

Sandy Shamburek

To: Ursula Boesch (ursulaboesch@aol.com)
Subject: Parish Council Report
Importance: High

Hi Ursula,

As promised, here is my report for January 2017:

Parish Council Meeting Notes for SRO Monday, January 30, 2017

Serving the Vulnerable

1. **Society of St. Vincent de Paul:**

- a. A **new President** has taken over the conference as of October 1, 2016. **Susan Frechette** accepted the officer's position and has focused on both spirituality of the group as well as understanding the Rule and increasing membership. Officers that are continuing in their roles include Ursula Boesch as V.P., Paul Sullivan as Treasurer, and Frank Salatto as Spiritual Advisor. The role of Secretary remains vacant at this writing. There is an active search to fill the position.
- b. In the 1st quarter of FY17 (Oct. '16 to Jan. '17), we have served 16 clients. The conference had 2 referrals, 13 home visits serving 20 adults and 16 children.

2. **Respect for Life:**

- a. The bus for the **National March for Life** had 49 out of 56 seats filled mostly by parishioners. We had a few seats filled by St. E's and St. Rose parishioners. Due to Vice President Pence speaking at the opening rally, we just missed getting through the security screen before capacity was reached. We did hear his and a few other speeches and were able to March with the very front of the line of the beginning of the march. We felt that the total number present was *severely underestimated*.
- b. The RFL Committee is actively working on **The Mustard Seed Project** each month. This promotes writing letters to organizational CEOs that support Planned Parenthood. We will work to promote it on the RFL webpage to engage more parishioners to write the pre-printed letter.
- c. **The RFL 3rd Annual Family Night BINGO** will be held on **Friday, February 24th in the Trumpet Room**. The Mater Dei Council of the Knights of Columbus is co-sponsoring the event with volunteer help and hopefully, monetary support for the food sold to increase the proceeds to the beneficiary. The RFL Committee is still deciding on the beneficiary. We have 7 raffle baskets this year.

Advocacy Subcommittee

1. **Lobby Night**

- a. The event is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 15, 2017** in Annapolis. There is a preparatory workshop **Annapolis 201** scheduled for this Saturday, February 4th and 2 parishioners from St. Raphael will attend. It will focus on Physician Assisted Suicide that will be on the agenda during this General Assembly session. There has been very little change to the legislation since last year and we are praying that it will be easily defeated again this year. Members from District 15 (Rich Meyers, John Corso and Sandy Shamburek) have already scheduled an appointment with our representatives. We will also mention the Germantown abortionist activity and the outrageous permission for him to continue practicing later term abortions with his negligent practices.
- b. **Maryland March for Life** preparations are being made. It is scheduled for March 11, 2017 in Annapolis.

Support Groups

1. The springtime **Bereavement Series** will begin on March 2nd. An Advertising notice will be in the bulletin will be published starting on February 12th, 2017.

Justice and Advocacy Subcommittee

1. Operation Rice Bowl will begin during the last weekend in February. This is when the rice bowls will be distributed to parishioners on the weekend before Ash Wednesday, Feb. 24th/25th. We are looking for student volunteers to distribute the rice bowls after each scheduled Mass on this weekend.

Hunger Subcommittee

1. CBS Shelter Week plans are being made. This year, Interfaith Works opened a new shelter for the homeless women they serve. It is located on 2 Taft Court. St Raphael's host week is on **March 12-19, 2017**. We will be advertising for volunteers throughout February for meal preparation and supplies.
2. **ADW Lenten Food Drive** is scheduled for mid-March.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Shamburek

Social Responsibility & Outreach Coordinator
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Mon-Fri 10-4 P.M.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION – Winter-Spring 2017

Open to all!

Please check the bulletin for details and last minute adjustments.

Last Update: December 20, 2016

CHRISTLIFE: FOLLOWING CHRIST

Wednesdays: Feb. 1 – Mar. 15 (No meeting Ash Wed.)

7:00-9:00 PM

Retreat: Saturday, March 18 – 9:30-4:00 PM

St Raphael - Duffy Center

Prayer & Worship, DVD input, Small Groups, Refreshments, and Booklets provided.

Child Care provided on request.

Please sign up by emailing Suzanne suzanne.nelson2@gmail.com

Put "ChristLife" in the header.

For more information, please contact Jack Singleton jack@singletonelectric.com



EXPLORING SPIRITUALITY

Come and discuss some current approaches to various forms of Catholic spirituality.

Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM

Parish Library

Feb. 21 – *Stages and Types of Spirituality*

Presenters: Pat Boykin, Suzanne Nelson

Feb. 28 – *Self-awareness through the Enneagram*

Presenter: Quyen Metzger, MD, MPH

Mar. 7 – *Thomas Merton*

Presenter: Sally McClean

Mar. 14 – *Team Meeting*

Mar. 21, 28 – *Aging Gracefully, Living Fruitfully*

Facilitator: Dennis Stiles

SCIENCE & FAITH

Explore some current issues at the intersection of science and faith.

Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM

Duffy Center

Feb. 14 – *Chardin and the Journey of the Universe*

Facilitators: Greg Metzger, Sylvia Diss

April 25 – *The Human Soul – Hiding in Plain Sight*

Presenter: Joseph G. Miller, Exec. Director,
Magis Center of Reason and Faith

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PLEASE NOTE: If Montgomery Country Schools are closed, these programs are canceled.
Contact Suzanne Nelson, AFF Coordinator, for more information. Suzanne.nelson2@gmail.com or
443-472-3730. Also see: the parish bulletin, or www.straphaels.org/adult-faith-formation

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MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Acts of the Apostles, Part 2

Tuesdays

9:45 AM-12:00 Noon – Parish Library

Facilitators: Dorothy Welsh, and team

January 10, 17 (end 11:30), 24, 31

February 7, 14, 21, 28

March 7, 14

April 4, 11, 18, 25

(Snow day make ups may be added.)

Unlocking the Mystery

Tuesdays

9:45 AM-12:00 Noon – Parish Library

Facilitators: Dorothy Welsh, and team

May 2, 9, 16, 23

AFF TEAM MEETINGS

Tuesdays

Parish Library

For all program facilitators and others interested in AFF planning and progress

Feb. 21 – 6:30 -7:30 PM

May 16 – 7:30 -9:00 PM

EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Acts of the Apostles, Part 1

Thursdays

7:30-9:30 PM – Duffy Center

Facilitators: Suzanne Nelson and Team

January 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16 ...

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

(Snow day make ups may be added.)

STAY & PRAY

Presentation, Discussion, Prayer

Small groups in English or Spanish

Mondays

7:00-8:15 PM – All Purpose Room

When Religious Education is in session

Facilitators: Ana Fernández-Daza, Suzanne Nelson

AMORIS LAETITA

Panel Discussion

Thursday - February 23

7:30-9:00 PM – Duffy Center

For all catechists, facilitators, and others interested in "The Joy of Love" by Pope Francis

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Grow a little deeper Reach a little higher



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