

To: Father Paul
John Zupetz
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Council
From: Gary Texter
Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report

October 9, 2018

Below is Pastoral Assistant's report October 9, 2018

Adult Faith Formation

Our Lady of the Assumption will have **A morning of Prayer, Reflection, and Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** on Saturday, November 3rd. The Service will be about an hour in the church, followed by a light meal of Soup and Sandwiches in the Parish Center. Some of you will remember the services we had here in the past. The service includes pertinent scripture as well as a Gospel and Homily by Father and a moving reflection by Sister Margaret Ellen Burk, as well as an explanation of the Sacrament, and an opportunity to receive the Sacrament. All this is wrapped in beautiful music, some song, and some instrumental meditative music provided by Bette Bonitz and choir. I have spoken with some of our parishioners already and there seems to be enthusiasm for it. The service next month comes at an appropriate time – as a significant number of parishioners are dealing with physical, emotional, spiritual, or other challenges. A letter from Fr. Paul, inviting all will be in the bulletin as well as sent to parishioners homes this week, in order to invite everyone including those who we may not see regularly – as this will be another touch point, and perhaps a point of entry for some to be with us more regularly.

Additionally, we will soon set a date or 2 to view and discuss 'The Mystery of the Liturgy and the Eucharist' which is one episode in Bishop Barron's Catholicism Series, which we have shown in its entirety in the past. This episode nicely complements the Catechesis we have experienced about the Eucharist at Mass recently by our priests and adds to it.

More to come!

There was a small class on how to make a set of Rosary Beads on Saturday October 6th. Tony Spisso did a great job on mentoring those in class. (Even me, who is not good at putting things together, was able to make a set.) Information was given to those in class about how to say the Rosary, as well as what is known about its origin. At the end of class we said the Rosary in community. We may do more with this on a parish level in May.

Operation Archangel

Great progress has been made toward making our church and campus a safer place. Several from our Safety team were present at an Ushers Meeting that was held Saturday September 29th at 10am. At this meeting the ushers were made aware of the very latest steps taken as well as their role in these added safety steps. There was time for a summary review of basic procedures already in place as well. Additionally, Fr. Paul addressed other items regarding the role of an usher in our Liturgical Celebrations.

Ecumenical Outreach

The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council will host a Variety Show on Sunday October 14th at Orange County Community College to raise funds for the Warming Station in Middletown which will open its doors at St Paul's United Methodist Church again this November on Sunday the 18th. Our good friend Gail Johnson from OLMC does great work putting this together, and all are welcome. We have at least 2 parishioners from O.L.A. who will sing in the choir at the Concert, Fr. Paul will be participating, and I will be at the door handling tickets.

God bless you all,

Gary