

Our Lady of the Assumption
Religious Education Program
Parish Council Meeting Report
May 2019

As Religious Education comes to a close, this is what has been happening the past month.

On April 10th, Rabbi Rubenstein gave his presentation on Passover, and what the foods they eat symbolize in their faith. It was well attended, we had around 30 people come out. It was well received and everyone who came enjoyed it. I look forward in having him return next year.

The Fast Feast which was held on April 12th was wonderful. Father Francis Amadeo gave a presentation on Lent and our behavior towards it. It was quite interesting and gave us food for thought. 7 catechists including myself from OLA attended. This was the best turn out yet from our catechists.

There were 5 catechists who took a Level 1 Course during April. They are interested in continuing their journey toward Levels 1 & 2 completion. I have contacted Sister Kevin John, in getting speakers for the Level courses to come to OLA starting in September so all OLA catechists may receive their certification.

On Tuesday April 23rd, I had asked the Altar Servers to give a synopsis to the children on what it entails to be on the Altar. Colby Zupetz did a great job explaining to the children their role on the Altar. We did have some interest within the Level 2 & 3 classes. I'm hoping to get a few more children involved from the upper Levels as well.

I have taken the necessary steps to complete the Lock Down- Lock Out Drill and presentation with the Catechists as well as the children. On April 23rd, Mike Perry who is a part of the Safety Team for OLA / Operation Archangel came to do a presentation to the catechists & children, followed by a Mock Drill.

Mike gave me pointers on various safety procedures which need to be added to the Parish Center. I was in contact with Father Paul, Beth and Sam Osborne regarding these changes. To date all the doors have had their locks changed for safety precautions. We will continue to make changes along the way as deemed necessary to keep our children safe.

On Tuesday April 30th the Confirmation children and their parents participated in a Prayer service marking their step closer to Confirmation.

On May 6th, the catechists held their last meeting for the year. We accomplished and discussed many topics. I am looking forward to another year with them.

The Level 2 children did a beautiful job Crowning Mary for our last Youth Mass of the year. The mass was beautiful as well as the music especially the song the children sang. It brought tears to my eyes they were just great, Thank you Bette.

The children did a great job helping to serve and clean up at the Mother's Day Breakfast. Some of the children who participated are using their time toward service hours for confirmation, as well as children in the lower levels that do not need service hours yet. This makes my heart feel good.

Tomorrow May 14th is our last class. The children will be getting their books to take home, we will be having a fun night with the children enjoying having Ice Cream, making a few crafts, and just being kids!

Bible Camp has been cancelled this year due to the Schools getting out later than usual. I sent home a letter asking for a different week during the year, hence getting one response; so, I have decided to cancel with the hopes that next year the school dates will change, and I will be able to have camp again next June.

I have registered myself for the next course in the Advanced Leadership Training which will be held for two weeks in July at OLMC.

I am happy to report that I have a Level 7 catechist for the 2019/2020 year, Mr. Tyler O'Dell has shown an interest in becoming a Catechist, and I am delighted to have him on board.

I have been researching a Level 8 Catechist. I have a few people I have reached out to, who need to get back with me.

I am still in the process of collecting the last two payments from the two families that owe for 2018/2019.

Re-registrations for the coming year 2019/2020 are as follows: 9 Families for a Total of 17 Children.

I have set dates over the summer during mass weekends where I plan to continue registration for September.

We may have a new prospective family; I have introduced myself to them this past Sunday and gave them a New Family registration form.

I am working with two families and Father Paul on children which need to be baptized.

Collection to date is as follows: \$ 775.00. which 5 Families have paid; 4 families are unpaid but have registered with a total amount outstanding balance \$ \$600.00 thus far.

Over the summer, I will continue cleaning up the Sacraments which were not posted from the past 10 years.

Religious Education will resume on Tuesday September 10th 6:30-8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Herschel, CRE