

February 13, 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 5:45 pm. There was a quorum of officers and members present. Regent Paula acknowledged guest Deb Comeaux, daughter of member Nellie Leger. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Member Barbara Babineaux provided refreshments.

The following correspondence was passed around:

- 1 - a "thank you" card received by the Court from Marissa Escobar, the needy family that the Court voted on and passed at the November, 2022 meeting to donate a \$100 Walmart gift card;
- 2 - a "thank you" card purchased by Suzette Menard; members were asked to sign which will be sent to outgoing La. State Regent Trisha Crombie before the La. State Convention in May;
- 3 - a "refreshment list" was passed around for members to voluntarily provide refreshments at a monthly meeting;
- 4 - funeral card of member Denise Girouard's mother who passed away recently;
- 5 - funeral card of member Audrey Bourque; and
- 6 - miscellaneous other items.

Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator circulated copies of the January Minutes which were read silently by the members, after which motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the January Minutes.

Treasurer Barbara Babineaux reported a balance of \$5,763.38 in the Court's checkbook as of January 31, 2023; she noted 2 checks had been written and there was 1 outstanding check. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Committee Reports:

Prayer Petitions List - Chair Kathy Cox circulated an updated List with 2 additions. Regent Paula advised members to get with Kathy after the meeting if any names should be deleted.

Rosary - 3 funeral rosaries were recited: one rosary on Jan. 19 for Sandra Boudreaux at Evangeline Funeral Home in which 4 Court members attended; one rosary on Jan. 20 for John Rodrigue at Pellerin's Funeral Home in which 2 Court members assisted Deacon Viator; and one rosary on Feb. 7 for deceased Court member Audrey Bourque at Evangeline Funeral Home in which 4 Court members assisted in the recitation of the rosary. The CDA Memorial Service was held at the time of the rosary for Ms. Audrey.

At this time Regent Paula regretfully advised the passing of Audrey Bourque, one of our treasured members, on Feb. 6 after being diagnosed with pneumonia. Paula noted that she and Rosa visited Audrey at Calcutta House Hospice on Feb. 5, the day before she passed, and they recited a rosary and brought her Communion at that time.

Rosary at the Grotto - On Sat. Feb. 4 after Loreauville Court's "Boot Camp" Retreat 4 members met at the Grotto to recite the Pro-Life rosary. Afterwards they performed a general cleaning of the Grotto area and petitions placed at the Grotto were collected and delivered to St. Peter's.

Empathy - Betty Rogers, Chair for this committee, stated she sent 1 "Get Well" card and 2 "Sympathy" cards since last month's meeting.

Spirituality - Regent Paula asked once again for members to volunteer at a monthly meeting and speak on a "Spirituality" topic of their choice. With the recent passing of charter member Audrey Bourque, at this meeting Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator conducted a Memorial Service recognizing all of the Court's CDA deceased members, in honor of their past service and dedication to the Court. These deceased members are Audrey Bourque, Mary Scott, Amy Lancon, Beulah Derouen, Bertha Tenney, Ruth Landry, Rita Folse, Elaine Lemoine, and Pat Romero.

Old Unfinished Business:

Reminder that dues are still being collected by Financial Secretary Shelly Hollier. Deadline is March 1st, before the Court's Spring Financial Review or Audit.

Shrimp Boil Annual Fundraiser tickets were distributed at the January meeting. Members not present at that meeting have been contacted and asked to please sell at least 10 tickets each. Rosa Maynard volunteered to keep track of the Shrimp Boil tickets--handing out and collecting of ticket money.

The St. Joseph's Altar is set for March 18, 19. Regent Paula advised that Anne Minvielle agreed to Chair this event. After discussion the Court agreed with Fr. Savoie to a large altar being set up in the vestibule of the church. Since Anne could not attend the meeting, Regent Paula read paperwork from Anne pertaining to members volunteering in the preparation, items needed, and the setting up in order to have a successful St. Joseph's Altar. Discussion followed. Sign-up sheets for volunteers to help with the packets to be done ahead of time and volunteers to construct the altar in church were circulated. Regent Paula requested that members volunteer in any way they can.

Regent Paula announced that the CDA monthly mass set for Feb. 8 was cancelled. Regent Paula asked members to attend unofficial mass this Wednesday, Feb. 15, and to wear CDA shirts.

Chair Bonnie Viator discussed the upcoming Court's Annual Shrimp Boil Fundraiser. Deadline to turn in money or tickets is Feb. 20. A sign-up sheet was circulated requesting members sign up to help sell tickets after all masses on two weekends--Sat/Sun, Feb. 18/19 AND Sat/Sun, Feb. 25/26. Sweets Booth Chair Barbara Babineaux circulated a volunteer sign-up sheet for baking and/or furnishing of sweets at the time of the Boil. A sign-up sheet was also circulated for those volunteering to come and help out on the day of the Shrimp Boil. Several members suggested posting a copy of a Shrimp Boil ticket on their Facebook page. Member Jeri Mestayer advised that she had already posted it on the Court's website.

Discussion was had about the "Boot Camp" Retreat sponsored by the Loreauville CDA Court, held in Loreauville on Feb. 4th. The 6 speakers at this Retreat all very informative. Several Court members who attended the Retreat noted that it was a very successful Retreat--well planned out, very organized, and very well attended.

New Business:

Regent Paula advised that she met with Fr. Savoie to discuss past and future Court service projects. She relayed that Fr. Savoie stated our court is not visible enough and the activities of our court do not attract younger women in the Parish. Regent Paula said she did not and members should not take what Fr. Savoie spoke about was not to be taken personally; Fr. would just like to see our Court grow more. Fr. suggested holding spiritual presentations in our parish; for example, a morning or evening of reflection with a speaker open to women with the help of the ACTS people. Another example, guiding children in faith or scripture reading. Fr. would like the Court to do more with WRAP, perhaps a speaker and suggested Chad Gremillion with the La. State Police to present a talk. Fr. also asked to be notified in advance of upcoming events on our CDA Court calendar. Regent Paula advised him of all service projects the Court has had in the last year.

In keeping with Fr. Savoie's suggestions and speaking to Peggy Tauzin in the Parish Life Center, Paula mentioned the idea of putting on a "Women's Prayer Breakfast" perhaps in April after Easter, or later, with possibly the theme of "Feeding my family with a need for prayer -- practical ways to infuse busy schedules with prayer." Another thought, our court putting on a breakfast with the help of the ACTS women from our parish coming up with a program. Discussion followed, after which a Prayer Breakfast was decided, perhaps in July. Further discussion and planning will be continued to a future meeting.

Regent Paula advised that last November the Court failed to vote on delegates and alternates for the

La. State Convention to be held in Baton Rouge on May 4-7; however, Regent Paula and Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator plan on attending part of the La. CDA State Convention to represent the Court.

Member Jeri Mestayer advised that she submitted 2 entries for Circle of Love, having mailed them before the deadline of February 1.

Other Business:

Member Janie Smith presented handmade crosses to all members present, having been made by a group of ladies called "The Cross Ministry," a non-denominational group of women. She advised this group meets every Tuesday to make the crosses.

After Closing Prayer, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator