

October 9, 2023
Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA)
Court Blessed Mother Teresa #2550

Regent Paula Foret called the meeting to order at OLPH's Parish Life Center at 5:35 pm. There was a quorum of officers and members present. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Member Jeri Mestayer provided refreshments. New members in attendance were Susan Leleux; Elaine Barras, sister of member Betty Rogers; and Susan Robinson (returning member).

Several items of correspondence were passed around.

Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator distributed copies of the Court's September Minutes, which were read silently by the members. Motion was made by Kathy Cox to approve the Minutes and seconded by Rosa Maynard. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Barbara Babineaux presented the Treasurer's Report as follows for the month of September: Checkbook balance as of September 1 was \$7,378.43 (noting a 50-cent correction from last month). Two checks were written for WRAP expenses, totaling \$32.56. Outstanding checks totaled \$83.79. Balance as of September 30 in the checkbook was \$7,346.37. Motion was made by Pat Waguespack and seconded by Rosa Maynard to accept the Treasurer's Report and it was approved.

Committee Reports:

Prayer Petitions List - Chair Kathy Cox circulated copies of most recently revised Prayer List. Susan Robinson requested prayers for her shoulder surgery scheduled on Oct. 17.

Rosary - No rosaries were recited at funeral homes since last month's meeting.

Rosary at the Grotto - The Pro-Life rosary was recited at the Grotto on Sat. October 7 at 10 am. Only four members attended.

Empathy - Regent Paula reported that Betty R. sent 2 "birthday" cards, for Barbara Babineaux and Shelly Hollier. New member Elaine Barras gave an update report on Betty Rogers' health condition.

Spirituality - Speaker for the month Suzette Menard was unable to attend. Regent Paula filled in by discussing a book titled The Beautiful Eucharist by author Allen Hunt, and she read a short story from the book titled "30 Words that Revolutionized My Life."

Old Unfinished Business:

Pro-Life Baby Bottle Campaign - Reported by Chair Bonnie V. as follows: Annual Pro-Life Baby Bottle Campaign ended on Oct. 1 and went very well. Some baby bottles are turned in late, but the Total collected so far is \$3,601.41; so a new amount may be reported next month.

Recruitment Drive - Regent Paula gave a short speech on our Court's behalf at all masses the weekend of Sept. 23/24 and a CDA flyer was placed in the church bulletin. Also, CDA members handed out CDA brochures after mass to interested parishioners with contact information. Regent Paula thanked those who helped hand out the CDA brochures.

Financial Review/Audit - New District Deputy Annette Fontenot from Lafayette oversaw the Court's financial review on Oct. 3. Officers were present. Regent Paula thanked officers and the 3 volunteers who helped with the Review--Denise G., Mary R., and Pat W. The Review was successful.

SHORT BREAK - Regent Paula introduced members to a new game called "The Great Candy Pass Game. Members were eager to play.

New Business:

National CDA Sunday - Was held on Oct. 15 at 9 am mass with Fr. Mike Arnaud as celebrant. Members processed before and after mass wearing purple CDA shirts. Fr. Arnaud recognized our Catholic Daughter Court and stated that his mother also was a member of Catholic Daughters.

At this time Regent Paula had members individually introduce themselves for the benefit of the three new members. Regent Paula advised new members that they do not have to participate in every project during the year and may select projects that they would like to participate in. On that note Pat Waguespack noted that she helps with the St. Francis Diner Garage Sale held on the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each month respectively. Pat advised that this project is losing volunteers because of their age and health and added that they are seeking new "helpers."

WRAP White Ribbons Against Pornography (National Event) - Wrap Week for 2023 will be Oct. 28 through Nov. 4. A volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around for members to hand out white ribbons at masses the weekend of Oct. 28-29. Also, volunteers will be needed on Thurs. Oct. 26 at 10 am to place WRAP inserts in the church bulletins to educate parishioners about WRAP week and the importance of parishioners wearing white ribbons for that week.

Saints Fest - Discussion was had pertaining to OLPH's CCD classes' Saints Fest to be held on Oct. 29 from 8:30 to 10:30 am, with the older classes to be included this year. Members were asked to help provide treats in the form of cakes, cookies, candy, drinks, or prizes. Members will also provide and help with games for the event. 30 kids are estimated to be in attendance.

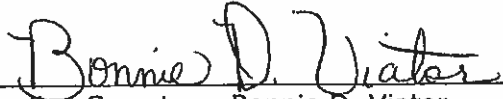
Canned Goods Drive - Will be held Nov. 4/5 and 11/12 at masses. Fremin's Grocery will donate grocery bags to be passed out on Nov. 4/5, to be returned on Nov. 11/12. Jeri M. will work on a flyer to attach to the bags.

Winter Clothing and Diaper Drive - The director of Disch-Declouet Social Service Center advised that they are in need of winter coats, blankets and diapers (small to size 6) as well as wipes and that mens' clothing is much needed. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Kathy C. to hold the Winter Clothing Drive on Nov. 18 and 19 after all masses and hold off until sometime in January of 2024 with another Drive for blankets, diapers and wipes. Motion was seconded by Susan Robinson. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Other Business:

Members were reminded of the upcoming Louisiana election and to go vote.

Closing Prayer was recited. The meeting was then adjourned.



Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator