



The Basilian Fathers

Parish Est. 1767

January 17, 2019

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish:

As you may recall, we announced in November of 2018 that we are beginning a new outreach initiative in partnership with the Hospice of Windsor, called "Assumption Cares." As part of my role within the Parish, I have been asked to take the lead in coordinating and implementing this project.

As we have moved through the planning process for this initiative, we have become aware that many of you have questions about Assumption Cares. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be sharing some more information with you, to hopefully begin to answer some of those questions.

As Fr. Maurice mentioned previously, the idea for this sort of outreach initiative was launched when Assumption Parish received a \$250,000 grant from the Basilian Fathers, which was to be used for outreach to the community. In looking for ways to effectively use this grant, Deacon Paul Bezaire called attention to the Compassionate Care Communities which had been established by the Hospice of Windsor and Essex County. This model seeks to establish a community "hub" where residents of a given area can have access to programs and services that aid in improving their quality of life. The programs offered also seek to combat isolation and loneliness, which can negatively impact a person's health and well-being.

At first, we will start small, by uniting the Parish's existing outreach programs under the Assumption Cares banner. Then, as we move forward, we will be adding new programs, which will cover a wide variety of areas. Some of the possibilities being discussed include support groups, exercise classes, social activities, and fun activities, where a person can participate in an art project, or learn a new skill.

As part of our wish to share more information with you, we will be sharing a summary of the results of the survey in the bulletin next weekend. We then hope to be able to issue a detailed information sheet, which will provide much more information about this initiative. Finally, we will share with you a detailed calendar of programs and services.

As we move forward with implementing this project, we welcome any feedback you may have. Please do not hesitate to speak with me after mass, send me an e-mail, or give me a call in the Parish Office. We will also have a questions and comments box available in the back of the Church. Thank you to those who have already indicated an interest in volunteering for this project- we look forward to providing you with more information in the coming weeks!

Sincerely in Christ,

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