

Constitution and By-Laws

OF

St. Andrew's Young
Ladies' Sodality

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH



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St. Andrew's Young Ladies' Sodality.



ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This Young Ladies' Sodality was organized in St. Andrew's Parish on January 14, 1906, under the title: The St. Andrew's Young Ladies' Sodality, and was canonically erected March 11, 1906, under the special protection and title of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of St. Rose of Lima, and thereby was granted all the privileges and indulgences which have been granted by various Popes to the Supreme Congregation of Rome.

ARTICLE II.—PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Sodality consists in this—that by proper instruction, friendly co-operation and mutual good example, but especially by zealous devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Rose of Lima, and frequent reception of the Sacraments, Christian piety and virtue be preserved and

furthered among the Young Ladies of St. Andrew's Parish.

ARTICLE III.—GENERAL RULES.

Section I—The Sodalists honor and love the Blessed Virgin Mary and their patroness, St. Rose. Without any regard for human respect, they strive to imitate these heavenly patterns of sanctity by virtuous living, and assist each other in this by word and good example.

Section II—Since the frequent reception of the Sacraments is an excellent means for furthering the purposes of the Sodality, it is strongly recommended to the members of the Sodality. In particular they should allow none of the greater feasts of Our Lord or the Blessed Virgin Mary to pass without receiving the Sacraments.

Section III—Every Sodalist shall try even on week-days to assist at Holy Mass and be a lover of the Rosary.

Section IV—Good order absolutely requires that all Sodalists assist the Spiritual Director, the Prefect and the other officers in discharging the various duties of their offices, and to render them willing obedience, imitating in this the humility of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Section V—All Sodalists bind themselves individually to maintain and promote the good name of the Sodality, and always conduct themselves, so that they can be recognized as good Sodalists and faithful followers of the Blessed Virgin Mary. They will avoid the company of those whose morals and conduct are questionable. However, they should do all that Christian charity demands of them to bring them back to the performance of their religious duties.

Section VI—The Sodalists will visit the sick members, assist them in every possible way and pray for their speedy recovery. Should a Sodalist die, the members, if possible, will attend the funeral. On the evening before the funeral they will assemble at the home of the departed member and recite the Rosary; all without exception will pray, for eight days, three Our Fathers and Hail Marys for the repose of the soul of the departed. They will likewise offer up their next Communion for this purpose and after the Mass recite three Our Fathers and Hail Marys.

Section VII—When a Sodalist leaves the Parish temporarily, she shall notify either the Spiritual Director or the Secretary, and shall be exempt from the payment of dues from date of notification.

Section VIII—When a Sodalist leaves the Parish with no intention of returning, she shall ask of the Spiritual Director a written testimonial of her good standing in the Sodality, in order to present it to the Sodality of the Parish she is joining, and thus retain membership and a right to all indulgences.

Section IX—During the month of November the Secretary is to have a Mass read for the living and deceased members of the Sodality.

Section X—After the death of any member, the Secretary is to have three Masses read for the repose of the departed member.

ARTICLE IV.—MEMBERSHIP.

Section I—A candidate for membership must be sixteen years of age or have served two years membership in the Guardian Angel Sodality. They must be known as good, pious young ladies and agree to observe all the rules of the Sodality.

Section II—The solemn reception of candidates into the Sodality is absolutely necessary towards gaining the Indulgences.

Section III—None can be admitted as member or retain membership in the Sodality, who belongs to any organization either directly forbidden by the Church or whose

rules and members are dangerous to the salvation of the soul of the Young Lady.

ARTICLE V.—OFFICERS.

The Officers of the Sodality are: Spiritual Director, Prefect, Vice-Prefect, Secretary, Treasurer and six Consultors.

ARTICLE VI.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Section I—The Spiritual Director.—The Spiritual Director is the head of the Sodality and is alone entitled to decide in matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the Sodality and its members. His counsel should also be asked in temporal affairs and given due consideration. He is by virtue of office a member of all Committees.

Section II—The Prefect.—It shall be the duty of the Prefect to call all meetings to order at the appointed time, to preside at all meetings, to announce the business before the assembled members, and to enforce the laws and regulations, to decide all questions of order, to appoint all Committees, and to perform such other duties devolving on her office as the laws and rules may enjoin. At the Sodality devotions, she shall recite the prayers clearly and distinctly.

Section III—The Vice-Prefect.—The Vice-Prefect shall assist the Prefect in

every way possible, and in the absence of the Prefect act in her stead.

Section IV—The Secretary.—The Secretary shall keep an accurate account of all proceedings of the Sodality and read same at the following meeting. She shall keep an accurate roll of the members of the Sodality, their addresses and monthly payments. She shall keep record of all receipts and expenditures. She shall notify members who are in arrears in payment of dues, or who have failed to attend three successive meetings without being properly excused.

Section V—The Treasurer.—The Treasurer shall keep a regular and correct account of all moneys received and paid out by her. She shall turn over to the Spiritual Director all surplus money each month.

Section VI—The Consultors.—The Consultors are six in number, and are appointed annually by the Spiritual Director. It is their duty to assist in the direction of the Sodality in every possible way. Should they hear of grave charges against any member, they shall report same to the Spiritual Director. Before the annual election of Officers, the Consultors meet and nominate two candidates for each Office.

ARTICLE VII.—DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

Section I—The Sodalists are required to attend the monthly Communions. Should a Sodalist frequently absent herself from the monthly Communions, she shall be warned by the Spiritual Director, and if marked improvement is not shown, she shall be dropped from the membership roll of the Sodality.

Section II—Every Sodalist is required to attend the monthly meetings and to pay the regular monthly dues of ten (10c) cents. Should a Sodalist be one year in arrears, she shall be notified three times by the Secretary, and if after the expiration of fifteen months, she makes no attempt to meet her obligations she shall be dropped from the membership roll of the Sodality.

Section III—On Sundays when the Sodality receives their monthly holy Communion, the members shall repair after Mass to the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary and there recite the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, together, the Prefect of the Sodality leading in prayer, and all the members making the responses. Failure to attend this devotion on the part of any of the members shall be regarded as a sign of

non-interest in the affairs of the Sodality and its objects.

Section IV—All members will wear their Medal and Ribbon at the monthly reception of the Sacraments. This rule applies to all without exception.

Section V—When a Sodalist in good standing enters the married state, she shall be presented with a statue or picture of the Sacred Heart, cost not to exceed \$2.50.

Section V—Any member entering a mixed marriage will be summarily expelled from the sodality.

ARTICLE VIII.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Section I—At the annual election of officers, which takes place during the month of December, all shall exercise the utmost order and conscientiousness. None shall be guided by any motive of human respect, but only intend the welfare of the Sodality and the honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Section II—Only those shall be eligible for office, who have been members of the Sodality at least one year.

Section III—Only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote.

Section IV—The Consultors of the Sodality meet with the Spiritual Director and nominate two candidates for each office. These names are presented to the Meeting, and those in attendance at the meeting have the privilege of nominating three further candidates.

Section V—The initiation of officers takes place during the month of January.

Section VI—Vacancies are filled by a new election.

ARTICLE IX.—FUNDS.

All funds of the Sodality shall be used only for Sodality and Church purposes.

ARTICLE X.—RESIGNATIONS.

All resignations of officers or members shall be made to the Spiritual Director in person or in writing, so that the member in question may receive her honorable discharge.

ARTICLE XI.—MEETINGS.

Section I—The Meetings of the Sodality shall always be held on the second Sunday of the month, at 2:30 P. M.

Section II—Conversations are prohibited during the Meeting, likewise all loud talking, noise, laughter, or disturbances of any kind.

ARTICLE XII.—ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Collection of Dues.
2. Opening of Meeting with Prayer.
3. Roll call of Officers.
4. Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting.
5. Lecture or Talk by Spiritual Director.
6. Unfinished Business and Reports of Committees.
7. New Business.
8. Bills and Correspondence.
9. Reception of Candidates.
10. Election of Officers.
11. Remarks for the welfare of the Sodality.
12. Adjournment with Prayer.

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