**Saint Alban Roe (SAR)**

**Parish Council Meeting**

**26 March 2024, Written 4 April 2024**

**7:30-9:00 pm**

**In Person Members (Mikesch Hall):** Fr. Clark Philipp, Fr. John Seper, Gary Lombardo (President), Joe Braeckel (Vice President), John Gleich (Secretary), Deacon Keith Mallon, Tammy Lawrence, Christy Brotherton, Sue Garrett, Pam Schnell, Megan Ruder, Anne Marie Christopher, Dan Tarpey

**Members Absent:** John Stieferman, Mark Pilkenton, Mike Rethorn

We met in church at ~7:15 pm, prayed quietly first, then together, asking for intentions, and then moved downstairs to Mikesch Hall for our meeting.

**Gary Lombardo** opened our meeting with the following agenda that he had sent out prior to the meeting:

* Opening Prayer 7:30 pm in Church
* Special Intentions
* Approve Previous Meeting Minutes
* Pastor’s Report
* Fr. Philipp: “What does a Parish that has adopted an apostolic approach look like?”
* Update on Director of Communications, Evangelism and CRE positions
* SAR School Task Force update
* Donut Sundays & Parish Festival – Gary Lombardo
* Feedback from the Parish - Parish Ministries Review
* Next Meeting April 23rd in Mikesch Hall – 7:30 pm (In Church)
* Closing Prayer

**Gary Lombardo** asked to approve the minutes for our last meeting. The meeting minutes were approved and sent to Sally Tschopp to post on our SAR web site.

**Fr. Clark Philipp** opened with the following:

1. He is interviewing several candidates and working on offers for two open Parish positions, Communications/Marketing, and Discipleship/Evangelization. Fr. Philipp will continue to lead the Evangelization until that position is filled.
2. Fr. Philipp’s grandfather passed away a couple of weeks ago.
3. We have a Phase 1 School Task Force working on the requested Archdiocese feasibility report for our school. Will provide this report to the Parish Council when completed. A Phase 2 effort is about to begin to develop a strategic plan, set goals and measurements, etc.
4. Fr. Philipp emphasized the need to reform the school to a more apostolic approach, since few people actually practice their faith today.
5. St. Claire of Assisi school enrollment has been declining in recent years (~100 children now) to the point that their Finance Council, Parish Council and other Parish staff have had recent discussions with their Pastor about the long term feasibility of their school. A discussion ensued about being proactive about merging, the status of other nearby grade schools, etc.
6. Fr. Philipp broached the idea of having a development or fundraising campaign to include estate planning, endowments, etc.

**Gary Lombardo** said that Donut Sundays have been going very well with 9:30 Mass the best attended. We’re getting about ¾ of our cost back in donations and it’s a great social experience for our parishioners. The next one is scheduled for April 21st. There was discussion about our next Fall Festival, particularly as to when to have it. We have been considering having the Fall Festival over 2 days, over Friday/Saturday on Labor Day weekend. One day might be mainly for families with simpler food, and the other day might be for adults. Gary Lombardo is chairing the event again and is forming a volunteer committee now to plan and execute it. A meeting is scheduled for April 2nd. This would include the areas of food & beverages, raffles, games, rides, promotions, set up & tear down, etc.

**Fr. Clark Philipp** led a long discussion about “What does a Parish that has adopted an apostolic approach look like, what would you notice?” The following ideas were offered and discussed:

1. A zeal for Mass with reverence, singing, outward dress of respect
2. Well attended masses and a full school
3. Unified goals and collaboration across the Parish and ministries
4. A great Parish outreach reputation
5. Frequent visitors and new members
6. Strong Parish leadership
7. A welcoming feeling/experience in the Parish with love and joy
8. More younger families engaged, including youth and young adults
9. Forward looking Parishioners and staff, not bound by traditions
10. More people praying, in the adoration chapel and going to confession/reconciliation
11. Preaching doctrine with charity
12. A greater sense of community and fellowship
13. Increased communication and prayer in the Parish
14. More highly motivated and inspired parishioners
15. Living your faith with conviction and commitment
16. Adult Formation and RCIA
17. Bible studies and faith sharing groups with open discussions on faith and how it applies to life
18. Faith filled music and art on our campus
19. Engaging the outside/strangers (witness)

Fr. Philipp concluded by asking, “So how do we do this?” “How do you effectively educate people about faith without confronting or alienating them?” “What are the next steps and roads forward?” We monitor what matters.

**Our next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for April 23rd at 7:30 pm, with the Council meeting in the church first at 7:15 pm, then Mikesch Hall at 7:30 pm.**

**Fr. John Seper** closed the meeting with a prayer ~9 pm.