

**January 10, 2024**  
**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. Regent Paula thanked Rosa Maynard for providing the refreshments.

Items of correspondence were passed around; namely, First Call to National CDA Convention to be held August 14-18 in New Orleans this year at the New Orleans Riverside; CDA's Circle of Love categories with entries to be turned in sometime in February. Regent Paula asked for a volunteer or volunteers to research the categories on the CDA website and possibly select a couple of categories to write about and submit.

Regent Paula advised that the drawing per the State CDA Money Calendar on Sunday, December 17 was won by our court; we won \$50.

Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator distributed copies of the Court's November Minutes, which were read silently by the members. Motion was made by Rosa Maynard to approve the Minutes and seconded by Denise Mestayer. Hearing no objections the November Minutes stood approved.

In lieu of Treasurer Barbara Babineaux's absence Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator presented the November Treasurer's Report, as follows: November checkbook balance as of Nov. 1st was \$7,291.87. No checks were issued and there were no outstanding checks. Balance in the checkbook as of Nov. 31<sup>st</sup> was \$7,291.87. November's bank statement showed a Nov. 31<sup>st</sup> balance of \$7,366.87. Motion was made by Kathy Cox, seconded by Sandra Viator to approve the Treasurer's Report and it was approved unanimously.

Regent Paula installed new member Elaine Barras. Afterward, Elaine was given a CDA pin.

**Committee Reports:**

**Prayer Petitions List** - Chair Kathy Cox noted that she started a new condensed Prayer Petitions List and she explained the new procedure. Discussion followed. Kathy also passed around the "new" Prayer List, having requested that members check names to see if any name(s) need to be removed; she also requested members text her to add and/or remove names. Kathy reminded members to pray for the sanctification of deceased court members and she will also add those names to the Prayer Petitions List. A "new" Prayer Petitions List will take place in January of each year.

At this time several members requested a list of members' names with phone numbers for their convenience. After discussion, Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator advised that she plans to re-edit the Court's unofficial roster list in the next several months.

**Rosary** - The only rosary that was recited was on December 27<sup>th</sup> for member Gail Waldmann. Preceding the rosary a CDA rose ceremony was held. Members Denise M., Nellie L., Mary R., Rosa M., Paula F. and Bonnie V. recited the rosary along with Deacon Durk Viator.

**Pro-Life Rosary at the Grotto** - The Pro-Life rosary was recited at the Grotto on Sat. morning, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>. Members Paula F. and Mary R. attended. Regent Paula advised that the court will now have an alternate plan for inclement weather; members will go into the Library to recite the rosary.

**Empathy** - Chair Betty Rogers reported that 3 members had Birthdays in December: namely, Pat Waguespack (16<sup>th</sup>), Sarah Gaspard (22<sup>nd</sup>), and Fay Ferry (27<sup>th</sup>).

**Spirituality** - Regent Paula reminded members in attendance that it was decided at a past meeting that all members would take a turn to speak monthly on Spirituality and she once again requested volunteers. Regent Paula this month spoke about Lisa Brenninkmeyer's Women's Devotional Service. For this new year of 2024 she suggested making intentions during the year and making meaningful spiritual resolutions. She explained that God is so infinite and we are finite. God is utterly attentive to each of us; therefore, she urged us to not only pray to God but also just talk to him. Faithful Catholics trust God because he knows what we need. However, our trust is tested whenever we think we are not heard. We need the Holy Spirit to do what we can, even at our age. Paula suggested we use the "Halo App" in strengthening our faith and she played the "meditation" on the App as an example. The Court then recited a Hail Mary for the family of Suzette Menard whose mother-in-law passed away recently.

### **Old Unfinished Business:**

**National Robe Survey** - The Court voted on this last month; however, National CDA officials are requesting members' individual votes. Ballots were handed out to members; voting was performed individually and then collected. Recording Secretary Bonnie V. volunteered to mail the ballots which are due by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Winter Clothing Drive** - 2 weekends of clothing was collected. A change was made since last month's meeting: Large boxes were placed in the vestibule of the church for collection of the clothing, instead of members collecting clothes at the Parish Life Center. Thanks to Roxanne Hebert for moving the clothes to the Life Center, and thanks to Denise M. for chairing this project. Denise, George (Denise's husband), and Paula delivered the collected items via their 3 vehicles to Disch-DeClouet Service Center after Thanksgiving. Johnny Indest at Disch-DeClouet advised that the Court had delivered approximately 300 pounds of clothing, equaling a donation amount of about \$3,000.

**Court's Christmas Social @ Jane's Seafood** - The Court's Christmas party was held on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> and consisted of 23 people, which included spouses and guests. Deacon Durk attended and a plate of food was delivered to Fr. Savoie as he was hearing confessions. Two games were played: "Something you don't know about me is" and "Pass the Snowman."

### **New Business:**

**2024 National Convention** (Aug. 14-18) - Regent Paula advised that delegates and alternates for the Court need to be decided on, with a return form due by March 15 to State CDA. Following open discussion, decision was made to table this item to the March meeting.

**March meeting & Shrimp Boil Fundraiser** - Regent Paula stated that it may not be a good idea to have the March meeting at the time of the Shrimp Boil Fundraiser. Discussion followed. The Bake Sale came up and was discussed, and it was decided that the Court will NOT have a Bake Sale on the weekends that tickets are sold at masses. Regent Paula advised that Shrimp Boil tickets will be distributed sometime at the end of January and that officers will get tickets to all members at that time. Deadline to return unsold tickets is scheduled for Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**March for Life** - Regent Paula noted the March for Life in New Iberia is January 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a 5:00 Holy Hour and a 6:00 Silent Procession into St. Peter's Church, followed by a mass. Due to inclement weather the Court will not participate in the procession. Members were encouraged to attend the proceedings at St. Peter's Church if they so desired.


**Collection of Diapers & Wipes** - The Court having voted on this in January, a planning discussion was held. Dates of Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> were decided upon. Members began donating these items at tonight's meeting. Baskets will be placed at the entrances to the church for collection of these items.

**Other Business:** - None discussed -

**Closing Prayer** was recited.

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded; all members present agreed.

**Meeting** was then **adjourned**.

  
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Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator