

Fr. Paul

Sam Osborne

O.L.A. Parish Council

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report – February 13, 2023

Holy Hour

I'm happy to inform you that attendance at the January Holy Hour was twelve or thirteen – approximately three times the attendance we receive during many of them. Some of those attending had never been to a Holy Hour and said they would come to the next one as well. Kathy Fayol, as always, does wonderful work in keeping it a prayerful experience for all. I selected a brief selection from the U.S.C.C.B. document, *The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church*, which she read prayerfully, and each person was given a copy of the scripture that the passage referred to (Mark 4:35-41) along with some reflection questions to contemplate if they chose to.

An Addition to our Bereavement Team

Alice Cross has successfully completed the 2 Zoom sessions offered by the Archdiocese to become a Bereavement Group Facilitator. She will be joining Bridget and I and we are happy to have her on the team!

A need for more Lay Liturgical Ministers

In listening to coordinators of our various lay liturgical ministries, I hear a need to add a few more to those who already generously participate. Over the years, there has been some attrition for a variety of reasons including relocation, death, COVID, and burnout. After speaking with Father Paul, I'm happy to let you know that we are having a Liturgical Ministry Fair after the weekend Masses on June 3rd and June 4th. The dates are selected to allow for Coordinators or their designate to briefly describe their ministry at Masses beginning Divine Mercy Sunday until the date of the Ministry Fair, as well as to have a brief description of 1 ministry per week in the bulletin. (Ministry of the Word, Extra- Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Ministers of Music, Ushers, Altar Society- Liturgical Environment, Altar Servers, possibly Sacristan and Greeters. More to come in future reports.

Operation Archangel/Safety Committee

A few details were taken care of: Sam or Beth can fill you in verbally.

Ecumenical/Interfaith Outreach

The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council's Warming Station for the Homeless has been operating nightly. Parishioners can sign up for overnight supervision of our guests and/ or to volunteer to bring meals. If you or someone you know would like to learn more I would be happy to speak with you.

God Bless you all

Gary