

St Alban Roe Parish Council  
Meeting Minutes

October 23rd, 2018

**Attendees**

Father Stoltz	Dean Mandis
David Maloney	Marlene Matyshak
Dan Amiri	Kevin McMichael
Steve Elli(absent)	Patti Moon
Mark Hayek	Pat O'Shaughnessy
Tom Lawrence	Mary Lee Sander
Gary Lombardo (absent)	John Stieferman
	Father Wosman

**Items Discussed**

**Opening Prayer - David**

**Meeting Minutes**

September meeting minutes were reviewed by all members, approved by Mark Hayek and seconded by John Stieferman. Father Wosman will post minutes to the SAR website.

**Pastor's Report**

Sexual Abuse Meeting – Attendance was low. Only 2 parents of school age children were present. There has been \$180,000 collected to date for the new HVAC system.

The pavilion is scheduled to open the week before Thanksgiving. Extension of downspouts will be added to handle rain runoff and prevent problems in the future. The contractors are also adding insulation in the attic.

Weekend Mass Attendance information was provided for weekends of:

October 6 -7 1732

October 13-14 1700

October 20-21 1500

October attendance was down 100 – 200 people from last year. Currently, the parish has an average 2300 – 2600 families. If the average family consist of 3 people, there should be over 6000 in attendance for a given weekend compared to the numbers provided above.

**2018 Initiatives**

**Festival of Ministries**

David reminded everyone of their scheduled times for Oct 27<sup>th</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup> masses as documented in last month's meeting minutes.

David is checking into getting an updated parish council picture including new members.

**October 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Sexual Abuse**

There was positive feedback regarding the information provided by the presenters, especially Sandra Price. The topic of providing a summary of the meeting in a Sunday bulletin was discussed. It was agreed David and Dan will provide additional information and a link to the Archdiocese website.

#### 2019 Trivia Night

David will further discuss this topic on October 29<sup>th</sup> with the Knights of Columbus to assist in making this event possible. Profit from previous years ranged from \$13,000 to \$15,000.

#### Evangelization

Dan provided a presentation on "Enlivening our Community in Christ Jesus" which is attached. After the presentation, it was agreed to invite Mary Hall of the Dynamic Catholic Committee to the next Parish Council meeting.

#### Bishop Barron Discussion

Gary will present next month on this topic.

Father Wosman reported initially 1700 emails were sent out plus 25 more who joined later. There were also 8 who dropped out.

#### Parish Organization Discussion

Patty Moon volunteered to be the point of contact for the school board, since it was vacated upon Suzette's end of term.

#### Closing Prayer - Father Stoltz

## Parish Presentation - Enlivening our Community in Christ Jesus

Personally, I am very happy to be at SAR. I love the school, the parish, the people and the opportunities I have to deepen my faith.

But from serving on council and from my own observations, I know that not everything is going as well for everyone. I think we know the signs and are familiar with them: we are a parish filled with a lot of itinerant families, we have "spheres" of our community that may or may not relate with each other between the school/psr/families without kids/old/young, people not attending Mass, not taking their kids to Mass, lack of broad-based giving, etc. These certainly are not challenges unique to our parish, but they are OUR challenges.

These are the signs that we see. But underneath them too I think we can understand that people are not as holy as God is calling them to be, myself included. We all need each other's help to get to heaven so how can we do a better job at that?

That's the negative stuff. On the positive side, I have been inspired by some really powerful content lately:

- (1) Rebuilt book. A lay administrator and a pastor successfully rejuvenated their parish through a complete rethinking of everything they were doing as a parish. There were some failures and successes. In their book, they offer their own insights, which generally I found helpful.
- (2) We know that one of the greatest needs in our country today is a sense of community that frankly a lot of people just don't have anymore, especially among young people. We have a unique opportunity here to evangelize, by offering to people community in Christ. Patrick Deneen, professor at Notre Dame, quotes Wendell Berry, "Community is more than a collection of self-interested individuals brought together to seek personal advancement. Rather, it ' lives and acts by the common virtues of trust, goodwill, forbearance, self-restraint, compassion, and forgiveness.'" Basically, we're in it for each other. Any community is about helping each other become better people. But a uniquely Christian community is about helping each other become more like Christ, in everything we do.
- (3) I have also been very impressed by the work of the Dynamic Catholic Committee at SAR. Mary Hall is a force of nature, as you know, who has had a remarkable encounter with Christ in prayer. My impression is that she truly lives out her love of Christ through her work on the DC committee. Mary and DC are an inspiration.
- (4) This echoes too what Pope Francis says in Evangelii Gaudium. This document is just filled with great content, but I wanted to include a few choice quotes:
  - (a) "Evangelization is the task of the Church." (No surprise there. It's the great commission, to make disciples of all nations.)

I have some other practical suggestions, but I'll stop there. If you're on board, I'd love to think of creative ways to reach people. The authors of Rebuilt literally rebuilt part of their Church building and completely rethought everything from the ground up. We don't have to go that far but I do think we can at least leverage our great people at SAR and great resources and make a more concerted effort to evangelize.

### **Practical Suggestions**

Integrate DC four signs (prayer, study, generosity, evangelism) with all that we do. This could include, for example:

- (a) Every parishioner could state the 4 signs, if asked
- (b) On a regular cycle (yearly/quarterly/etc.) ministries focus on one of the four signs and how they can increase parish involvement in that sign through their ministry. If the sign is prayer, Knights could recommit to saying a rosary every day and help each other in that regard. Athletic programs could more explicitly encourage coaches to pray with their teams before practices and games.
- (c) Quarterly meetings with ministries to educate them and help them in this effort.
- (d) Coordinated homilies with an actionable item that encourages parish participation in one of the four signs. Could help to build up a parish of "one mind" and enhance a sense of community. Rebuilt, in a somewhat kitschy way, called it "the message" for the week. We don't have to do that but I do think the content, coordinated across mass times, could be helpful.
- (e) Alternately, "actionable" items could be included at the end of Mass.
- (f) Using Bishop Barron/flocknote/or some other resource, we reinforce the homily and the actionable item mid-week. I think we have the tools in place.
- (g) Parish-wide weekly small groups, for prayer, community, and study. Could we facilitate this through flocknote?
- (h) Rebuilt program had success getting rid of fundraisers and fundraising events. They found this helpful to the purpose of evangelization (and ultimately received more than enough in tithes) but this seems to be a big change.
- (i) Perpetual adoration. It seemed to be getting started but nothing came of it. Do we have enough families to support perpetual adoration?
- (j) Mentor program, such as older couples having dinner/prayer with younger couples, engaged couples in the parish.
- (k) Regular adult catechesis with childcare.

### **Big Ideas:**

1. Have the 4 Signs be the umbrella of our mission as a parish to develop our personal relationship with God
2. Every parishioner could state the 4 signs, if asked
3. All youth of parish (school/psr) would use Blessed First Communion program and Decision Point Confirmation program. These programs are not just about teaching the faith, but helping the kids

2018

Archdiocese of St. Louis - Weekend Mass Attendance (October 2018)

Name of Parish ST. ALBAN ROE

Person to contact if there are questions: RICHARD STOLTZ Phone Number 314-750-5009

For the following three weekends October 6-7, October 13-14, and October 20-21, please make an accurate count of the total number of persons (adults and children) attending each Mass. Please indicate the day, time, and attendance for each weekend Mass. If the Mass is conducted in a language other than English, please indicate that language in the appropriate columns.

Weekend of October 6-7			Weekend of October 13-14			Weekend of October 20-21		
Day/Time of Mass	Total Attendance	Language Other than English	Day/Time of Mass	Total Attendance	Language Other than English	Day/Time of Mass	Total Attendance	Language Other than English
Saturday, October 6			Saturday, October 13			Saturday, October 20		
4:30	399		4:30	362		4:30	383	
Sunday, October 7			Sunday, October 14			Sunday, October 21		
7:30	172		7:30	168		7:30	159	
9:30	584		9:30	380		9:30	499	
11:30	296		11:30	311		11:30	300	
5:00	281		6:00	479		5:00	229	

Please email, fax, or mail the completed form to

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