

Ladies Guild Meeting – Sunday – April 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order by MJ Hahn, who was filling in for Lynn Vaughn, at 12:08 pm with a recitation of The Miraculous Medal Prayer. The other attendees were Kathy Criminger, Patti Reynolds, Ingrid Franklin, Ines Page, Marie Reale, Emma Montaldo, Marie VanHeusen, Mary Louise Barefoot, Heidi Craf, Mary Rorke, Wanda Foster, Betty Gurney, and Darlene Darling.

March minutes were read by Kathy Criminger. No changes or additions were made. Wanda made a motion to accept and motion was seconded. Marie VanHeusen will have a complete report from the Ladies Reflection and will keep Treasurer's Report and hold for more accurate update and offer at next meeting.

Old Business

Stations of the Cross and Soup Suppers – MJ said they were very well attended and all dishes were great. We averaged an attendance of 28 each week so that is wonderful! For any comments or suggestions, we have a whole year to plan.

Ladies Day of Reflection – Wonderful day and MJ thanked Father Sam and said it was very much appreciated!

Quarterly activities and Unplanned movie – Maybe we need to advertise more. The Passion of The Christ was shown last night and MJ said we would like to see more participation. We just need to get the word out. Marie VanHeusen mentioned that the movie Unplanned came up suddenly and maybe we might need to consider how to plan for things that come up between our monthly meetings. Father Sam said when we get together it doesn't have to be religious – it can just be fun! It might be a couple of weeks out, but Mary Louise will check on a movie – a comedy – starring Diane Keaton about a group of older ladies that will be out in May. And, Cristina is going to check on the Lebanese movie, The Insult, and check on a date after Easter when she will show in the Social Hall. She is out of town today but we can look forward to that in the next couple of months. MJ mentioned if anyone thinks of something of interest to please bring it up and we can consider – maybe a book club or something like that.

Father Sam thanked the ladies for sitting together last week. Ingrid Franklin asked for prayers for Debbie Chase who had recent surgery and needs to be kept in our prayers. Marie VanHeusen suggested Freida might send her a card as we already gave her a prayer blanket. And we might need to send a card to Connie Purdue's daughter as well.

Youth Trip – Marie VanHeusen said the trip went great and our group was so great! Jessie, Anthony and all in our group participated in everything and she was so proud of them!

New Business

Easter Egg Hunt – We will have this next Sunday after the 10:30 Liturgy. Marie VanHeusen asked any volunteers to help with decorating tables – something simple. And those who can help stuff the eggs with candy for the hunt and help with the baskets can meet in the Social Hall after the Reconciliation Service on Saturday at noon. There were 4-5 who volunteered and anyone who can donate a bag or two of candy, please do so. No nuts per Mary Louise and MJ reminded us only individually wrapped candy please. It would have been good to have mentioned this a couple of weeks ago.

May Crowning and Confirmation – May 5th – Marie VanHeusen said we have 8 to be confirmed and we will have a cake. Whoever would like to help is welcome. We moved on to discussing refreshments, which have gotten so expensive for just one parishioner or one family to provide. With two, like Patti and Kathy, it helps to share expenses and duties. There is a list in the kitchen on how to handle the duties and doubling up helps with both aspects. Some of the ladies are unable to help with this and Emma said she cannot volunteer but would be happy to donate. When we receive a donation for refreshments, it goes in the General Fund, but we need to be able to keep track of the funds and then we can advertise that we do have this account. MJ will check with Father Sam about the donations and how to make this part work. Emma said someone could go to Sam's and pick up the food and to maybe minimize what we serve. Darlene mentioned in some churches she has seen a large donation jar right on the table at the start of the refreshment line and people can donate right there. Father Sam said that was a good place for it. It was mentioned we could put on the jar “St. Michael thanks you for your donation for refreshments.” And Patti mentioned when it is our time to serve to watch the food and serve to the children because some of them will grab a lot, more than a portion, as they go through.

Mother's Day and First Communion – Marie VanHeusen said Angelic's daughter will be making her first communion and she will do all of the food. Marie said the church will provide a cake for the communicants and she will have all of the names on the cake and we will provide the paper goods. Patti, Ines and Kathy volunteered to donate for the paper goods.

Volunteers for Greeters – Mary Louise is having a hard time recruiting people to do the greeting for an entire month. It is the time aspect that is causing a roadblock. Marie VanHeusen suggested someone might stand up and make an announcement at church. A suggestion was made to encourage a family to greet and in the Social Hall to mingle and not just stick together. MJ added we could put it in the bulletin and Mary Louise said it could be front and center and maybe have an announcement at the end of the month for volunteers for the next month. MJ said that in some of the larger churches, there is a large sign-up sheet in the Social Hall for volunteers and we have a church full of people who might want to sign up. These are ideas for further thought. And Marie VanHeusen reminded us that Father Sam must approve any announcements to be included in the bulletin.

Yard Sale – MJ had food for thought and asked the ladies to be thinking about whether we want to use this year to collect items now for next spring or try to have a sale in the fall. We will bring it up at the next meeting, which will be on May 5th, since the second Sunday in May is Mother's Day and First Communion.

MJ said that years ago she had a really good boss who said something she has always remembered - “Communication is the key.” So, if something comes to you after we leave, the lines of communication are always open – call or text and mention ideas, even complaints but also think about solutions if you do have a complaint.

Marie VanHeusen motioned for meeting to adjourn at 12:57 and Darlene seconded. MJ closed the meeting and led the recitation of The Miraculous Medal Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Criminger