

Ladies Guild Meeting – Sunday – January 11, 2015

The meeting started at 12:05. This was our first meeting with the newly installed officers. Wanda Foster, outgoing Guild president, passed out copies of The Miraculous Medal Prayer and Marie Reale, newly installed president, led the group in this prayer. She also mentioned that any of the Guild members who do not have one of the medals that Father Sam gave out last year should let her know and she will ask Father Sam to get them for us. She will also ask Father Sam if this can be our opening prayer going forward.

Old Business:

1. There were no minutes taken from the last meeting since this was the Annual Tea Party held in December. Marie thanked everyone for coming and said we will need everybody's help for the next year.
2. It is time for annual dues to be paid in the amount of \$20.00 per member. Marie reminded us that all checks should be made payable to St. Michael Church and that Father Sam applies funds to the appropriate account.
3. Emma gave the Treasurer's report. Our bank balance is \$1350.57. Marie Reale passed an envelope to Emma with cash in the amount of \$335.00 collected from the Christmas sale that we ran in November and December. Because of that, we would like to do that again next year.
4. Secret pal – Several members did not come to our Tea so those names did not get put in the bucket for this year's secret prayer pal. Marie said it is not too late to participate. Forms were passed out during the meeting to those who missed the tea and also to several new members and names will be drawn from a bucket at the conclusion of today's meeting. Marie also reminded everyone that once you draw a name you are responsible for bringing a gift to the Tea later in the year with a tag with your name on it and the gift is to be only a \$10.00 item. This is when the recipient learns who their secret prayer pal has been throughout the year so it is important that you attend or at least send your gift with a name tag as to who it is from.
5. Marie thanked everyone for their help in putting up and taking down the Christmas decorations for the church and social hall. The saying "many hands make light work" really applies here she said.

New Business:

1. Wanda Foster covered the Right to Life Rosary – Saturday and Sunday of this weekend and on Thursday, January 22nd, we have special rosaries. Marie Reale stressed the importance of being there on the 22nd and then the first Tuesday of each month, when we will also say the rosary. Marie Van Heusen talked about a special booklet from a contact in the office of Family and Sanctity of Life at the New York Eparchy. She passed out cards and we can fill out and they can be returned for anyone who would like to be added to her contact's email list. She has links to websites and prayers about Right to Life.
2. Marie Van Heusen has typed up calendars with both Liturgical and Guild events and dates through June of this year. She will pass out for the remainder of the year once dates are established. Marie Reale suggested the members bring their calendars to monthly meetings so we can review events and make notes and/or changes. Wanda Foster said she can still send out the emails and reminders for Rosary and Ladies Guild meetings.
3. Marie Reale said we will ask Father Sam to invite all parishioners to join in the monthly rosaries, not just the guild members. And we will put in our intentions for rosary for (1) our priest, (2) our church, (3) sick of our church, (4) souls in Purgatory and (5) end of abortions.
4. MJ mentioned Pine Car Derby is coming up on Saturday 2/7/15 and Tom McLamb and CJ Guerrero are in charge of set up. The only help they need from The Ladies Guild is to serve food and clean up. MJ passed around a sheet for volunteers for that and also for anyone who is willing to bring

desserts such as cookies or brownies for the event. They are expecting about 50 people. Pizzas and drinks will be served by the Knights.

5. MJ asked for 2-3 volunteers for the holiday store and thoughts on expanding to other holidays during the year like Mother's Day and Father's Day and also for someone to consider taking on responsibility for that project.

6. MJ advised that Evelyn Atkinson has volunteered to head up the Kitchen Crew. She will need helpers and they will be responsible for accepting food for functions and deciding what needs to be refrigerated, kept warm, room temp, etc. They would not be doing the set up and clean up. MJ passed sign-up sheets for St. Maron's luncheon scheduled for February 8 for various committees – set up, take down, clean up. Marie Reale said food will start arriving at 9:45 so we need to have people in place. MJ volunteered to be the coordinator for the St. Maron's luncheon. Marie Reale asked that the tables not be taken apart until we are told to start on that. And she mentioned that lots of people come to eat and then leave without helping to clean up and it would be so much nicer if more people were willing to stay around after when we put so much into planning and preparing for these functions.

7. Mary Louise mentioned that sometimes we seem to have maybe a little too much going on at some of the functions so maybe we might want to take a look at that as we plan.

8. MJ mentioned the Spring yard sale and bake sale that are scheduled for April 18 and said we can start bringing good stuff in now. Please, no junk. A decision has not yet been made on whether we will accept clothing.

9. Mary Louise heads up the Greeter Committee and said she desperately needs more people to volunteer to be Sunday greeters. Even if someone can only do a couple of dates during a particular month that would help. She can usually fill in or find someone if something comes up. June, July, October and November months are still available.

10. Marie Reale reminded us that Lent starts on Ash Monday, February 16th and Stations of the Cross and Lenten Soup Suppers begin on Friday, February 20th. MJ heads up the committee for the Lenten suppers and she said there will be sign-up sheets in the church for that.

11. Rose Berti suggested we start up a visiting committee. We did this a number of years ago. Mary Louise mentioned we may want to check with the sub deacons to see if they could help. People almost always welcome a visit and a chance for communion when they are in the hospital. Marie Van Heusen will check with Chuck and report back next month. She said it is actually part of the sub deacons' duties to visit the sick. We will need to keep Father Sam in the loop.

12. Marie Reale mentioned 3/21/15, Saturday, as being Ladies Guild Day of Reflection. It is a fund raiser and we will watch a video of Over Holy Ground of where Christ walked and the event is planned from 9:00 until 1:00.

13. Marie Reale mentioned several upcoming dates over the next couple of months in addition to those already mentioned: First Communion on Mother's Day, 5/10/15 and Ladies Guild Meeting; Ladies Guild Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, 5/17/15; 6/6/15 Ian Van Heusen's Ordination at St. Patrick and Ian's first Mass on Sunday, 6/7/15. Marie said it is really important that we keep up with our calendars as changes may need to be made as the year progresses.

14. Marie Reale said we still have one window not committed for yet and a motion was carried and passed for the Ladies Guild to donate \$100.00 towards the cost for the final window.

15. Francis Younger really would like more women in the choir for Easter and for Christmas. He will furnish a list of practice dates so any ladies who wish to participate can sign up.

16. Gloria Palmer made a suggestion that for the Annual Tea this year we might consider having an ugly Christmas sweater or sweatshirt theme.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m. with The Miraculous Medal Prayer led by Marie Reale.

Presented by Kathy Criminger