

Fr. Paul

Sam Osborne

O.L.A. Parish Council

Subject: Pastoral Assistant's Report – March 12, 2024

### **Adult Faith Formation**

The 2 session **Bible Study on Jonah** is on schedule to take place on Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup> in the O.L.A. Library. And participants can choose to attend the up to 75 minute sessions each day at 2pm or 7pm. Sign-ups have continued to increase through yesterday and it looks like around 6 in each of the 2 time slots will be coming. I'm grateful for Father Marlon's suggestion to do it. He has a wonderful lesson plan that he has used in the past. I look forward to working with him, and that he will do the Lion's share in leading this group study. We are discussing, and will develop a **program on the Mass** to be offered sometime after Easter.

### **Bereavement Group**

We have identified three parishioners, who have recent losses that may be ready this spring to participate in our Bereavement program. Bridget, Alice, and I will confer on this after Easter, reaching out to the three to see if a May startup would benefit them. If there is interest, then we will communicate to others who may have a need we may not be aware of, that it is happening via the bulletin, and announcements.

### **Ecumenical/Interfaith Outreach**

The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council's Warming Station for the homeless is in need of overnight volunteers. Those interested or needing more info can contact me or Marilyn Pierce whose number is 845 346-6110.

The Greater Middletown Interfaith Council is also offering a Good Friday Service, "The Seven Last Words Of Christ", this year between Noon and 3pm on Good Friday at St Paul's United Methodist Church. It had been a perennial event which was stopped after 2019 due to the Pandemic. We are excited about doing it again, bringing Catholics and the many different Christian faiths together. We do it at a downtown Middletown Church so that, in addition to members of the various congregations and general public, the homeless and under served people can join us if they wish. As always, all are welcome.

God bless you all, Gary