

September 11, 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 5:31 pm. There was a quorum of officers and members present. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Silent prayer was followed in remembrance of 9-11. Member Janie Smith provided refreshments and a special "baby shower" cake since this month the Court sponsored a baby shower for the Unexpected Pregnancy Center wherein members brought baby shower gifts to the meeting.

Several items of correspondence were passed around.

Recording Secretary Bonnie Viator distributed copies of the Court's August Minutes, which were read silently by the members. Motion was made by Mary Reaux and seconded by Sandra Viator to approve the Minutes; motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Barbara Babineaux presented the Treasurer's Report as follows: Checkbook balance as of August 31 was \$7,378.93. One check was written to Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the amount of \$100.00 for toner for church printer. Total amount of outstanding checks was ~~\$172.79~~ **???** Balance as of August 31 in the checkbook was \$7,378.93. Motion was made by Earline Viator and seconded by Pat Waguespack to accept the Treasurer's Report and it was approved. \$ 92.29

Committee Reports:

Prayer Petitions List - In lieu of Chair Kathy Cox' absence Regent Paula circulated copies of most recently revised Prayer List. New names were then noted and added to the list.

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

Rosary at the Grotto - **Note Correction to August minutes as follows: Pro-Life rosaries were recited on June 3, July 8, and **August 5, NOT August 4**. Due to inclement weather on September 2nd, CDA members recited rosary at their residences. Bonnie V. went and cleaned Grotto in the PM on the 6th and picked up "prayer intentions."

Empathy - Regent Paula reported that Betty R. sent 4 "birthday" cards in September. Barbara B. noted her birthday is also in September. Regent Paula reported that Betty R. is doing well with her cancer treatments and that she delivered one of Kathy C.'s prayer blankets to her. Paula advised that Betty requested that we continue our prayers for her; she is halfway through her treatments and will be going to New Orleans for a Pet Scan soon to see if her tumors are shrinking.

Spirituality - Speaker for the month Barbara B. discussed the 7 Sorrows of Mary. The Catholic Church celebrates the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15, the day after the feast of the Holy Cross to show the close connection between Jesus' Passion and the 7 Sorrows in the heart of Mary as recorded in Scripture. The devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows unites our suffering with that of the Blessed Mother's, for our Blessed Mother watched her beloved son being beaten and bloodied and having carried a wooden cross which he was crucified on. Through the visions of St. Bridget, the Blessed Virgin Mary revealed that she grants 7 graces to the souls who honor her daily by saying 7 Hail Mary's and meditating on her tears and dolors. Through these prayers we can ask the Blessed Virgin to help us to lift our burdens as she carries them with us to her divine son, Jesus Christ. Also, these prayers can be said anytime throughout the year.

Old Unfinished Business:

Fete Dieu de Teche was held on Aug. 15 at St. Peter's Church. It was a spectacular adoration event as the boats coming from Franklin docked in the City Park. Priests and religious led the "walking procession," followed by the carrying of the Blessed Sacrament and then faith-filled people, all the way from the City Park along the streets and over the Bayou Teche Bridge to St. Peter's Church. 9 Court members of Blessed Mother Teresa sat together in church alongside the Court's banner placed on a stand.

New Business:

Pro-Life Baby Bottle Campaign - Reported by Chair Bonnie V. as follows: Annual Pro-Life Baby Bottle Campaign began on Sept. 9 and set to end on Oct. 1. Court members handed out baby bottles at all masses on Sept. 8 and 9 and all went well. This project is currently ongoing.

Recruitment Drive - Will be for 2 weekends, on Sept. 16/17 and Sept. 23/24. Regent Paula will speak on Court's behalf at all the masses the weekend of Sept. 23/24. She passed around a CDA Recruitment flyer composed by Jeri M. to be published in the church bulletin.

Financial Review/Audit - Will be held on Oct. 3 at 5 pm. New deputy Annette Fontenot from Lafayette will attend. 3 volunteers to help with Review will be Denise G., Mary R., and Pat W.

National CDA Sunday - Will be held on Oct. 15 at the 11 am mass. Reminder for members to plan to attend and to wear your CDA shirts.

[At this time, Regent Paula left meeting to attend another function and Vice-Regent Jeri Mestayer presided over meeting.]


Saints Fest - Discussion was had pertaining to OLPH's CCD classes' Saints Fest to be held on Oct. 29 from 9 am to 10:30 am. Older classes will be included this year. Vice-Regent Jeri discussed plans for the Fest and a volunteer sign-up sheet for this event was circulated around the room. The Catholic Daughters will provide games and treats for the event. Needed are cakes, cookies, candy, drinks and prizes. Also needed are volunteers to help manage the games. St. Edwards School will loan us some games to use.

WRAP White Ribbons Against Pornography - Chair Barbara B. reported that she has made 300 white ribbons to be passed out at all masses for WRAP week. Discussion concerning possibly making more ribbons; so Barbara will obtain more ribbon. An insert will also be placed in the church bulletin to educate parishioners about WRAP week and the importance of parishioners wearing white ribbons for that week. Volunteers will be needed to place WRAP inserts in the church bulletins. (Wrap Week begins Sunday, Oct. 29th)

Court's Christmas Social - Is scheduled for Wed., Dec. 13 at Jane's Seafood; we have a reserved room. Spouses and/or guests are welcome to attend.

Closing Prayer was recited. The meeting was then adjourned.

Note: At times throughout the meeting Regent Paula asked a question pertaining to CDA and the winner was "rewarded" with a surprise gift!


Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator