

Sodality Executive Board Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2019

I. Opening

A. Prefect Kate B. led the board in praying the *Hail, Holy Queen* prayer.

B. Maureen W. moved that the minutes of the April 2019 executive board meeting be approved. Judith S. seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved without objection.

II. Old Business

A. Plant Sale wrap-up – Colleen H. reported that this year's plant sale took in \$11,925 and made a profit of approximately \$5,700. That profit is largely in line with what was made in 2015 (\$5,900) and 2018 (\$6,000) and considerably more than was made in 2016 (\$4,900) and 2017 (\$4,992). Marsha D. has volunteered to co-chair next year's plant sale with Colleen.

B. Anniversary Brunch wrap-up – A total of four couples attended the Anniversary Brunch this year. The approximate cost of the brunch, including food and flowers, was \$340.

C. Junior Sodality Essay Contest wrap-up – The winner of the Junior Sodality essay contest was Caroline G. She read her prize-winning essay to the Junior Sodality at their last meeting and also to the Sodalists who attended the May General Meeting. Caroline will attend St. John's College High School next year. Kate will email Caroline's mother to ask for information about how Sodality should transmit the scholarship check to the school.

D. Junior Sodality May Crowning – Although it rained on the Sunday of the Junior Sodality May Crowning ceremony, the girls were troopers and conducted the ceremony in the Mary Garden with the aid of several strategically deployed umbrellas. They looked lovely in their white dresses, and quite a few parishioners joined them for the ceremony despite the rain.

E. May General Meeting – The meeting was not as well attended as last year's meeting, but those who came were able to hear Caroline G.'s prize-winning essay and joined the board in thanking the generous Sodalists who offered their time and talent to chair the various events Sodality held during the year. We also sold quite a few plants left over from the previous weekend's plant sale.

F. Succession Planning for 2019-2020 Sodality year:

1. Executive Board – Sodality Secretary Helen B. volunteered to relinquish her current office and fill the vacant President position for the 2019-2020 term. Maureen and Kathy K. jointly volunteered to fill the resulting empty position and serve as Co-Secretaries. Liz S. moved that the board approve these changes in leadership for the coming year. Colleen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Unit Leadership – The unit chairs were canvassed regarding whether there will be leadership changes for their respective units for the 2019-2020 Sodality year. The following unit chairs will continue to serve their respective units next year: Gail Q. for Christ Child, Judith

for John Neumann, Maureen and Gina C. as co-chairs for Regina Coeli, Tracy M. for St. Monica, and Ellen L. for the Associates. Liz indicated that she is working on finding a co-chair to serve with her next year for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Amy K. is stepping down as a co-chair of the Junior Sodality, and Tracy will be joined next year by Debbie R. to work with the Junior Sodalists. Regina S. and Laura R. are stepping down as co-chairs of St. Gianna, and Colleen will serve as the unit's chair next year. A contact list was circulated among the board members to update contact information for next year.

G. Succession planning for 2019-2020 Sodality events – The 2019-2020 Communion Breakfast and Morning of Recollection will be organized by the executive board. We need to find volunteers to co-chair the 2020 Fashion Show. The 2020 Plant Sale will be chaired by Colleen and Marsha. The 2019 Giving Tree will once again be chaired by Denise S., Colleen, and Gretchen K. The Regina Coeli Unit will again chair the 2020 Anniversary Brunch, and the St. Monica Unit will again facilitate the 2020 parish Red Cross blood drive.

H. Sodality retreat planning – Kate reported that she plans to talk again to Father Giese about Sodality's holding a retreat for Sodalists to discuss the organization's current status, its mission, and spiritual and strategic planning for the future. She will call the parish office to set up an appointment over the summer. Gail suggested holding the retreat at the Bolger Center and provided the names of two possible retreat masters. Gail, Maureen, and Judith offered to serve on a committee to assist with planning a retreat.

I. May Sodality Union meeting report – No one from the Christ Child Unit was able to attend the meeting, and consequently no report was given.

III. New Business

A. Sodality role in parish farewell for Director of Religious Education – Sally D., de Chantal's longtime Director of Religious Education and member of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Unit, is leaving her position this week to begin a new job with the Archdiocese Office of the Family. The Parish Council will hold a farewell celebration in her honor this Sunday, May 19, and has asked Sodality to provide the cake and paper goods for the occasion. Because of time constraints, Helen canvassed the board by email earlier in May to obtain a vote on the matter. Eleven board members – a majority – responded to the canvass, and all of them voted in favor of providing the cake and paper goods. Sodality board members will obtain and serve the cake at the celebration.

B. Preparation of 2019-2020 draft calendar of Sodality events – A draft calendar of events for the 2019-2020 Sodality year was reviewed and approved by the board.

C. Review of 2019-2020 unit responsibility assignments – The units volunteered to cover responsibilities for the 2019-2020 Sodality Sunday Masses, Sodality Union meetings, General Sodality meetings, and monthly announcements for the parish bulletin. The board decided to postpone until the fall making assignments for the preparation of articles for submission to *Our Parish Times* so that more information can be obtained about the publication's themes for the 2019-2020 editions.

D. Sodality tithe to the parish for 2018-2019 year – Liz moved that at the end of the fiscal year (June 30), Sodality donate to the parish a tithe equal to 10 percent of the year-end balance in the Sodality treasury, as we have done for a number of years. Judith seconded the motion, and it passed without objection.

E. Miscellaneous – Father Giese sent Sodality a lovely note thanking the Associates for their gift to the parish, which funded the purchase of dalmatic vestments for the deacons. Membership chair Patty B. indicated that she plans to check with the unit chairs for membership changes in order to update the Sodality directory. Tracy reported that she has submitted to the parish office an announcement for the May 26 bulletin summarizing the activities of the Junior Sodality this year (this is the first of what we hope will be regular monthly bulletin announcements next year highlighting Sodality's activities). A brief discussion was had about the need to begin thinking ahead about future parish plans to renovate Caulfield Hall, which will impact the kitchen and the Sodality storage closet. It will be necessary to determine how much space Sodality will need in a new configuration as well the likely cost for items like shelving to outfit a new closet.

IV. Reports

A. Prefect – Kate had nothing to report in addition to her matters that were covered during earlier points in the meeting (see above).

B. Treasurer – Lee M. reported that the balance in the Sodality treasury as of the date of the May executive board meeting was \$36,514.80. We are expecting a check within the week for \$5,353.60 representing the credit card sale transactions at the Plant Sale. The expected income from the Plant Sale is \$5,693.06, including the aforementioned check. This amount does not include the expense of \$133.37 for a new Plant Sale sign since the sign will be used for future sales. As of the date of the board meeting, \$232.04 has been paid for expenses for the Anniversary Brunch; however, there is at least one additional item that needs to be reimbursed. Pursuant to the board's vote last month, the Sodality sent flowers for the funeral of deceased Sodalist Mary F.; the cost for the arrangement was \$187.95. The \$2,500 check for the Junior Sodality essay contest scholarship will be written before the end of the fiscal year on June 30. Lee will need specific instructions from the high school to facilitate the proper crediting of the check to the essay contest winner's account.

C. Units

1. Christ Child – Three members of the unit have recently suffered significant health problems, but all are now doing well. The group plans to go out to lunch in June to mark the end of the Sodality year.

2. John Neumann – The unit has not met since the April executive board meeting and consequently has nothing new to report.

3. Regina Coeli – The unit plans a wrap-up meeting in June to end the Sodality year.

4. St. Monica – The unit will hold a June meeting highlighted by a home Mass celebrated by Father Keith and will collect donations for the DC Diaper Bank.

5. St. Gianna – No report.

6. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – The unit had nothing new to report.

7. Associates – The Associates had nothing new to report.

8. Junior Sodality – The girls have been very enthused about their end-of-year activities. They especially enjoyed their spring clean-up of the Mary Garden and are looking forward to doing more gardening in the fall. Their tentative plans for the new Sodality year include caroling over the holidays and collecting Diaper Bank supplies.

V. Closing Prayer

The board ended the meeting by praying the *Hail Mary*.