

May 8, 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. The CDA Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited. Member Kathy Cox provided refreshments.

Two items of correspondence were passed around: 1) Denise Mestayer's deceased mother's obituary prayer card; and 2) Notice and invitation to a Special Mass, Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima, on Saturday May 13th at 10 AM at Fatima Church in Lafayette.

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

Treasurer Barbara Babineaux presented the Treasurer's Report as follows: Statement balance ending April 30 was \$9,989.63 and a balance of \$8,532.22 in the Court's checkbook as of April 30, 2023. One deposit of \$197.00; 8 disbursements totaled \$1,775.77; 5 outstanding checks. Motion was made by Kathy C., seconded by Rosa M. to accept the Treasurer's Report and was approved.

Committee Reports:

Prayer Petitions List - Having no updates, Chair Kathy Cox circulated April's Prayer List. At this time members Betty Rogers and Mary Reaux were added. Regent Paula requested members present to check the list and get with Kathy after the meeting of any possible deletions or additions.

Rosary - A rosary was recited Friday, May 5, at David's Funeral Home for Lois Landry by members Rosa M., Denise M., Mary R., and Bonnie V.

Rosary at the Grotto - On May 6th due to rainy weather in AM, CDA members recited rosary at their residences. Regent Paula cleaned flower bed and planted vinca flowers the week before. 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 2 "birthday" cards and 2 "sympathy" cards since the April meeting.

Spirituality - Suzette Menard reminded members that "May" is known by Catholics as the "month of Mary" and that there are at least 26 names given to Mary, the most notable being "our Blessed Mother." And Mary has 15 Feast days. Suzette noted that May 1st was the Feast of St. Joseph, the Worker. For reading purposes, The Secret of the Rosary by St. Louis de Montfort was suggested. The Prayer of Our Lady of Victory was then recited by all, followed with a Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Old Unfinished Business:

In Shelly H.'s absence, Regent Paula reported on the "National Guard Family Day" held on April 23 which was sponsored by the K.C.'s of OLPH Church Parish. A total of 29 cakes were baked by our CDA Court members. Paula noted the Cake Walk was once again very successful. Paula and member Shelly Hollier chaired this service project.

The Court's Financial Review was successfully held on April 17 at the Life Center with District Deputy Pam Guidry. All officers were present along with Court volunteers Mary R., Rosa M. and Denise Girouard.

New Business:

Regent Paula advised that she met with Fr. Savoie recently [they prayed together before any discussion] and he gave his approval on the following Court projects for the month of May:

- a) **Mother's Day Prayer Card Distribution:** Blessed Mother prayer cards to be distributed by CDA members at the altar before dismissal of all masses on May 13 and 14 to all mothers attending mass.
At this time a sign-up sheet for volunteers to hand out cards at the May 13 and 14 masses was circulated. Reminder was made for members to wear their CDA shirts and pins.
- b) **Mother's Day Coffee and Donuts Reception:** A Mother's Day Celebration to honor mothers to be held in the Parish Life Center after the 9 AM Mass on Sunday May 14.
At this time a "planning" discussion was had and finalized, and a sign-up sheet for volunteers was circulated.
- c) **Presentation to Fr. Savoie of CDA's Donation toward OLPH's Debt Reduction:** Check for \$1,000 to be presented to Fr. Savoie after the 9AM Mass on May 14 (Mother's Day).

Sweets for Steubenville Retreat for Youth: Request was made by OLPH Middle School Formation Director Peggy Tauzin for donation of baked "sweets" which will be sold in conjunction with a plate lunch fundraiser for youth to attend the Steubenville Retreat in Alexandria. Discussion followed, which resulted in a "yes" vote to do so. Sweets needed on the day of fundraiser--Sunday, May 28 (Memorial Day weekend). Planning discussion followed.
Motion was made by Denise M. to also give a monetary donation of \$500 and seconded by Mary R.
Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Other Business:

In Regent Paula's meeting with Fr. Savoie, he agreed to placing a "larger" Catholic Daughter invitation in the weekly mass bulletin 3 weeks prior to CDA's first meeting in August. Fr. also suggested placing an invitation on Facebook.

Discussion was had about having a "Prayer Breakfast" in August. Denise Mestayer volunteered to chair this event. Discussion concerning this event followed.

The Court's next CDA meeting will be on August 14.

Regent Paula noted that she attended parts of the State CDA 50th Biennial State Convention held on May 4-7 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge. This State convention was the 100th Anniversary of the Institution of the Louisiana State Board. Paula attended 2 Break-Out Sessions: the "Spirituality Workshop" and "Glitz and Glam Your Meetings." She reported these 2 sessions were very helpful for her. Paula brought a raffle item from our court, a hand-painted spiritual pillow donated by member Bonnie V. At the convention there was a total of 57 raffle items donated. Paula then explained how tickets were sold for the raffle, etc. Winners for the raffle items were announced on Sunday. Paula also attended the Leadership Breakfast.

Member Earline V. advised that a new drug for Friedreich's Ataxia will be ready for distribution in the Fall of this year; the drug will not cure her grandson but prolong it. She thanked the Court for their monetary donations made to Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance in the past several years.

Member Kathy C. stated she made some adult prayer blankets and she will be getting them blessed soon. Kathy C. presented a blanket to Barbara B. for her handicapped sister. And new member Sandra V. thanked Kathy for giving her the 1st CDA prayer blanket last month.

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 small plant!


Recording Secretary, Bonnie D. Viator