**Saint Alban Roe (SAR)**

**Parish Council Meeting**

**24 October 2023, Written 30 October 2023**

**7:30-8:30 pm**

**In Person Members (Parish Rectory Basement):** Fr. Clark Philipp, Fr. John Seper, Deacon Keith Mallon, Gary Lombardo (President), Joe Braeckel (Vice President), Anne Marie Christopher, Christy Brotherton, Sue Garrett, Mark Pilkenton, Pam Schnell

**Members Absent:** John Gleich, John Stieferman, Dan Tarpey, Mark Rethorn, Tammy Lawrence, Susan Noonan, Megan Ruder

**Fr. Clark Philipp** opened our meeting with a prayer

**Gary Lombardo** asked for any special intentions

**Gary Lombardo** asked to approve the previous Parish Council minutes. The previous Parish Council minutes were approved as written, and **John Gleich** sent them to Sally Tschopp to post on our SAR website.

**Fr. Clark Philipp** and the Parish Council members had discussions about the following topics:

1. **Gary Lombardo** provided an update regarding the success of the Parish Fall Festival. Last year’s emphasis was to introduce parishioners. This year’s goals were to increase turnout/participation. Food sales and game participation were improved, and a nominal profit of $1,300 was realized. Feedback from participants/parishioners was favorable (weather was great!). The BINGO tent was a big hit, as was the band. Based on these successes, next year’s Fall Festival will need to grow, which will require a more formal planning committee.
2. **Fr. Clark Phillip** provided feedback on the 5 parish listening sessions, which were well-attended. There was consistency in the feedback provided. Most answers to the three questions came from loyalty vs. love. There were consistent answers regarding the challenges and growth topics, such as special events involving everyone (e.g., donut Sundays). There also appeared to be a need for cross-communications between groups, especially at faith events.

* Continued discussion centered around issues such as creating events (family/community) around Sunday Mass, attendance at Mass, how best to move forward, and a discussion of Pope Francis’ quote (an era of change vs. a change of era).
* Youth involvement – concerns regarding whether some want/care to be participating. A recommendation was offered as to whether a youth discussion session might be beneficial.
* **Fr. Clark Philipp** provided a short video which discussed the meaning of Apostolic Mode vs. Christendom Mode, and the book of that same name which may help us move into the Apostolic Mode (theoretical leading us into Practical). Parish Council members are to read the first 2 chapters of the book for discussion at our next meeting. The need for the Parish Council to prepare spiritually for their meetings was discussed, and the members were encouraged to arrive at church by 7:15 for a 15 minute period of prayerful contemplation. **Fr. John Seper** indicated the doors of the church would be opened by 7 pm.

1. Feedback from the parish discussed a variety of topics, such as: the lights of the school’s gym being dim, and whether new bulbs were needed (change or install LED lights), replacing kneelers, disabled access to the front of church elevator (lift) operability (availability of Key), access to AED in Sacristy, safety procedures regarding access to doors, need for usher training, how to identify medical resources in attendance, the availability of a cry room. Most agreed that some training was necessary, and there was a need for a better “system” regarding security. The prospect of the need for a capital campaign was also discussed.

**Our next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for November 28th at 7:30pm, with the Council meeting in the church first at 7:15, then the Parish Council Room at 7:30pm.**

**Fr. John Seper** closed the meeting with a prayer.