

Fr. Paul

Ted Wall

O.L.A. Parish Council

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report – March 14, 2022

Bereavement Support Group

As I shared in last month's report, the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York was setting up Zoom Training for Bridget and I, as well as some individuals also approved by their pastors who were registered from a few other parishes. I'm happy to report that our first session was Wednesday March 9, and our second session will be this Wednesday March 16. Last week provided an overview of grief and mourning in our culture including the types of loss. Looking forward to this week which will explore our role as Bereavement Ministers in helping people who are grieving.

When I spoke with Bridget regarding outreach to those parishioners who experienced a loss and would be willing to come to a bereavement group she had 7 or 8. I personally spoke with 3 additional who would like to attend. And I wouldn't be surprised if Bridget may have a few more. I'm looking forward to working together with her in this ministry. In the next month we will come up with an appropriate time to start the group, and to list in bulletin.

Operation Archangel/Safety Committee

I understand Operation Archangel is on the Agenda tonight. As you should know: In order to take steps to protect and secure Catholic Churches from the threat of unforeseen violence and other possible tragic situations, the Archdiocese of New York has implemented Operation Archangel. Sam Osborne, Matt Ippolito and myself attended the special meeting conducted by by Special Operations Group (SWAT Team) at the Orange County Sheriff's Department on April 22, 2017. Since then we formed a larger committee working in union with Fr. Paul. Procedures

have been put in place to 'harden the target' for our church and campus. (Ted, I quickly pulled my reports that I could easily find so you might have a sense of our journey since 2017. As you will see in my Jan 13, 2020 report the next meeting with the Sheriff's Dept was postponed to summer of 2020 and then there was Covid. There are a couple of pieces of business to complete. (Sam or Beth can fill you in) Please note I never put details of our security measures in written reports that may end up on the internet. Most of the program is running well. I believe it would be good to reconvene the committee in the not too distant future, evaluate where we are, then communicate with law enforcement, and possibly have a meeting with ushers after that, as well as the other key people like we had on Sept 29th, 2018. I believe we have a great group of ushers and others involved, but like anything, an occasional in-service refresher is always good.

God Bless you all

Gary