

Alpha Fund Update

I would like to thank everyone for their generous support of the Alpha Fund. The outpouring of love has been tremendous.

Shortly after Triennial last year an Alpha Fund committee was formed. This committee reviews and approves the applications. Also procedures for handling applications and payments have been approved by our finance committee.

With the ingathering date of September 5th fast approaching I'd like to take a moment and share what this Fund has accomplished so far.

To date, nine grants have been awarded totaling \$7,000. It has helped Juniors from Provinces I, III, IV and VII attend their retreat. In fact one grant given to Annette McCollin, Co-Directress of the St. Agnes Junior Chapter in Miami, FL, paid for a bus which brought over 40 Juniors and adults from all over the Diocese of SE Florida to the Province IV retreat at Kanuga! It was a wonderful sight to see so many shining faces file out of that bus - even after the 14-hour trip. It has also helped individual chapters participate in events and other activities.

Clearly the Fund is off to a great start and we want to keep it going. We encourage Directresses to fill out an application, available on the DOK website (doknational.com/forms) who need financial help for retreats, activities, projects, and transportation to events. Also Senior Daughters who are prayerfully considering starting a Junior Chapter and need financial assistance may fill out an application.

The ingathering date of September 5th was selected because it was the day Mother Teresa passed away in 1989. Further it coincides with when many Junior chapters form or regroup after a summer break and when kids are going back to school. But as we approach the ingathering date let us take a moment to reflect on Mother Teresa's life from when she first knew the Lord was calling her at 12 years old, to when she joined the convent at 18 years old, to when she founded the Missionaries of Charity in her 40's and worked for poorest of the poor well into her 80's. She is the epitome of prayer, service and evangelism.

One of our Junior Daughters, Leah from St. Mark's in Maryland, now a junior at Wake Forest College, had the opportunity to go to Calcutta as part of a mission trip through her college. Please take a moment and read her excellent "City of Joy" meditation to us, found on the Junior Daughter page.

Lastly, the Order was blessed to receive a donation of books about Mother Teresa.

These books along with other books and two videos now form the Mother Teresa library. These items will be available soon for Directresses to borrow and use for study material for their Junior Chapter. More details to come soon.

Thank you and God bless,

Jen Mariano

National Junior Daughter Chair

"Let us all become a true and faithful branch on the vine of Jesus, by accepting him in our lives as it pleases him to come: as the Truth - to be told; as the Life - to be lived; as the Light - to be lighted; as the Love - to be loved; as the Way - to be walked; as the Joy - to be given; as the Peace - to be spread; as the Sacrifice - to be offered; in our families and our neighbors." Amen

Mother Teresa