

April 8, 2024
Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA)
Court Blessed Mother Teresa #2550

Regent Paula Foret called the meeting to order at OLPH's Life Center at 5:38 PM. There was a quorum of officers and members present. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Refreshments were provided by Kathy Cox.

Regent Paula introduced new member Debbie Onellion to the court and she was installed at this time and was presented with a CDA pin.

Items of correspondence were passed around--most importantly, a survey in CDA's Share Magazine. Regent Paula stressed the importance of this survey and requested that members individually participate in the survey.

Copies of the Court's March Minutes were distributed and read silently by members. Motion was made by Rose M. and seconded by Kathy C. to approve the Minutes. Hearing no objections the March Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Barbara Babineaux gave the Treasurer's Report as follows: Checkbook beginning balance as of March 1st was \$6,522.47 and ending balance was \$10,756.97. Deposits derived from the Shrimp Boil Annual Fundraiser and the Sweets Booth were made. Eight checks were written and seven remained outstanding. Motion was made by Pat W. and seconded by Debbie O. to approve the Treasurer's Report. The Minutes were then unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Prayer Petitions List - The Prayer Petitions List was circulated during the meeting to the members by Chairperson Kathy C. Kathy requested that members add names or delete names if prayers were no longer needed.

Rosary - No rosaries for funerals to report; however, Regent Paula advised that several court members will recite the rosary on April 9th at David's Funeral Home. Regent Paula commended the CDA members who have been reciting the rosary before the 4:30 Saturday mass every week: Rosa M., Denise G., Mary R., and Kathy C.

Pro-Life Rosary at the Grotto - The Pro-Life rosary was recited on Sat. April 6 at 10 am. Only Bonnie V. and Paula F. were present. Regent Paula explained to the new members that our court has been cleaning and tidying the altar of the Grotto and the surrounding area for several years now. Note - The Grotto is visited by members of the community as well as tourists.

Empathy - In lieu of chair Betty Rogers' presence, Regent Paula reported the following: 2 birthday cards were sent out--to Kathy C. and Wendy Mouton; 8 thank you cards were sent to those who contributed their time and help for our annual fundraiser; and 1 get well to member Janie S.

Spirituality - Regent Paula reported on St. Faustina Kowalska, the Apostle of Divine Mercy. She was the first saint of the New Millennium, having been born in Poland in 1905 and who became a nun. Her impoverished childhood, many challenges in her religious life, her final illness and death at age 33 in 1938, and her piety and personality, were probably all of the reasons God chose to display his love for all through her. Brochures titled "Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet" were distributed to members.

Old Unfinished Business:

Shrimp Boil Fundraiser Report - \$8,645 advance tickets sold and sold \$620 in tickets on the day of fundraiser, including donations: totaled \$9,265 in ticket sales. The Sweets Booth made \$374.40 (including donations). The Court made a profit of \$4,185.10 on this fundraiser.

St. Joseph's Altar Report - Went very well; held in the vestibule of the church the weekend of March 16-17. Ran out of packets (that were distributed to the parishioners) at the 11 am mass on Sunday. Discussion. It was mentioned that perhaps inserting 1 "crouton" of bread instead of a packet of bread in the future.

Nominating Committee Report - [Absent - Mary R.; Present - Denise M. and Rosa M.]
The Report was submitted as follows: Regent - Paula Foret; Vice-Regent - "open"; Financial Secretary - Carol Whipp; Recording Secretary - "open"; Treasurer - Susan Robinson. Regent Paula reminded everyone that the election will be next month and she asked the members present to please pray and think about volunteering for one of the "open" positions.

"Spreading a little Jesus Report" - As reported by Jeri M., 600 figurines were distributed at the masses held recently and we ran out. Jeri ordered 200 more, that we have not received yet. When received, she will put them in a basket in church but will not announce.

National Guard Family Day, Cake Walk Report - As reported by Shelly H., it was held April 7th. CDA members provided a good assortment of sweets and it was very successful again this year.

New Business:

Spring Financial Audit - Was finalized and will be held April 29th at 4:30 pm at OLPH Parish Life Center with officers and District Deputy Annette Fontenot to be present. Volunteers will be Mary R., Pat W., and Denise G.

Mother's Day Prayer Card handouts on Sunday, May 12 and tentative donuts/coffee served after the 9 am mass - Came up for discussion. Vote was taken and it was unanimously decided that 400 prayer cards will be ordered by Jeri M. and the donuts/coffee project will not be held at this time but may possibly be held on CDA Sunday later this year.

Discussion was had concerning a possible "Prayer Breakfast" to be held in July. No one volunteered to chair the project; so the matter was tabled to a later time.

Discussions on **3 topics** and after **Voting(s)** are summarized, **as follows:**

- 1 - **OLPH Debt Reduction Fund** (in Court's annual Budget) - Motion by Kathy C., second by Denise M., and unanimously approved: to make a Donation of \$1,000;
- 2 - **Youth attending Steubenville Retreat** in June (NOT in Court Budget) - Motion by Sandra V., second by Rosa M., and unanimously approved: to make a Donation of \$800;
- 3 - **Adoption of our Court's CDA Kid** (in Court's Budget) - Motion by Debbie O., second by Rosa M., and unanimously approved to adopt local 8-yr. old child Beau Alexander Martin as our Court's CDA Kid. (Regent Paula gave a report on Beau, his illness, his family, and Beau's interests and hobbies.)

Other Business:

Reminder by Regent Paula that next month the court's Election of Officers for 2024-2026 will take place; please be present to vote.

Closing Prayer was recited. Unanimous vote to adjourn was made and meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator