

Our Lady of the Assumption  
Religious Education Program  
Parish Council Meeting  
April 2024

The religious education program has been busy this past month and into April.

With the year quickly coming to a close we have accomplished many projects.

The Faith, Food & Fun program had a wonderful response. Approximately 40 children and adults attended. They had a great time. A big thank you to Mildred Pitt for taking the time to demonstrate how to make clothespin crosses. Thank you, Father Marlon, for blessing them.

Thank you, Father Paul, for a beautiful mass on March 17<sup>th</sup>, wrapping up the last youth mass for the year on Saint Patrick's Day.

Thank you to Bette Bonitz for always taking time out to come on a Tuesday evening to teach the children a meditation hymn for youth mass, the children sounded great!

The First Holy Communion retreat which was held on Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> was wonderful. The children enjoyed it and learned more about their faith and the Holy Eucharist.

First Holy Communion will be held on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am mass, followed by the crowning of Mary during the meditation hymn.

Confirmation will be held on Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Middletown.

The confirmation candidates are excited and prepared to receive this Holy Sacrament.

A few children from the program participated in the Live Stations of the Cross held at St. Peters, Monticello. All who participated did a wonderful job. Father Bob said that this will be an annual event there. I am hopeful that more of the OLA children will participate in this again next year.

On Tuesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> the Mamakating Lions Club members came to OLA to demonstrate to the Level 6,7, & 8 children on how to make tug toys for the Guiding Eyes for the Blind dogs. This was an eventful and quite successful project. The children were so motivated by this project that they are making more tug toys at home as community service hours towards confirmation. I have been collecting them so that by May 7<sup>th</sup> we will be presenting a large basket full to the Lions Club. On Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, the last class of the year, the Lions will be bringing a Guiding Eyes puppy for the children to see. The children will learn about what the Guiding Eyes for the Blind do for those with sight impairments and blindness. The children will also be learning about Saint Odilia the Patron Saint to the blind and Saint Lucy Patron Saint to sight impairments & diseases. They will also be making a project to go with the theme.

The second Fire Drill will be this Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup>. I have confirmed with Mr. Arnold, and we are good to go.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the last catechist meeting for the year.

Report cards will be handed out on Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Herschel<CRE