

## **Secretariat Meeting September 9, 2024.**

Attendees: Dcn. Ernie Gonzalez, Carmela Gonzalez, , Sophie Bejarano, Bart Blaylock, Jim Pompe, Sharon Matson

Absent: Bishop Nevares, Deborah Hernandez, Ted Cruz.

**Opening Prayer:** leaders prayer led by Carmela.

**Group Reunion/Meditation:** Dcn. Ernie

Minutes: Bart moved to approve August minutes, Carmela seconded, minutes approved.

**Lay Director Report:** Carmela asked Bishop Nevares if we should give stipends to the priests for Cursillo Weekends. He said the following amounts were to be offered: \$250 to the priests if they are there all weekend, \$200 to all spiritual advisors who are there all weekend.

With regard to the northern Arizona weekends: Bishop suggest that we give \$200 to Fr. Larry as he will be saying masses. Bishop also suggested \$100 for priests that will say two masses over a Cursillo weekend.

Carmela mentioned that the Northern Arizona team will need the credit card readers to take stipends for the weekend from team and from candidates.

After the meeting on Saturday with the Spanish Secretariat, English Secretariat and Bishop Nevares, Camela, Sophie, Dcn. Ernie, and Joe Fairley all met with Tom McGuire about the lease on the Teen Center. They asked Tom for actual numbers. Tom has sent Camila prices for a half day and full day prices for the meeting rooms, Carmela is asking for a Cursillo price as it should be discounted. Discussion continued and all agreed that we need to be able to compare the cost (apples to apples) we would incur if we rented facility rooms by the weekend and rent the current space we do for office and storage versus if we were to carry a lease on the Teen Center. Even with the Teen Center lease, we still may need to rent facility rooms during the weekend.

It was noted that there are many things that Tom is currently not charging us for and that he has been very generous in letting us pay for things only on the weekend and not holding us to a monthly amount.

Sophie and Carmela suggested that we raise the stipend for the team and candidates. Sophie suggests \$200 for candidates per weekend and \$150 for team per weekend.

Jim suggested that we try to double our Easy-Tithe donations with active campaigning. Sophie and Carmela will meet with Zelda Graham to talk through sending out a, Flocknote blast trying to encourage Cursillistas to make a small, monthly pledge.

Carmela did book the Northern Arizona weekends for 2025 at Our Lady Of Guadalupe Parish.

Evening Under The Stars: Carmela said that we have a table to fill and Jim, Bart, Sophie, Sharon, Carmela and Dcn. Ernie have all accepted those invitations to fill the table.

Carmela mentioned that Bertie Chavez told her she has an electronic copy of the Cursillo Manual that someone copied and downloaded. Both Carmela and Sophie expressed concerns over copyright infringements. Sharon will check the secretary office library to see how many hardcopies of the manual we have.

With regard to National vs International Membership to the Cursillo Movement: Carmela called Juan Montoya at National, our region 10 rep and was referred to a gentleman by the name of Seth. Carmela asked Seth about the Cursillo Manual, which is now called the Rector Guide. Her concerns were about the rosary, which is still on Friday and Saturday, Stations of the Cross, which are still on Thursday, according to the Rector guide for National. The sacrament talks are cut because they do not want to catechize candidates, but want candidates to understand the grace of our faith. Carmela asked who can do a workshop with the Rector Guide and region 10 does not have enough English speaking members to offer that at this time. The closest region that does offer that is region 11 in California. Discussing continued about whether or not to attend. National does not bring out the Blessed Sacrament during weekends because if there is a weak Catholic, they say, the Blessed Sacrament might intimidate a candidate. We all thought this was confusing and did not think it made any sense at all.

Sharon suggested that we get a couple copies of the Rector guide and let the secretariat members review it. Evidently Deborah Hernandez does have a copy and we will ask her to bring it to the office.

With regard to Survey Monkey and the upcoming elections: Carmela has asked Angela Fairlie to oversee this area for the elections. Angela has agreed. Survey Monkey can be used to tally the election votes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sophie said she is working with liberty mutual insurance about our premiums that they had a big increase in premium this year. Last year's cost was \$1399 for premiums and this year's invoice came in at \$2644. There is no good explanation as to why it is so much more, especially if it is based on the number of active participants in the movement. They are charging us 150 members and Sophie is asking how they identify a member. Obtained another quote for \$200 from GNA. She plans to look at both policies and compare them apples to apples so we can make sure we have the coverage we need but at the best price possible.

See separate report for details.

Sophie has paid our ZoHo bill for the year.

Sophie Bejarano's family sent a thank you note for the flowers for her brother's funeral. Veronica Lucas's mom is at in stages of life. We are keeping her and her family in our prayers. Ina Hartnett husband, John's funeral will be Tuesday, September 10.

**Pre-Cursillo Chair Report:** Bart has shared his ad creation for the Rosary Sunday Book for review and approval. Many thanks to Bart for his outstanding artwork on this project. Bart and Jim will work together to get the ad submitted in a timely fashion. Ad was approved by Secretariat.

**Spiritual Director Report:** Dcn. Ernie and his final reminders: October 9th is the Orientation Mass for the fall men's and women's weekends. Fr. Naive will serve on the men's weekend and say mass opening mass.

The November women's weekend is finalized with priests. Fr. Fausco will do mass at Mount Claret

on Friday and Saturday and Bishop Nevares will do mass on Thursday and Sunday. Dcn. Ernie had to switch some of the Rollos around on the schedule to make things work for the priests. Mass will be at 12 noon, and lunch will be at 12:30 PM.

Closing prayer by Deacon Ernie.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Matson, Secretary for the English Cursillo Movement