convened our safety team since my last report to the council, and the team discussed and is beginning to implement ways to make Our Lady of the Assumption an even safer place for our parishioners to worship and participate in all aspects of community life at OLA. We have members of Law Enforcement on the Team as well as other first responders and are looking for more. Key ministries will receive an orientation; an ushers meeting has been scheduled. We have begun informing our parishioners. (There have been announcements in the bulletin the past 2 weeks, and there will be a regular safety tip in the bulletin as well.)

Ecumenical Outreach

The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council's Warming Station for the homeless will be opening Sunday evening November 19 after a brief prayer service. Those wishing to volunteer for overnight stays, or who have contributions of new socks, underwear etc. should contact Marilyn Pierce at 845-346-6110. The Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Prayer Service this year will be at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown on November 21st at 7pm. It has been tradition that the collection goes toward the GMIC Food Pantry hosted at St Paul's United Methodist Church.

God bless you all,
Gary