

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

April 9, 2018

From: Gary Texter

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

Below is Pastoral Assistant's report April 9, 2018

Ash Wednesday At ORMC

This past Ash Wednesday from 7am thru 2pm, Our Lady of the Assumption Eucharistic Ministers distributed ashes to those patients and their families, nurses, doctors and other hospital employees requesting ashes in both the Outpatient and the Cancer Pavillions. We ministered to over 150 people. As the day progressed it was a wonderful witness of faith to see so many patients and staff who may not have been able to get to church having a cross of ashes on their foreheads.

Operation Archangel

As you have been updated upon verbally at council meetings, many steps have been taken to make our church a more secure place to worship, while never losing sight of the fact that we wish to continue to be a welcoming church. We will bring the Safety Team together in May or beginning of June to review progress so far and to bring on some others who have expressed interest, some of whom have first responder experience.

Ecumenical Outreach

Fr. Paul and I participated in the Seven Last Words of Christ at Grace Episcopal Church with other members of the Greater Middletown Interfaith Council. There was a nice turnout with representation from the various Christian Churches. (I might add here, that our Triduum and Easter experience at Our Lady of the Assumption was wonderful! Many thanks to our Priests, the various ministries, the church office, and all our parishioners for making it happen!)

The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council Warming Station Closed for the season as planned after the night of April 5th. Many thanks to O.L.A. Parishioners and OLMC Parishioners who helped make it a successful season, by doing what the Gospel tells us to do. You provided food for the hungry, you provided clothes like socks, and underwear and hats and gloves for those who were without, you provided money to pay the staff and get supplies, and some of you gave of your time, by staying and helping overnight, so that it could remain open for the guests.

God bless you all

Gary