

January 16, 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 5:18 pm. There was a quorum of officers present and a total of 15 members. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Member Mary Reaux provided refreshments. Correspondence and monthly meeting refreshment list were passed around.

Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator read the November Minutes aloud. Motion was made by Mary Reaux, seconded by Rosa Maynard and approved.

Treasurer Barbara Babineaux reported the balance for November 1, 2022, as \$7,256.39 and an ending balance on November 30 as \$6,095.92. Also, the ending balance for December 31, 2022, was \$5,835.92 with one outstanding check. Regent Paula advised of the checks issued in November and December, 2022. 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 additions. Regent Paula advised members to get with Kathy after the meeting to add and/or delete any names.

Rosary - There were no funeral rosaries recited since last month's meeting. Regent Paula noted that Deacon Durk Viator has been reciting rosaries for OLPH parishioners.

Rosary at the Grotto - On Sat. December 3rd, Janie, Greg, Mary, Paula and Bonnie recited the rosary, after which a general clean-up of the altar was performed and old flowers, etc. were purged. On Sat. January 7th, Mary, John, and Paula recited the rosary, after which the altar was cleaned, and petitions placed at the Grotto were delivered to St. Peter's.

Empathy - Betty Rogers, Chair for this committee, was unable to attend the meeting due to the needs of her husband, Don, who is recovering from a shoulder replacement. Paula asked for prayers for Betty and her husband Don. Paula reported 4 "Birthday" cards were sent out (to Pat W. Sarah G. Fay F. and Audrey B.; 2 "Thinking of You" cards were sent out (to our CDA Kid and to Rita LaBiche); and 1 "Sympathy" card was sent to Gail Waldmann & Family for her brother, Ray Fremin.

Spirituality - Regent Paula asked once again for members to volunteer to speak, at the monthly meetings, on a "Spirituality" topic of their choice. Reporter Bonnie Viator volunteered to speak at the February meeting. For this month Regent Paula spoke about the book "No Regrets," by author Matthew Kelly. The book was about living your "4th Quarter" of life intentionally. She passed out a sheet with "The 5 Keys to Living and Dying with No Regrets." Regent Paula also had books titled "holy moments," by author Matthew Kelly, available for members free of charge.

Old Unfinished Business:

A Holiday Food Drive was held on Dec. 3-4 and 10-11. Non-perishable items were collected in baskets at church. Two tables of bagged items were filled to capacity. St. Francis Diner picked up the donated items on Dec. 15 and thanked the Court since there is a high need for food at this time of year.

The Court's CDA Christmas Party was held the evening of Dec. 14 at Jane's Seafood in New Iberia. 11 members and 9 guests attended. The festivity began with a Christmas Prayer. A game was then played where members had to write "Something you don't know about me is..." on a card, and then members guessed who might have written it. Prizes for correct guesses as well as door prizes were given out.

Help the Helpers donation of \$100 was given to "The Daily Iberian" newspaper for use by local organizations' needs. Acknowledgment appeared in the newspaper on Wed., Jan. 4th, 2023.

A Donation of \$100 via a Walmart Gift Card was given to a much-needed family--Marissa Escobar and her 2 girls. (Motion was made for this and passed at the Nov. 2022 meeting.) Peggy Tauzin in OLPH's Church office recommended this to the Court. Ms. Escobar was very grateful to CDA for donating this to her family.

New Business:

Regent Paula asked members to please pay their 2023 dues of \$25 before the CDA Spring Financial Review or Audit. Dues should be given to Financial Secretary Shelly Hollier.

Regent Paula advised that she received a letter from 1st Vice State Regent Jane Donohoe requesting donations for a gift for outgoing State Regent Trisha Crombie, to be presented at the CDA La. State Convention in May. After discussion motion was made by Rosa Maynard, seconded by Suzette Menard, and passed to send Ms. Crombie a "Thank You" card for her service. Suzette offered to purchase the card.

Regent Paula advised she had applications available for A Spiritual Boot Camp/Women's Retreat to be held at St. Theresa Hall in Loreauville on Sat. Feb. 4th, from 9am to 2:30pm, to be sponsored by CDA Court 1401 Our Lady of Good Counsel in Loreauville. Deadline is Jan. 20th and the fee is \$5 which covers breakfast and lunch. Since this event is scheduled for the same day as the Pro-Life Rosary at the Grotto, members discussed and decided that the Pro-Life Rosary would be held at the Grotto following the Retreat in Loreauville.

Regent Paula stated that CDA member of the Loreauville Court Jane Thibeaux lost her son and she sent a sympathy card to Jane from the Court.

Tickets for the Court's Annual Shrimp Boil Fundraiser scheduled for March 5th were handed out to members at this meeting. Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator once again volunteered to be Chairperson for this event. Sweets will also be sold. A volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around for sweets. After discussion, members decided to sell Shrimp Boil tickets after all the masses on the weekends of Feb. 18-19 and 25-26. The sign-up sheet will be passed around at the February meeting.

Discussion was had pertaining to the St. Joseph's Altar, tentatively scheduled for March 18-19, although member Anne Minvielle had not yet spoken to Fr. Savoie about the tentative date. Anne discussed if members wanted to have a "large" or "small" altar, noting the Court members' responsibilities pertaining to both. She also noted that a St. Joseph's statute is required for placement on the altar. Anne will look into a St. Joseph's statute. She advised that the whole purpose of the St. Joseph's Altar is to give to the poor. A vote of a "large" versus a "small" altar was taken, with 4 in favor of a large altar and 6 in favor of a small altar. The small altar would be placed in church. Motion was made by Suzette Menard, seconded by Nellie Leger, and approved that Fr. Savoie would be the decision maker for the large versus small altar in the church.

New Iberia's annual March for Life is scheduled for Tues., Jan. 24th. Paula advised that if members wish to march, they should gather at the Grotto at 5pm to begin the procession to St. Peter's church and asked that members please consider attending. If some members cannot march and/or weather permitting, they can just meet at the church.

Pizza Party for CCD (grades 7-12) classes was one of our Court's proposed upcoming activities. OLPH's Administrative Assistant Peggy Tauzin expressed that the ACTS women desire to do something spiritually with the teens and could use our help with games and pizza; however, dates have not been set. In attendance was member Nellie Leger's daughter, who offered to volunteer with this. Motion was made by Mary Reaux, seconded by Kathy Cox and passed to buy the pizzas for this event.

Regent Paula advised that the CDA Mass scheduled for Wed. Feb. 8 was moved to Thurs. Feb. 9 due to Fr. Savoie attending meetings and the church office will be closed on the Wednesday.

Regent Paula asked that if anyone is interested in attending the bi-annual CDA La. State Convention to be held in Baton Rouge on May 4-7 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, to please let her know tonight, because some money is available in the budget for this purpose. Paula advised that she will attend part of the convention but will be staying with her daughter.

Circle of Love hours are due by Feb. 1. And members were asked to please estimate time spent doing CDA activities. Jeri Mestayer volunteered for this project.

After Closing Prayer, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.


Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator