

REPORTS AND AWARDS



Let all you do be done with love.

1 Corinthians 16:14

59th Biennial National Convention » July 20-24, 2022 » San Juan, Puerto Rico

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico July 20-24, 2022

NATIONAL AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

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Regents Reports

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Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico
July 20-24, 2022
Report of National Regent
Sherry Nilles, National Regent

This term has been exciting and very unusual!

The 2020 National Convention was cancelled because of a nasty virus called Covid19. Travel was not possible due to restrictions. Letters were sent to all courts to elect new national officers, national directors and the nomination committee for the 2022 convention. All voting was done using the US Postal Service. Following the bylaws, the 2018-2020 National Board met in Mesa, Arizona, to count ballots for National Officers, National Directors, and the Nominating Committee for the ensuing term and attend to necessary business to transition from one term to another.

Restrictions on travel and finding a location that would allow the new board access to hotel rooms and meeting rooms was finally located in Des Moines, Iowa. The Installation Mass with our National Chaplain Bishop R. Walker Nickless, Bishop of the Sioux City Iowa diocese for the new National Board was finally held October 3, 2020. The number of participants for the Installation Mass and dinner was very limited again due to Covid19 restrictions.

The National Council of Catholic Women cancelled their annual meeting and moved the 100 Year Celebration to 2021.

The United States Council of Catholic Bishops 2020 Fall General Assembly was very limited on time at their virtual meeting. Each bishop attended the meeting from their home location via Zoom. The National Center on Sexual Exploitation board meeting, of which I represent you

S.O.A.R. (Support Our Aging Religious) Gala for 2020 was held virtually. I was honored to present a virtual message from the Catholic Daughters. A check for \$10,000 in your name was sent to support the many retired Sisters and priests.

The meeting of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was held virtually as travel was not an option.

Canceling our pilgrimage to Poland was a complete disappointment for me. Walking in the steps of Pope John Paul II is a bucket list item. Travel was not recommended at that time and international travel was not even allowed. The date was moved to April 2021, but the pandemic was still causing problems. At that time, our participation in the pilgrimage was cancelled.

December 2020, the Executive Committee met at the National Office in New York to set the budget for the next year. Frank Kincaid, our CPA, joined us.

Following that, another cancelled event! The annual March for Life on Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court Building in Washington, DC, held around January 22 was cancelled. Participation in the annual March for Life Vigil Mass was very limited. Essie Walker, Second Vice National Regent, and I represented you and attended it with approximately 75 other pro-lifers. Essie and I missed the enthusiasm of the many young women and men who usually attended the Vigil Mass and March for Life.

The next challenge was planning State Conventions. Most state conventions were held virtually. The National Board members attended their assigned state conventions in various ways. Officers from each state did gather at a location with good internet access. The meetings were very productive and positive. Thank you to every State Regent and state board for being proactive, jumping over the many hurdles and thinking outside of the box. I had the honor of attending the Montana State Convention that was held in-person! (That was in June.)

The biennial Officers Workshop was held at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, AZ. Each member of the National Board studied their committee/Circle of Love chairmanship and created outstanding power point presentations. At the suggestion of the National Directors, five-minute prayers were planned and presented to the state regents and territorial court officers between sessions. The five-minute prayers were very well planned and presented by board members. This National Board worked very hard even through this most difficult time. They are the best National Board ever!

In the fall of 2021, National Regent-Elect Emily Guilherme and I attended the National Council of Catholic Women's 100th Anniversary/Convention that was held in Washington, DC the last weekend of August. We were welcomed by NCCW and happy to celebrate with them and congratulate them for their dedication to all Catholic women.

The annual S.O.A.R Gala was once again a virtual event. A message was videotaped and presented during the Gala. It was an honor to present Sister Kathleen with our annual check of \$10,000 in your name. The Catholic Daughters were one of the original donors to S.O.A.R. and presented the very worthy sisters their first \$25,000 in 1985. Since then, every year an annual gift of \$10,000 has been presented in your name to the faithful sisters.

Without a National Convention to meet and greet our Sisters in Christ, the board chose to present an opportunity for retreats for anyone who wished to attend. Three locations were found with adequate accommodations. Retreat houses in North Carolina, New Mexico and Wisconsin were contracted. Thanks to Connie Dronette, National Spiritual Enhancement Chairman for being the Retreat Master as we studied the lives of ordinary saints who lived anything but ordinary lives!

November, 2021, it was my honor and joy to attend the USCCB meeting followed by the annual National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception of Mary board meeting, both held in Washington, DC. The first week in December I attended Zoom meetings for NCOSE (National Center on Sexual Exploitation) on Wednesday, December 1 followed by another Zoom meeting

with Laboure Society, Friday, December 3. The annual meeting to prepare a budget for July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 was held at the National Office in December with Frank Kincaid, our CPA. The office staff was in the office this year. It was good to meet new staff members and enjoy lunch with the wonderful workers in our national office.

February the full board met at San Pedro Spiritual Development Center in Orlando, Florida. At that meeting we tended to business needed and planned this convention.

Iowa had a National Regents Day May 1 in Fort Dodge. Father Jim Sichko, Papal Missionary of Mercy and Msgr. Ed Girres, State of Iowa Chaplain were keynote speakers. State Regent Rita Carlson presented a beautiful Catholic Daughters state quilt. Each local court, the campus courts and the state board of Iowa created a quilt block. Two quilters from Fort Dodge pieced the blocks together and quilted the blanket. What a treasure! Tears of joy and gratitude come to my eyes every time I see it! God bless Iowa Catholic Daughters.

Since then, this awesome National Board has been kept very busy preparing the workshops for this convention, choosing local and state courts projects to honor, writing reports from the committees they were assigned with making last visits to the state and territorial courts under their jurisdiction.

Thanks to each and everyone of you! May God continue to bless you!

My Dear Sisters in Christ,

July 2022

It has been quite a while since I have had the opportunity to greet you and even longer since we have been together in person. Normally, I would share my activities of the last two years with you, but the last two years have been most unusual—quiet, and, at the same time, filled with turmoil. For much of the last couple of years, most of us, including me, remained at home and isolated due to the pandemic. Not much was happening in person. Our meetings were cancelled or handled electronically. Much of our service was curtailed or relegated to the donating of funds if our court was able. Still, the isolation was not all bad. It brought many of us a new opportunity for prayer. Being able to pray together with CDA members all over the USA via the internet was a blessing, and it continues to be.

Though we are not quite out of woods, there is so much for which to be grateful. We are having a convention after four long years! We are meeting in a tropical paradise where we can rekindle old friendships and meet new members who are attending a convention for the first time! We are able, once again, to worship together. I think if I've learned one thing over the last few years, it is the importance and joy of sisterhood. We are much more powerful when we can actually work and pray together—in person.

Because of the pandemic and other issues, many of us are busily having to rebuild our courts. Attending a convention is a wonderful tool to aid in the rebuilding. I encourage everyone to learn as much as possible and to share what you learn at home. Attend workshops, talk about retention and recruitment, share ideas for projects, let the opportunities for prayer and the liturgies themselves strengthen and renew you, and take your new-found enthusiasm home to your court.

I especially hope you will develop new or refresh and update old projects in which your membership can participate together. Donating money is important for many causes, and certainly our organization needs our support. However, writing a check is not an activity that feeds the soul. Give your members the opportunity to share who they are instead of only sharing what they have. Offer them opportunities to share their faith and to witness how God has impacted or changed their lives. Offer new and returning members the opportunity to grow. We are living in interesting times, and God is good.

I look forward to seeing many of you over convention week, and, hopefully, now that travel has opened up again, maybe there will be more opportunities to reconnect. I hope you experience a wonderful convention and a great summer! May the peace and joy of the Risen Lord be with you.

Olga Samaniego
Immediate Past National Regent
2018-2020

“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

1 Samuel 3:9

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59^h Biennial Convention
Puerto Rico
July 15 – 19, 2022

My Dear Catholic Daughter Sisters,

Two years ago, as I sat down to write my message for this journal, I found it very difficult due to the impact of COVID–It was hard to find the words. Well...we did not have the National Convention in Dallas, and we were all disappointed. Now, two years later, I find myself in the same spot, writing a message that is no less difficult.

I am, however, honored to be able to write this message to our National Regent Sherry Nilles and her National Board to thank them and to express my gratitude to each of them for their outstanding work for the past two years. It certainly has been a challenging term.

But, as in every situation, Catholic Daughters have risen to the occasion! I have seen so many states, so many courts, so many members rise, above the restrictions we faced and help keep CDA alive.

Allow me to tell you about one way that we have persevered during the pandemic: I am privileged to be involved in the Catholic Daughters NY State Facebook Prayer Warriors. At six am each morning, I post a theme for the day and an accompanying prayer. During the afternoon we had online reflections. Each evening, we come together to pray: we say the Rosary, recite a Chaplet, or enjoy a prayer service. Through this ministry, we experienced a spiritual coming together during a time when we were physically distanced. Please join us, we'd love to have you pray with us.

I know that many of you have done similar "little things with great love." I can truly say that I am proud of the way the Catholic Daughters have come through this pandemic. Truly CDA Can Do Anything.

With each passing year, we add to our book of memories that we gather from Catholic Daughters. We have not allowed the pandemic to interfere and stop these beautiful memories. We do so with the theme from this term: ***"Do all you do with Love."***

In closing, I want to congratulate Sherry and her Board members for all of the work they have done to make this 59th Biennial National Convention in Puerto Rico a reality.

In Unity and Charity,

Helene Shepard

Helene Shepard
Past National Regent

"To Serve the Lord with Gladness." Psalm 100.2



July, 2022

Dear Catholic Daughters of the Americas,

Welcome Catholic Daughters to the 59th Biennial National Catholic Daughters of the Americas Convention. Thank you National Regent, Sherry, for the honor and privilege to address you via this message. Getting a chance to make new friends and visit with those we have met at previous CDA events is one of the best reasons to attend the convention. It has been a long four years since we have been able to meet and see each other at our Biennial convention. I sure have missed seeing you all so I really am looking forward to this week.

I want to take this opportunity to thank National Regent Sherry Nilles and her entire board for all their work these past two years in leading the Catholic Daughters. You have done a great job under very trying circumstances. Thank you also to the Puerto Rico State Court for hosting this wonderful convention. I am so excited to be back here again to your beautiful island.

Congratulations to Emily Guilherme, the incoming National Regent, and her board. May God bless you, the Holy Spirit guide you, and the Blessed Mother watch over you as you lead us the next two years.

As we take time to deliberate the business of this convention, we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us, and our Patroness, the Blessed Mother, will watch over us, so that we make decisions which will help us to grow in courts and members. The National Regent's theme these past two years and the theme of this convention, is "Let all you do be done with Love"

1 Corinthians 16:19. We have much work to do now that the pandemic has subsided to rebuild our membership and our courts but if we lovingly work together asking ladies to join our wonderful organization, I know we can meet the challenge.

May the Holy Spirit guide our deliberations this week as we make plans for our continued work in Catholic Daughters. I hope all of you have a spiritual, educational and enjoyable convention.

Peace and God bless,

Shirley Seyfried, Past National Regent, 2014-2016

"Whatever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me." Matthew 25:40

Greetings to all!

We have come through a time that we never dream we would experience. Covid, lockdown, masks, boosters, and quarantine became very much a part of our vocabulary. But we are coming out of this with a stronger faith and better awareness of the needs of our fellow man.

As Catholic Daughters of the Americas, we did not spend all our time moaning and complaining. Courts used a variety of ways to hold meetings and stay in touch with one another. Zoom became a new word in our speech. Meetings were held, votes taken and the work of the CDA continued. We are resistant, we are strong. We are positive women because we know that our faith is strong and unwavering. I am so proud of you for being that example.

It has been a long time since we have come together in convention to elect new officers and directors. I look forward to renewing friendships, establishing new friendships, and renew enthusiasm for the work of the Order.

Life has changed for me a great deal. We moved from our big house and moved to a retirement community nearby. It was so hard deciding what would fit in the apartment and what would be given away. We moved in January 2019. My four children have been so faithful to their father and who had to be moved to Memory Care because of his Alzheimer's. He is settled and seems at home where he is. I visit every day and have lunch together. I remind him of some of the things we did. My one son came by with a motorcycle and you should have seen his smile. Off they went for their ride and a stop at an ice cream parlor. He is still talking about it.

We are women of faith and a vision. I hope to see many of you in Puerto Rico to get new ideas, new practices.

God bless you.

Peace, love joy,

Anne Nelson, Past National Regent

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

From the Desk of Joanne Tomassi, Past National Regent

July 2022

Dear Catholic Daughter Friends,

Welcome back! This seems like such a simple statement, yet for those of us who enjoy gathering at the National Convention, it surely has a new meaning. After the disappointment of the canceled convention two years ago, I have been truly looking forward to July 2022 and the opportunity to see my CDA sisters from all over. It has been a long four years since we last gathered.

During that time, we all learned many new things. Before 2019, I'd never even heard of ZOOM, but it soon became a major part of my life; personally, for social purposes – who knew you could have a social hour by computer – as well as for work, interviewing potential employees and running finance meetings. Many of us also learned how to use technology for our ministry, whether livestreaming Mass, hosting a CDA meeting on ZOOM, or perhaps migrating our annual charity fundraisers to an online auction platform or crowdfunding website. One of the things I love about being a Catholic Daughter is the many friends I have all over the states and the U.S. Territories. It is such a nice surprise to get a message on Facebook or in email, “out of the blue” from one of my CDA sisters from afar. We may not have the opportunity to be together often but the knowledge that my CDA sisters are “out there” holding me in prayer is very comforting. We are so blessed to have this kind of support, and technology helps remind us of it.

I imagine that, in our “post-pandemic” world, the technology we’ve embraced will remain an important tool enabling us to accomplish our mission as Catholic Daughters with greater reach and efficacy than ever before. Yet, there is still something to be said for real, human, face-to-face interaction. Just as it taught us new technologies, COVID-19 also led many of us to more deeply appreciate spending time with family and friends. The Tomassi family was so determined to have family time all through the pandemic that my sisters, mom and me, and sometimes the nieces and nephews would bring our beach chairs and gather on the front lawn or driveway just to see each other. We would each bring our own beverage and stay at least six feet apart. One of my nieces turned 30, another 40, and I hit 65 during the heart of the shut-down. Normally, these would have all been cause for a family meal and celebration. But there we were on the lawn, with no birthday cake, no dinner...just each other. And that was enough.

National Regent Sherri Nilles has encouraged us to “*Let all you do be done with love.*” 1 Corinthians 16:14 Whether it is online or in person, it is my hope that the past four years has taught us to spend more time appreciating the little things in life and slowing down to spend time with those we love. Moving forward, we should use all the tools at our disposal – from a simple smile and hug to the most sophisticated technology – to demonstrate our love for others. This is what Our Lord asks of us, too. Our courts and members continue to spread the Lord’s love in the work that they do. Enjoy the convention, visit with old friends, make new friends, and take back lots of ideas to your home court. We have so much to learn and share.

God bless each of you,



Joanne Tomassi, Past National Regent

“With God All Things Are Possible” ~ Matthew 19:26



July 2022

My dear Sisters in Christ,

Once again, we come together in unity and charity. Welcome to the 59th Biennial National Convention in Puerto Rico. I am sorry many of you did not get to enjoy the Texas hospitality for the 58th National Convention. The coronavirus was in full effect then and, while it is now better, it is still here. We are here through the grace of God to enjoy Puerto Rico's Hospitality, and for that, we are very grateful.

As I sit writing this letter. I can't help but think of how blessed I am. Yes, I do have the usual drawbacks that accompany aging, but I also have so many blessings. My children and siblings are all doing well. My grandchildren are doing very well. My granddaughter just told me she has so much work it is exhausting, and my grandson is getting all geared up to graduate high school and planning his college venture. My world is good.

Yet, all around us the world is in terrible distress. Everyday our spiritual leaders are asking us to pray for the people around us and in other countries. All Catholic Daughter of the Americas members are praying every day for our fellow human beings, doing what God has called us to do.

Our Worthy National Regent has chosen the theme, "Let all you do be done with love," from 1 Corinthians, and now is the time we are called to love all our neighbors. Our world is in a state of misfortune, from political, class, and racial division, to poverty and homelessness, to war and displacement, and it is the love of God that will help to heal our world. It is important that through prayer, unity, charity and action, we will help the sick and suffering, the downtrodden and neglected, and the impoverished and exploited. St. Augustine asked, "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like." May we strive to be Christ-like every day within our hearts, our courts and our communities.

I pray that all of us here in Puerto Rico learn and share from one another, enjoy sisterly bonding as we see long-time friends as well as make new ones, and take what we learn back to our home courts, so that the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will thrive now and in the future.

Your Sister in Christ,

Libby Ramirez

Past National Regent, 2008-2010

"Love is the doorway through which the human soul passes from selfishness to service."- Jack Hyles

Once again, it is my honor and privilege for me as a Past National Regent, to be invited to share a message with my CDA Sisters gathered together at the 59th Biennial National Convention in beautiful San Juan, Puerto Rico. Thank you National Regent, Sherry for giving me this opportunity.

I served as your National Regent in 2006-2008 and have been a Catholic Daughter for 50 years. The wonderful memories tend to stir butterflies in my heart when it comes time to gather for a national convention. The opportunities extended to me all these years have provided me an inner strength I wasn't aware ever existed, as well as all the women, my CDA Sisters, I have been blessed with as my friends.

Everything we accomplish in our lives is done with insight, knowledge and prayers that we share as women of faith. As a Catholic Daughter, we are given the opportunity to reach the end of a spiritual rainbow - the Pot of Gold — the Treasure of FRIENDSHIP. The gathering together at conventions, state or national, provides us this amazing Treasure as well as strengthening our faith.

We have all been subject to many difficulties these past couple years but realize if you are reading this, you made it through! GOD IS GOOD! One of my favorite songs, "We Are Many Parts", lets us know we are all one body and the gifts we have, are given to share. What is a better time to share than at this moment - the National Convention!

My dear CDA Sisters, capture the spirit of this convention, as we visibly express ourselves - "LET ALL YOU DO BE DONE WITH LOVE".

1 Corinthians 16:14

*In Unity and Charity,
Claudia R. Bosch PNR*

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59^h Biennial Convention
Puerto Rico
July 15 – 19, 2022

My Dear Catholic Daughter Sisters,

Thank you, Worthy National Regent Sherry Nilles, for the opportunity to send greetings, prayers and my gratitude for the wonderful work you and your entire Board have done for the past two years, as the leaders of our great organization.

This past March, I turned 102 years old. I am living at the Belle Reeve Health Facility in Milford, PA and I thank God for each day, as it is a gift from Him. I cherish all the beautiful memories that I have from my past CDA experiences.

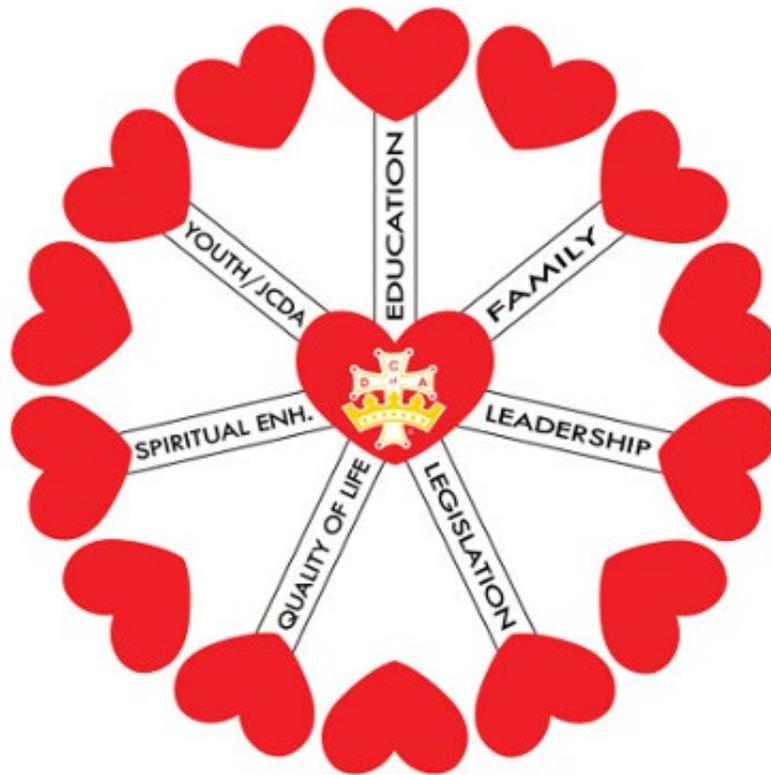
I am unable to travel and attend the National Convention this year. However, I will pray for the success of the Convention in Puerto Rico this July.

May the wonderful work that you and your Board have accomplished continue in the future, so that CDA may prosper and grow for the honor and glory of God.

Sincerely,

Rayola McLaughlin

Past National Regent



Circle of Love Reports

Spiritual Enhancement

Leadership

Family

Education

Quality of Life

Legislation

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention

San Juan, Puerto Rico

July 20-24, 2022

National Spiritual Enhancement Report
Connie Dronette, National Secretary-Treasurer and Spiritual Enhancement Chairman

I have been humbled and honored to fill the position of National Secretary-Treasurer for the past two years. Thank you for trusting me to serve you.

One of the first things that we were asked was to consider which Circle of Love Committee we would like to serve on. I didn't even have to think about it. Even though, I had served as Spiritual Enhancement Chairman during the previous term, I knew I wanted to serve as Spiritual Enhancement Chairman again. I had more ideas I wanted to share!

I continued to create prayer services for the Quarterly and articles for the Share Magazine, I penned ways to enrich our spiritual lives and sometimes shared my own faith journey. I enjoyed hearing from many of you when the editions would come out. Your kind words meant so much to me. My mom was one of my biggest fans. When she passed away during the first year of the term, I received so many prayers, cards, flowers, notes, and phone calls. Those outpourings of love helped me more than you will ever know.

At one of our first board meetings, I approached the board about the possibility of hosting spiritual retreats around the country. Many members were disappointed that they were not able to see their CDA sisters when the 2020 National Convention was cancelled. We needed another opportunity to meet up with each other. After much prayer and planning, we hosted three retreats in the fall of 2021. They were held in North Carolina, New Mexico, and Wisconsin. Even though all three were different due to their locations, they were all spirit filled experiences for those who attended. Thanks to all who joined us.

Attending the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. this past January was a highpoint of the term. There was an excitement in the air; it seemed as though defeating Roe v. Wade could become a reality very soon. I learned so much about our fight for the rights of the unborn. I encourage all CDA members to attend at least once in their lifetime.

I continued to reach out in prayer to my CDA sisters through our National Facebook Page. For the first year, I continued the morning prayer services and the afternoon Divine Mercy Chaplet. As more people went back to work and life returned to a new normal, my life became crazy busy again. As much as I hated to, I discontinued the morning prayer services. I wanted to continue the Divine Mercy, but my schedule didn't allow me to lead it every day. I prayed that the Holy Spirit would find a way. With the help of other members, the Divine Mercy Chaplet is still being prayed each afternoon on Facebook. Please join us when you can!

I will always cherish the memories I made in serving as Spiritual Enhancement Chair. Thanks for allowing me to be your servant sister!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico
July 20-24, 2022
Essie Walker, National Leadership Chairman

A Leadership Journey Served with Love and Skills

In taking inventory of myself, I have shared valuable information in the articles written for the Quarterly as well as the SHARE Magazine. My articles for SHARE Magazine and the Quarterly are intended to be detailed and informative. The information shared could be used for seasoned leaders, those new to leadership and those who are considering taking on a leadership role.

The assignment of National Leadership Chairperson has given me the opportunity to explore different tools and avenues of good leadership. Being the chairperson has not only taught me how to be a better leader but also a better follower. We sometimes forget that in order to be a leader, we should also know how to follow.

It is important to remember that a good leader is one who serves others, remains focused and appreciates being a leader. Just as a pie needs an assortment of ingredients; leadership needs a variety of skills. Certain skills and a portion of love are needed at all times. We say, “do it with love; just in a slightly different way”.

As a reminder, let us take a moment to recap on a few of the important tools needed to perform in our everyday leadership role.

- Prayer...Prayer keeps us in tune with God.
- Open Communication ...Encourage members to communicate openly and honestly.
- Understand those you serve...Respect members' difference.
- Offer constructive feedback...Constructive feedback is guidance that will help members to achieve positive results.
- Refrain from being judgmental...Never judge unless you walked in the other persons shoes.
- Maintain active listening skills...Hear the message clearly.
- Know and understand members...Do not be afraid to reach out to members.
- Show compassion...Be private when members confide in us...
- Be willing to learn from others...Keep an open mind. No one knows everything.

Remember, the way we treat our members is just as important as to how we lead them. There are so many ways to implement love into our leadership role. Just by saying a simple thank you is an example of implementing love. Thank you for your time, talents and for all you do for CDA!

One more thing, remember it is not what we say; it is how we say it!

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.” Mother Teresa

Circle of Love Family Report
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto
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Nancy Bambenek, National Director and National Family Chairman

In today's society, there are many different types of families, each of which is equally viable as a supportive caring unit. A family is two or more people, who consider themselves family and who assume obligations, functions, and responsibilities generally essential to a healthy family lifestyle.

A true family provides its members with emotional and spiritual kinship through shared values, beliefs, traditions, common experiences, activities, and unconditional love. Courts continue to strengthen Family relations by interacting with one another in service and work of the family community.

Two years ago, I wrote my first SHARE article with my two goals for the upcoming two years. I asked courts to look at themselves and see if they were shining examples of living the words: "Let all you do, be done with love," I Corinthians 16:14. I asked them to take inventory of their hearts and see if their actions and words displayed this kind of love. Did they feel a real "Sisterhood" in their courts? Was there HOSPITALITY felt at all events and meetings? My second goal would be the fruit of the first goal. CDA sisters engaged in court work, loving members, willing to take on new leadership so they could be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Families **praying** together, **working** together, and **playing** together have fully encompassed the Circle of Love Family Program for the past two years. It is more than AMAZING to me! Thank you courts for taking the time to send in your form and write about these projects. Here are some that could not make the first list: baby bottle project in West Virginia, serving at funerals in New Mexico, blessing of the animals in Idaho, trunk and treat in Minnesota, pajamas and books in Pennsylvania, Easter bag drive-thru project in Texas, billboard for right to life in Kentucky, families in need in Wisconsin, Pilsen field trip in Kansas, cookies for seminarians in South Dakota, Habitat for Humanity food day in Nebraska, baby shower in Florida, our family community in Oregon, baby supplies in Puerto Rico, gift cards to life center in New York, supplies for bootstraps in Massachusetts, supporting St. Vincent de Paul Society in New Jersey. This is just the tip of the pile. CDA woman ARE the hands and feet of Jesus.

Articles for the SHARE magazine hopefully provided information that could be shared with members and their families. Some of you reached out to me and thanked me for having your voice heard in this way. Some of you gave me new insight and appreciation. Thank you.

I enjoyed the 2021 Arizona State Officers and Territorial Officers Conference in July. We sang and did a line dance to celebrate Family. I am humbled and grateful for this experience.

"What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family." Mother Teresa

**Circle of Love Education Report
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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July 20-24, 2022**

Darlene Moritz, National Director and National Education/Campus Court Chairman

Many many ‘thanks’ go out to National Regent, Sherry Nilles for asking me to become a National Director as there were still openings after the 2020 National Convention that was cancelled. It has been a great experience not to mention working with wonderful CDA women this organization has. A great group of CDA members interested in leading the way for you! Thanks also to my predecessor, Marialice Sagan for giving me a written report on how she accomplished this mission. I was a bit intimidated to start, but Marialice was there to answer emails and phone calls. Thank you, Marialice!

When I was asked to choose three (3) possible areas within the Circle of Love program that would be of interest to me, I chose ‘Education’ as my first choice and it was granted. Campus Courts accompanied this as well. Starting this endeavor in the fall of 2020 was in the midst of the Coronavirus and I felt that many would not work in their courts for the 2021 Education Contest, Campus Court Scholarship or the Fr. Bachmann Scholarship. Needless to say, I was wrong. In 2021, 318 entries were received for the Education Contest. There were three winners in the Fr. Bachmann Scholarship. The Campus courts did not send in any applications. Senior courts connecting with their Campus Courts was difficult. But with the September, 2021 newsletter out with the introduction to the 2022 Education contest, my hopes were that there would be even more entries, and the numbers garnered 317. The Fr. Bachman scholarship applications were down and the Campus Courts were up in numbers, so my thoughts of the future activity was really off. Just goes to show, I’m not in charge! God is. That being said, the participation in 2021 for the education contest was at 76% from the state courts. In 2022 it is at 78%. More courts participating in 2022 with one less entry. It has really truly been a great experience to find judges that fit the categories that they are versed in. Judges that were asked the first year to judge were willing to do it again this year and I got to know my mailman better as the envelopes were delivered to the door since they didn’t fit the mailbox. I even had a judge ask me if her son could participate in this contest next year. Wow! That means local courts need to advertise more to get this out to Catholic and Public schools!

As for our Campus Courts in our organization, they are getting back to normal in the sense that they are back in the classrooms and socializing with each other, working together. Thus, we had some Campus Court scholarship applications this year and it was very difficult to choose the best one. We have some outstanding leaders in these Campus courts and remember that they will more than likely continue to be a Catholic Daughter in a Senior court when they are finished with their education. We are planting seeds and they need to be watered! Even with our Seminarians....we are planting seeds for the CDA to be in parishes all over. Two years ago, we had 9 Campus Courts. As I am writing this today, we have 4 on reprieve, 1 disbanded and it leaves us with only 4. Pray for these Campus Courts to sprout again. And we ask all CDA members to scratch the soil in their area to plant some CDA Campus Court seeds and water them faithfully.

**National Quality of Life Report
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention**

**San Juan, Puerto Rico
July 20-24, 2022**

Emily Guilherme, National Regent-Elect, National Quality of Life Chairman

My dear sisters, my two years as your Quality of Life Chairman is ending, and I cannot help but gush with pride over what I have seen some of our local and state courts accomplishing in the name of Catholic Daughters, and in the name of the Lord. As you may well know, Catholic Daughters of the Americas are committed to bettering the lives and advancing the cause of human rights throughout the world. We have been empowered and emboldened by the Holy Spirit to care for others, including those who are sick, in pain, or impoverished.

In preparation for the end of my term as chairman, we asked for reports from states and local courts. While I wish more states and courts could have responded to this request, I am pleased that the 38 local courts and 4 state courts who did share their data with me have been representing CDA well.

The quality of these projects, especially in the times of Covid, have been nothing less than incredible. Some courts have fed the homeless and school children while they've been out of school during pandemic closures. Another court helped buy a truck for a priest in Indonesia to help haul lumber to build their huts for their parishioners. Courts have raised funds for shelters for abused women, pregnancy crisis centers, volunteered in soup kitchens, and collected coats and socks for those vulnerable to bitter winters. Several of our courts even ministered to seniors in their local communities by purchasing and delivering groceries, as well as doing wellness checks to make sure their local seniors had someone looking after them.

I am reminded of the amazing efforts almost all of our courts have done in standing up for the rights of the unborn and most vulnerable in our country. Courts have participated in National, State, and Local Marches for Life, bringing awareness to the pro-life movement, and bearing witness that the majority of our nation does not need or want abortion. I am beyond proud of all of the Catholic Daughters of America's work in this area, all life is sacred

While this list of accomplishments is long, it is far from exhaustive. There are hundreds of local courts in our organization, and I know every court has been making a positive impact in the lives of all those in their communities. I would love to write more about all that you have done, but I will suffice it to say that you have all lived out our national motto of "Unity and Charity". Despite overwhelming odds, you and your courts have made these past two years as your Quality-of-Life Chairman a joy, and I am truly blessed by each of you. May God bless you and keep you. You have truly lived our National Regent's Sherry Nilles theme for the last two years. "Let All You Do Be Done With Love"

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Eileen Peterson, National Legislative Chairman

It is incredibly humbling to be a part of this spiritual Catholic organization of women! We are living in historic times and for so many years we have been praying for what is happening! After 49 years of legalized abortion, the Supreme Court of the United States of America is reversing a terrible ruling- Roe v Wade. Just as in the Dred Scott Decision that legalized slavery, our beloved America needed to correct the injustice. PRAISE BE TO GOD!

20 states participated in our Circle of Love for Legislation: California, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.

Legislative Projects ranged from Equality in the Womb, Respect for All LIFE, Legislation Awareness, Support for Our Veterans, Election Education, White Ribbons against Pornography, Promotion of the Roe v Wade movie, Religious Freedom, Support for crisis pregnancy centers, Public Square Rosary, Participation in 40 Days for LIFE, March for LIFE and accurate information on fetal development.

Court Margaret Mary #768 from New York attended the March for LIFE and Legislative Brunch in Washington D.C. Joan and Chris Bell were the speakers and they founded Good Counsel Homes, the homes for the homeless pregnant Moms.

Court St. Monica #1181 from the State of Vermont. The title is: "There is Before Us LIFE and Death.....Choose Wisely. Each meeting there is a Legislation Report entitled: "LIFE Is Precious In All Its Stages". Vermont is voting on Proposal 5 in November of 2022., This would allow unregulated abortion throughout all 9 months of pregnancy. Their court is sending information regarding this horrific bill. They are praying and informing their members on the dangers of legalized prostitution and assisted suicide. Court St. Monica donated to the Vermont Right to LIFE, attends the Annual Mass and Rally for LIFE in Montpelier and participates in the Spring and Fall 40 Days for LIFE.

Sacred Heart #2242 joined with other Pro-LIFE organizations and prayed with hundreds of New Mexicans supporting the theme: Equality Begins In The Womb. The clear message sent was: "At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love". The court participated in the March for LIFE in Washington D.C. and a Rally for LIFE in Albuquerque.

In closing I would like to quote from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) regarding being a so called Catholic politician and supporting unnatural law- abortion, etc.

“NO CATHOLIC CAN RESPONSIBLY TAKE A “PRO-CHOICE” STAND WHEN THE “CHOICE” IN QUESTION INVOLVES THE TAKING OF INNOCENT HUMAN LIFE”- Resolution on Abortion 1989.

“CATHOLICS CIVIL LEADERS WHO REJECT OR IGNORE THE CHURCH’S TEACHING ON THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE DO SO AT RISK TO THEIR OWN SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING”

-PASTORAL Plan for Pro-LIFE Activities: A Campaign in Support of LIFE (2001), PART III



Committee Reports

Membership

National Projects and Charities

Habitat for Humanity

Resolutions

CDA Office Manager's Report

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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Dawn Fortenberry, National Membership Chairman

When I began this term as your National Director, I was assigned as Chairman of Membership and Development. I was thrilled...this is my passion. I absolutely love starting new Courts and bringing in new members. I know a good thing when I see it and want to share that with others.

I was also asked to come up with a theme for Membership and Development. I prayed about this and happened to hear the song "this little light of mine". The song is upbeat and peppy, but more importantly, this is what we are called to do; to share the light of Christ with others. Divine inspiration, I think so. Many of my articles to you have focused on being the light of Christ for others. Let us get out of the darkness (fear) and shine brightly. This world needs the light of Christ more now than ever.

Our order has been around for a very long time. You don't maintain that longevity by chance. You have to work at it! So, I have to share a little secret with you. Did you know that we are a secret organization? Well neither did I! As I grow and learn more about CDA, it feels as though no one knows about us and all the good work we do. I think it all stems from us as members. We don't share with others the blessings we get from being a Catholic Daughter. This could be due to fear or just assuming everyone knows who we are. We are our best salesmen. So step out of your comfort zone and get passionate about CDA and sell it to others. In order to continue our many years of service, we must grow. You have heard this time and time again, but for a good reason. It's a fact!

Touching on that, how can you as a member be instrumental in growing our organization and recruiting? The first place to start is with prayer. God is in control and will help us in our mission. There are some simple tools that can be helpful, too. You should consider carrying these with you, just in case you run into an old friend or a new one. These can be helpful in recruiting.

A business card – with your contact information; meeting day, time and location

A CDA brochure - either one from National, from your State or your Local Court

A CDA token - pin, pen, sticker

A membership form and, of course, a smile!

Now that you know the right tools to have, go out and spread that light and love of Christ! Thank you, thank you to all of you who have worked hard in our membership growth and development. It has been awe inspiring to hear of the ways some of you have recruited and grown. Keep up the good work.

To all of you, my sisters in Christ: thank you for your wonderful works of Unity and Charity. You are answering the Corporal Works of Mercy, by being the hands and feet of Jesus (the light of Christ) and by your witness. You must be commended for sharing God's light and love to others through your many good works. Continue shining that light and being today's disciple of Christ.

To my Co-Chairman, Nancy Bambanek - You are a gem in this rough world and such a blessing to work with. Thank you for your great efforts and enthusiasm in growing our membership.

Finally, I would like to thank National Regent, Sherry Nilles, for the opportunity to have served in this capacity. I will continue to work hard growing our membership in any way I can. We all must do this. So go out and let's shine our light and get this organization back on track as one of the largest Catholic Women's Organizations in the world. With God all things are possible! ***"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!"***

National Projects and Charities Report
Catholic Daughters of the Americas 59th Biennial
National Convention San Juan, Puerto Rico
July 20-24, 2022

Theresa Cersovski, National Director, National Projects and National Charities Chairman

As the National Projects and Charities Chairman for Catholic Daughters of the Americas, my most important goal was to promote each National Project and National Charity. I started this journey by creating a new flyer featuring the National Projects for the SHARE Magazine. I also authored various articles for the National Quarterly and SHARE Magazine on both the National Projects and National Charities. My feature article was on Catholic Extension.

Our five **CDA National Projects** are:

Habitat for Humanity Holy Cross Family Ministries Labouré
Society Support Our Aging Religious! National
Center on Sexual Exploitation

Local courts are asked to donate at least \$20 to each of these Projects.

There are ten **National Charities** endorsed and supported by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Local courts can choose to donate to any of the following charities:

The North American College Catholic Relief Services
Apostleship of the Sea Covenant House
Mother Teresa Tutwiler Clinic
The Disaster Relief Fund The Smile Train (removed July 2022) Catholic
Extension Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Human Life
International (added July 2022)

After listening to many Catholic Daughters ask why we do not support a pro-life organization, I decided to ask for suggestions. I want to thank everyone who recommended an organization. I researched every one of them. In doing so, I learned that each state has many excellent local pro-life organizations. I researched thirty pro-life organizations and presented my top four to the National Board. Our goal was to choose an organization that dealt with human life from conception to death. Human Life International was chosen for the newest Catholic Daughters' National Charity.

Sadly, this meant that we had to remove a current National Charity. The National Board voted to drop Smile Train after the 2022 National Convention in Puerto Rico. This decision was made when the National Board became aware of all the donations Smile Train receives each year.

On behalf the National Officers and National Directors, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the courts and CDA members for all the donations that have made these past two years to each of the National Projects and National Charities. May God Bless your generous hearts.

It has been a blessing to serve as your National Projects and National Charities Chairman!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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National Habitat Chairman

Dawn Fortenberry

Habitat for Humanity is an organization which helps to make a difference in someone's life. When National Regent Sherry Nilles assigned me as Chairman for Habitat for Humanity, I was a little worried. How much did I know about Habitat and what could I teach you or share with you? Like many of us, we are intimidated to take on the challenge of new projects. So, I put this in God's hands to lead me as I learned and prayed about Habitat. Wow! What a great blessing. God always provides our answers, when we are on the right path. I should have known.

Now I had to figure out where to start. I started with doing some research on the good ole internet. Then I thought about my experience with Habitat. I had to opportunity to help build a home in New Orleans a few years ago. It was hard work and I left sore and tired but, man oh man, the gifts I got from that experience was priceless. In doing this I found out how the families are selected, the work they have to do prior to building their home, and that they are held accountable for maintaining the home and paying a small mortgage. I like that! This gives them true ownership in the home and makes them feel valued. These family's lives are forever changed as we fulfill one of the Corporal Works of Mercy; "shelter the homeless".

Most of us have a home we can call our own. Many others never experience that joy of ownership and security for many reasons. As Catholic Daughters we can "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" by working with Habitat for Humanity!

In my term of chairing this committee as National Director, we were very fortunate to partner with two states in builds; Minnesota, having completed their build. Not only did they help one family, but four families. This was a quad unit. Let's give a great round of applause to our CDA sisters in Minnesota for all their hard work and involvement. One project...affected so many lives. God was smiling on that one; and New Jersey, in the process of building. And Texas is working to partner with National on their next build. We pray that will be soon.

Please consider teaming up with Courts in your state to start a build. It isn't that difficult. You must contact Habitat and find out where you will build the new home or refurbish an older home; the time frame for the build; the estimated cost of the project; how much money you have secured already; and how you propose to raise the remaining funds. There is a process which can be found on the National website on how to get started. We look forward to receiving your applications.

If you don't have a state Court or would like to help individually, you can donate to National's Habitat for Humanity fund or visit a Habitat Re-Store. These are stores set up by Habitat for Humanity with excess supplies from individuals, retailers, contractors, etc. You can volunteer time there, donate goods or purchase items. This money is used to help with future builds.

National has been partnering with Habitat for Humanity since 1995. What an awesome way to change the lives of others and "MAKE A DIFFERENCE"! And if you aren't aware, you are the best group of Catholic Women in this world and I am so proud to be a member with you. Thank you!

**Resolutions Chairman Report
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico
July20-24, 2022**

Theresa Cersovski, National Director, Resolutions Chairman

The 2020-2022 Resolutions Committee members are Second National Vice Regent Essie Walker and National Director Tess Cersovski.

I want to take this opportunity to thank National Regent Sherry Nilles and Catholic Daughters of the Americas for the opportunity of serving these past two years as a National Director. I have been inspired by the dedication of Catholic Daughters across the country. What a blessing it has been to be a member of the 2020-2022 National Board!

As Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, I was given the task of helping CDA members understand the purpose of a resolution and the process of writing a resolution. I have learned that resolutions are goals that one wants to accomplish over a brief period or over a year or many years. A resolution is the act of determining upon an action, course of action, method, or procedure. A resolution gives a special level of importance to a motion. Therefore, it needs to be expressed formally in writing. A Catholic Daughter is encouraged to write a resolution when there is a cause that she is enthusiastic about and wants all CDA members to follow. Important points to think about before you start to write a resolution: Be clear about what you want; Understand why you want it; Be specific about what you want; Be committed to the outcome and put it in writing.

The first resolution I wrote was for the Year of Saint Joseph. The purpose of this resolution was to make all CDA members aware of the opportunities and ways to gain the plenary indulgence over and over during the Year of Saint Joseph. My next resolution called upon all members to pray daily for the end of the Corona virus. These two resolutions were centered on prayer.

My most deeply researched resolution was one encouraging all CDA members to promote devotion to Blessed Stanley Rother by including the "Prayer for the Cause of Canonization of Blessed Stanley Rother." I read the CDA history of supporting priests and the book "The Shephard Who Didn't Run" which is the story of Blessed Stanley Rother. I also talked to people who knew him. My purpose for this resolution was to make CDA aware of modern-day priest martyrs and pray for their canonization.

Another duty of the Resolutions Committee is to retire the Resolutions that are not relevant anymore. Following the conclusion of the Year of Saint Joseph, I presented a motion to retire the resolution on ways to gain the plenary indulgence during the Year of Saint Joseph. Then I introduced another resolution which asks that the Catholic Daughters of the Americas members say prayers daily to Saint Joseph for all CDA members who are suffering from cancer and all other illnesses. I encourage everyone to prayer St. Joseph's prayer for a Happy Death.

I had the pleasure of writing articles on Resolutions for the SHARE Magazine and National Quarterly. I did my best to help Catholic Daughters understand resolutions and realize the process of writing a resolution takes some research and determination. I pray that I was able to help motivate ladies to write resolutions in the future. As Resolution Committee Chairman, I have received resolutions from various CDA members across the country. The Resolutions Committee will look these over and recommend which ones should be voted on at the 2022 National Convention in Puerto Rico.

These past two years have been a blessing being on the Resolutions Committee. I want to give a special "thank you" to Essie Walker for all the help and support she has given me.

Thank you, my dear CDA Sisters, for your support and prayers. My prayer is that you will support the newly elected National Officers and National Directors. God bless you all!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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Martha Hamboussi, National Office Manager
CDA Report of 2022

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas was established in 1903 in Utica, New York. Today, it is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas. The National office of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas is located at 10 West 71 Street, New York, NY. The beautiful five floor brownstone building was built in 1910; it serves as office space, with accommodations for the members of the board. Here, the staff keeps records of all individual members and their court records.

The national office processes membership records, financial records, manages the online store and houses saleable items and updated brochures. The national office staff is responsible for the upkeep of current and new membership applications, adding and transferring, removing members and address corrections. The staff is also responsible for keeping up-to-date records of state officers and members.

As a staff of eight, we work for and with all members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Gertrude Gormally assists with all member information changes, all SHARE subscriptions, specialty orders consisting of all officer robes, all banners both custom and court banners, certificates for all completed donations including 1903 Society certificates, answers phone calls, tracks returned mail, keeps all members addresses/emails up to date, files and updates JCDA Charters.

Thelma A Smith is our secretary. She handles court reprieves, court disbandments and extensions. Thelma also assists with the accounts payable, weekly bill payments, inconsistent charges, board vouchers, state consignment orders, fulfills and files all Paypal orders, updates state officer/financial review lists and handles all store returns.

Gloria Linley handles rosters, local court financial reviews, lists of local court officers, specialty gold and Sterling Silver jewelry orders, keeps an inventory of jewelry, all grave markers orders and answers the phone. Gloria is the one to call for all precious jewelry order pricing.

Arlene Flores is the person responsible for accounts receivable, invoices, checks for dues, orders accompanied by checks, questions concerning checks and dues, mails out monthly statements, deposits all checks including deposits for 1903 Society, Windows of Opportunity, memorials and all donations.

Carmen Bernardo is our Member Specialist, handles membership Information, additions, deletions, renewals, and transfers. Assists with new court

names, court numbers and new court charters. Investigates all missing members on rosters and maintains all court EIN numbers mailed in.

Joe Delgado manages our mailroom and stockroom and is in charge of organizing, categorizing and shipping all saleable items.

Martha Hamboussi, Office Manager is responsible for the office and building, management, payroll, Pay pal orders, allocating work load and responsibilities of all staff, handling all issues and concerns, fulfilling job requests of our board members, as well as all board reports. All Store inventory, and adjustments to inventory, maintaining all Webstore items as well and updating new prices, writing all checks for , payment, maintaining all bank accounts, opening and closing bank accounts, managing and directing all functions and activities of the national office, attend all meetings of the National Board, maintains contact with our attorneys, tax accounting persons, IP and software special personnel consultants.

Tom Panas works at the National Office of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. He serves as the National Public Relations Chairman and works with the editorial staff on the National Board for SHARE magazine. He is the Advertising Sales Representative for the Catholic Daughters. Tom also updates and maintains the website.

We are happy to say that we have made some wonderful changes in the office these past months with the help of the 1903 Society. Drying the elevator pit, replacing a damaged sump pump and check valve, replacing pipes to extract any pooling that may occur have been completed. The following will be done soon. The elevator will be updated to new NYC building codes, water sealing the basement doors in the front of the building, gutter extension and cleaning, fence and window guards will be given a fresh coat of anti-rust paint.

We are grateful to you, our members, who have helped to improve our work place. If you are ever in New York City please contact me so that we can give you the Grand Tour of our Grand Old Lady.

Scholarships & Contests

Award Winners



**Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico July 20-24, 2022**

Campus Court Scholarship Award

Darlene Moritz, National Director and Campus Court Chairwoman

The Recipient of the 2022 - \$2,000 Campus Court Scholarship is

Vanessa Lemus

Court Our Lady of Grace #2591

Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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Father Leonard Bachmann Graduate Scholarship Award

Darlene Moritz, National Director and National Education Chairman

1. \$2500 **Shelby Ellis**
722 Woodlawn Rd., Steubenville, OH 43952

Shelby is a Catholic Daughter of Court Genevieve of Paris #2496 of Thibodaux, LA. and is a student of Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Franciscan University of Steubenville. She is working toward being a licensed counselor and states, "I have also come to understand the benefits of receiving a Catholic education for my program." She feels blessed to experience many viewpoints and reflect on the spiritual side of counseling.

2. \$2500 **Monica Canizares**
9321 David Fort Rd., Argyle, TX 76226

Working on a Master of Social Work with Advanced Standing to take advantage of the upper-level Bachelor of Social Work credits in the graduate program. Monica is passionate about service, which she credits to her parents who are active in their community. She helped her grandfather make a weekly trip to evening Mass and then to dinner even when it was difficult for her grandfather to get out of the house.

3. \$2500 **Serena Yanitelli**
14 Dickens St., Stony Point, NY 10980

Serena is a Catholic Daughter from Court Joan of Arc #604 of Haverstraw, New York and reaching out to obtain a Master of Public Health. (MPH) She states, " There is no better way to make a difference but through dedication to find solutions to problems and educating society." An addendum and spiritual reason for her application for the scholarship: ***"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. Your playing small does not ser the world. We were born to manifest the Glory of God that is within us. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same."***

**2022 Scholarships of Youth and JCDA
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico
July 20-24, 2022**

Ivone da Silveira National Director and Youth/ JCDA Chairman

National Scholarship Recognition for a student entering 9th grade in a Catholic High School in fall 2022

Winners Name: Anna Jarosz

City: Dublin State: California

Enter name of high school the student will attend: **Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland, CA**

JCDA SCOLARSHIP 2022

Winner Name: Julia Hain

City: Kings Park State: New York

College Attending: Stony Brook

2022 National Education Winners					
Darlene Moritz, National Director, National Education Chairman					
			NAME	COURT NAME & #	CITY & STATE
ART	DIVISION I	1ST PLACE	Luke Huebner	Ct. Fr. Chromcik #1440	Fayetteville, TX
ART	DIVISION I	2ND PLACE	Heather Gollhofer	Ct. Owatonna #1180	Owatonna, MN
ART	DIVISION I	3RD PLACE	Julianna Cruz	Ct. Infant of Prague #1643	Jacksonville, NC
ART	DIVISION II	1ST PLACE	Rachel Schany	Ct. St. Rose of Lima #14	Emmetsburg, IA
ART	DIVISION II	2ND PLACE	Makeisha Jimenez Reyes	Ct. St. Marys #764	York, NE
ART	DIVISION II	3RD PLACE	Jason Guest	Ct. St. Cecilia #668	Walla Walla, WA
ART	DIVISION III	1ST PLACE	Elizabeth Lily Buckles	Ct. Lady of the Lake #695	Lake Charles, LA
ART	DIVISION III	2ND PLACE	Molly Pearson	Ct. St. Rita #409	Perham, MN
ART	DIVISION III	3RD PLACE	Aubri Bernsen	Ct. Annunciation #1962	LaGrange, TX
ART	DIVISION IV	1ST PLACE	Amanda Konechne	Ct. St. Patrick #1699	Kimball, SD
ART	DIVISION IV	2ND PLACE	Anne D. Marrin	Ct. Fidelis #342	Wesley, IA
ART	DIVISION IV	3RD PLACE	Yvette G. Zannini	Ct. Ave Maria #2650	Chapel Hill, NC
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION I	1ST PLACE	Lyla Spike	Ct. Little Flower #988	Columbus, NE
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION I	2ND PLACE	Lily Donar	Ct. St. Rose of Lima #4	Cuba City, WI
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION I	3RD PLACE	Meradi Knapp	Ct. of Our Lady #647	Johnstown, PA
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION II	1ST PLACE	Rowan Staples	Ct. Sacred Hearts #864	Bradford, MA
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION II	2ND PLACE	Courtney Bliley	Ct. Queen of Peace #1872	Arlington, VA
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION II	3RD PLACE	Catalina Hernandez Ramirez	Ct. St. Rita #957	Everett, WA
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION III	1ST PLACE	Natalie Rooney	Ct. St. Rita #409	Perham, MN
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION III	2ND PLACE	Matthew Hong	Ct. Queen of Peace #1023	Lancaster, PA
COMPUTER ART	DIVISION III	3RD PLACE	Katelyn Bernsen	Ct. Annunciation #1962	LaGrange, TX
ESSAY	DIVISION I	1ST PLACE	Kelby Corkery	Ct Ascension #495	Independence, IA
ESSAY	DIVISION I	2ND PLACE	Hudson Einhorn	Ct. St. Francis #171	Teutopolis, IL
ESSAY	DIVISION I	3RD PLACE	Addison Wood	Ct. St. Rose of Lima #4	Cuba City, WI
ESSAY	DIVISION II	1ST PLACE	Nathan Joehl	Ct. St. Joan # 522	Carrollton, IL
ESSAY	DIVISION II	2ND PLACE	Maya Jensen	Ct. Ascension #495	Independence, IA
ESSAY	DIVISION II	3RD PLACE	Maeve Cox	Ct. St. Cabrini #1466	Fergus Falls, MN
ESSAY	DIVISION III	1ST PLACE	Jenna Cox	Ct. St. Cecilia #668	Walla Walla, WA
ESSAY	DIVISION III	2ND PLACE	George "Patrick" Sixbey	Ct. Our Lady of the Holy Redeemer #2574	El Dorado, AR
ESSAY	DIVISION III	3RD PLACE	Jarrett Miles	Ct. Our Lady of Fatima # 1549	North Platte, NE
POETRY	DIVISION I	1ST PLACE	Ella Morris	Ct St. Cecelia #1151	Billings, MT
POETRY	DIVISION I	2ND PLACE	Jack Skipper	Ct. Holy Rosary #1386	McMinnville, OR
POETRY	DIVISION I	3RD PLACE	Jaydee Fronning	Ct. St. Cabrini #1466	Fergus Falls, MN
POETRY	DIVISION II	1ST PLACE	Madeline Palmer	Ct Clarksburg #334	Clarksburg, WV
POETRY	DIVISION II	2ND PLACE	Flora Morris	Ct Our Lady of Mercy #1655	Sea Isle City, NJ
POETRY	DIVISION II	3RD PLACE	Dayna Garvey	Ct. St. Rita #534	Watertown, SD
POETRY	DIVISION III	1ST PLACE	Molly Pearson	Ct St. Rita #409	Perham, MN
POETRY	DIVISION III	2ND PLACE	Lyla Setran	Ct. Bishop Donahue #784	Huntington, WV
POETRY	DIVISION III	3RD PLACE	Helena Pettit	Ct Our Lady of Fatima #1549	North Platte, NE
POETRY	DIVISION IV	1ST PLACE	Ann M. Kochanski	Ct. St. Joseph's #2300	Sykesville, MD
POETRY	DIVISION IV	2ND PLACE	Lexus Zika	Ct. Fr. Chromcik #1440	Fayetteville, TX
POETRY	DIVISION IV	3RD PLACE	Jo Ann Harper	Ct. St. Mary #645	Livingston, MT
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION II	1ST PLACE	Owen Ghattas	Ct. Hagerstown #273	Hagerstown, MD
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION II	2ND PLACE	Kenadee Kime	Ct. Catherine of Sienna #2059	Clarkston, WA
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION II	3RD PLACE	Lucas Bachert	Ct. Immaculate Conception #996	DeKalb, IL
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION III	1ST PLACE	Molly Korn	Ct. St. Clarksburg #334	Clarksburg, WV
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION III	2ND PLACE	Amy Sanders	Ct. St. Teresa #980	Sterling, CO
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION III	3RD PLACE	Colby Eschenburg	Ct. Our Lady of Faith #2607	Frydek, TX
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION IV	1ST PLACE	Laree Giovannettone	Ct. Mother Teresa #2510	Sioux Falls, S. D
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION IV	2ND PLACE	Sharon Kristynik	Ct. Holy Rosary #1476	Rosenberg, TX
PHOTOGRAPHY	DIVISION IV	3RD PLACE	Bonnie Gregg	Ct. St. Andrews #1540	Sibley, IA
MUSIC	DIVISION II	1ST PLACE	Maeve Cox	Ct St. Cabrini #1466	Fergus Falls, MN
MUSIC	DIVISION II	2ND PLACE	Addison Puthoff	Ct. Willard #967	Yankton, S. D.
MUSIC	DIVISION II	3RD PLACE	Jack Lyke	Ct Queen of Angels #869	Hicksville, NY
MUSIC	DIVISION III	1ST PLACE	Camille Cox	Ct. Little Flower #988	Columbus, NE
MUSIC	DIVISION III	2ND PLACE	Mary Elizabeth Balof	Ct St. Cecilia #668	Walla Walla, WA
MUSIC	DIVISION III	3RD PLACE	Ike Konvicka	Ct Our Lady of Faith #2607	Frydek, TX

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan Puerto Rico July 20-24, 2022

National Newsletter Contest
Barb (Jensen) Ward, National Director and National Newsletter Chairman

STATE ENTRIES

Category IV Division I

1 st Place	Martha Karin Dudash	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
2 nd Place	Patricia Kepp	Montana	Montana

Category IV Division II

1 st Place	Patricia Adams	Massachusetts	Massachusetts
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Category V Division II

1 st Place	Bonnie Fox	North Carolina	North Carolina
2 nd Place	Tess Cersovski	Oregon	Oregon
3 rd Place	Dianna Bourne	Maryland	Maryland

Category VI Division I

1 st Place	Rita Carlson	Iowa	Iowa
2 nd Place	Betty Fredericks	Nebraska	Nebraska
3 rd Place (Tie)	Judy Konechne	South Dakota	South Dakota
3 rd Place (Tie)	Rebecca Brown	Texas	Texas

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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National Newsletter Contest
Barb (Jensen) Ward, National Director and National Newsletter Chairman

LOCAL ENTRIES

Category I Division I

1 st Place	Sherry Wittrock	Mary Queen of Peace #2423	Omaha NE
2 nd Place	Louise Johnson	Holy Family #1794	Security CO
3 rd Place	Deb Lutmer	Saint Bernard #886	Lismore MN

Category I Division II

1 st Place	Cynthia Bishop	Our Lady of Perpetual Adoration #2036	Bellevue NE
2 nd Place	Claudia Hernandez	St. Jane Frances de Chantal #2699	The Woodlands TX
3 rd Place	Cathy Nelson	St. Anne #1840	Medford MN

Category II Division I

1 st Place	Dottie Mensik	Our Lady Queen of the Lake #2364	Lake Jackson TX
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Category II Division II

1 st Place	Barbara Vogt	St. Peter the Apostle #2690	Boerne TX
2 nd Place	Marlene Knobbe	Guardian Angel #1384	West Point NE
3 rd Place	Elena Hodgkiss	St. Joseph #2300	Eldersburg MD

Category III Division I

1 st Place	Shirley Antosh	Annunciation #1962	La Grange TX
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Category III Division II

1 st Place	Lori Kocurek	Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374	El Campo TX
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TERRITORIAL ENTRIES

Category VII Division II

1 st Place	Debra Vea	St. Pius X #1866	Anchorage AK
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JCDA ENTRIES

Category IX Division II

1 st Place	Shirley Antosh	Annunciation #1962	La Grange TX
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**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
59th Biennial National Convention
San Juan, Puerto Rico July 20-24, 2022**

National Website Contest

Michele Bowman, National Website Chairman

CATEGORY V, DIVISION 1 (State Court, New Website)

1st Place: ARIZONA STATE COURT State Regent Lorrie Holland

2nd Place: PUERTO RICO STATE COURT State Regent Wilma Cedeno Raspaldo

CATEGORY V, DIVISION II (State Court, Established Website)

1st Place: SOUTH DAKOTA State Court State Regent Judy Konechne

2nd Place: MINNESOTA State Court State Regent Mary Pufall

3rd Place: TEXAS State Court State Regent Rebecca Brown

There were no entries for territorial, JCDA or campus courts.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

59TH Biennial National Convention

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National Website Contest

Michele Bowman, National Website Chairman

CATEGORY I, DIVISION I (Local Court, New Website)

1st Place: Court St. Anne #1089

Oregon City, Oregon State Regent Tess Cersovski

2nd Place: Court Annunciation #1962

Lagrange, Texas State Regent Rebecca Brown

CATEGORY I, DIVISION II (Local Court, Established Website)

1st Place: Court Genevieve of Paris #2496

Thibodeaux, Louisiana State Regent Trishia Crombie

2nd Place: Court Oregon #118

Eugene, Oregon State Regent Tess Cersovski

3rd Place: Court St. Clare of Assisi #2677

Surprise, Arizona State Regent Lorrie Holland

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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 National Membership Contest
 Dawn Fortenberry, National Director and National Membership and Court Development
 Chairman

State Courts Instituting the Most New courts.

There were 15 new courts instituted between June 2020 and June 2022.

First Place:	Texas – instituting 5 new courts	\$500
Second Place:	Louisiana – instituting 3 new courts	\$350
Third Place:	New York – instituting 2 new courts	\$350

Other States proactive in instituting one new court each during this period are:

Arizona, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Puerto Rico

Local Courts gaining the most members.

Category 1: 1-75 Members

First Place:	\$200	An increase of 25 members	Court St. Louis #2579 Maryland
Second Place:	\$150	An increase of 20 members	Court St. Bridget #265 New York
Third Place Tie:	\$100	An increase of 19 members	Court St. Augustine #23 Florida
Third Place Tie:	\$100	An increase of 19 members	Court Mother Cabrini #1422 Texas

Category 1: 76-150 Members

First Place:	\$200	An increase of 67 members	Court Sacred Heart of Jesus #1674 LA
Second Place:	\$150	An increase of 20 members	Court St. Peter the Apostle #2690 Texas
Third Place:	\$100	An increase of 19 members	Court St. Theresa of Avila #1955 LA

Category 1: 151+ Members

First Place:	\$200	An increase of 35 members	Court Annunciation #1962 Texas
Second Place:	\$150	An increase of 13 members	Court Sacred Heart #797 Texas
Third Place:	\$100	An increase of 10 members	Court Santa Maria #179 Iowa

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
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National St. Faustina Contest
Dawn Fortenberry, National Director & Membership and Court Development

ST. FAUSTINA WINNERS

State	State Regent	Recipients	Court Name
Arkansas	Connie Boutwell	Judi Ostergaard Carolyn Wethington	
Iowa	Rita Carlson	Sr. Vicky Arndorfer Bev Whitlatch	Joan of Arc #388 Bishop Edward Celestin Daly, OP #1945
Louisiana	Trisha Crombie	Jane Donahoe Bernadette Mabile	
Maryland	Dianna Bourne	Theresa Enright Connie Buenafe	St. Louis #2579 St. Joseph #2300
Massachusetts	Patricia Adams	Cathy Duford	Our Lady of Lourdes #2396
Minnesota	Mary Pufall	Donna Rystad Lisa Diekmann	St. Cecelia #2025 St. Bernard #886
Nebraska	Betty Fredericks	Catherine Lavicky Marlene Meyer	San Salvador #576 St. Catherine Laboure' #1802
New Mexico	Dr. Catherine Collins	Yvette Griego	Delfinia Schmitt
New York	Theresa Duran	Helene Shepard	
Oklahoma	Martha Dudash	Maureen Wortham	St. Francis of Peace #2163
Puerto Rico	Wilma Cedeno	Rosita Mota Nivia Martinez	Borinquen 1101 Nuestra Senora de la Caridad 1226
Texas	Rebecca Brown	Carolyn Ritchey	Suzie Pierce

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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Susan Moné, National 1903 and Windows of Opportunity Chairman**

WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY

Rita R Reicher-Member of Court #1287- Iowa

Court # 2245 Holy Family of St. Joseph- Maryland

1903 SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

National Board 2018-2020 (National Regent Olga Samaniego)

National Board 2020-2022 (National regent Sherry Nilles)

New York State

New York State

Virginia State Court

Court Whittier #519-California

Court St. Rita #523 -Pennsylvania

Court Fanny Allen #1060 -Vermont

Court of Our Blessed Mother #1731 -Texas

Court Our Lady of the Desert #2236 -Texas

Court of the Holy Family #2616 -Virginia

Court Our Lady Queen of the Lake #2364 -Texas

Patricia Adams- Member of Court #2396 Our Lady of Lourdes -Massachusetts

Brenda Anderson- Member of Court #2516 – South Dakota

Lucy V Gasaway -Member of Court #1606 Sacred Heart- Colorado

Carol Snowbarger -Member of Court # 2211 St. Theresa of Lisieux-Texas

Deborah Steger -Member of Court #350 St. Rose-Iowa



Circle of Love Awards

Spiritual Enhancement

Leadership

Family

Education

Quality of Life

Youth/JCDA

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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**National Spiritual Enhancement State Court Recognitions
Connie Dronette National Secretary-Treasurer and National Spiritual Enhancement Chairman**

Iowa, Iowa Campus Court CDA Mom Project
State Regent Rita Carlson

This spiritual service project is a way of connecting the past, present, and future of Catholic Daughters. This collaborative project including the Adult Courts and Campus Courts contains three steps. The first step is Bridging the Gap – Awareness of Campus Courts. In this step the chronological age gap is broken, and similarities are the focus. Step two is Adult Local Court Involvement which includes how mothers and grandmothers can relate to the struggles of growing up and experiencing the real world. Court Members were given the opportunity to be involved by donating to the project. Step Three is Presentation. The State Officers visited the girls and presented each with a t-shirt with the National Theme on it. They listened as the girls shared how the girls shared how they practice their faith while on campus. The ultimate goal of the project is to help the girls realize that there are 66,000 ladies that have answered “yes” and their involvement in the Campus Court is just a start for their service, the path of ministry that they are already on.

New Mexico, Prayer in Time of Pandemic and Beyond
State Regent Dr. Catherine Collins

These past couple of years have been a time of great loss, challenges, and growth on so many levels. What we have experienced during this time is unlike anything we had ever known in our lifetime. However, we have come to see that God has been renewing all of us. While many of their members were isolated and unsure of what was to come, they, as a State Court, felt the responsibility to bring their state together in daily prayer. They began by praying the Novenas daily on our New Mexico State Court Facebook page. Having this social media forum to reach out and pray with their members daily has been a Godsend. In addition to Novenas, they have been able to pray the Consecration to St. Joseph, in honor of the 150-year Anniversary declared by Pope Francis and The Rosary for Life (Respect Life). Many of the responses the State Board has heard from the members, is that the prayers were a lifeline for them. This forum helped to keep everyone in the state connected as a family, petitions for individual needs were shared, and kept them grounded as a State Court and as sisters in Christ. The lessons learned are not to take each other for granted, the importance of the gift of CDA sisterhood, and that through faith, God, in fact, has been renewing all of us.

New York, Pray & Play Retreats
State Regent Theresa Duran

A goal of the New York State Court is to spiritually enhance its members, its Courts, and the Order, thereby bringing each member closer to God. They wanted to become more spiritually connected to each other as they were becoming more spiritually connected to the Lord. Three Pray and Play Retreats were held in various parts of NY state to be accessible to as many members as possible. The retreats ran from dinner Friday night through a closing Prayer Service after breakfast on Sunday morning. The weekend was filled with praying the rosary, presentations on the state theme, discussion groups, celebrating Mass, singing, playing games, and sharing meals. One evening they offered up prayers around the fire pit and then made smores! Pray and Play seems to be exactly what CDA is about, as much as Unity and Charity, our spirituality and service . . . praying together and playing together are the greatest parts of Spiritual Enhancement. The Holy Spirit was enhanced within everyone present and within CDA by enhancing personal spirituality through prayer and contemplation, and enhancing the spirit of friendship, love and sisterhood that exists between each CDA member. Pray and Play was an overwhelming success, and they can't wait for this year's retreats.

Texas, Rosaries Across Texas
State Regent Rebecca Brown

Rosaries Across Texas is a project to bring prayer into the homes and hearts of all members. Each month, a State Officer, State Chairman, or District Deputy shares the love of the rosary with members, and they pray to the Blessed Mother Mary for love, generosity, and kindness on the Texas CDA Facebook page. Members are encouraged to post special prayer intentions they have for each rosary event. They collected 2,154 rosaries at the 2021 Texas State Convention. The rosaries were donated to the Father Peyton Family Rosary Project. Each State Board meeting begins with a special rosary for a separate set of District Deputies, State Chairmen, and Past State Regents. These rosary events are livestreamed on the Facebook page as well. The state board has led the Patriotic Rosary in three separate locations to pray for leaders at all levels of government, for freedom, for first responders, care givers and medical personnel. The Texas State Officers will travel to any of their Courts and Churches to pray the rosary. Praying the rosary can change the world.

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**National Leadership State Court Recognitions
Essie Walker, National Second Vice Regent and Leadership Chairman**

**New York
State Regent Theresa Duran**

Face Book Live

Coved hit hard in March of 2020 and like much of the country New Yorkers were forced to “shut down.” As a way to stay in touch with members to calm their fears, be present to the isolated, and to keep their Spiritual Life on track, the New York State Board began going on “Face Book Live” on their State Face Book page. Each morning Past National Regent Helene Shepard posted a morning prayer and theme. Each day at 2: pm, seven days a week, then First Vice State Regent Theresa Duran came on to an audience of 30-40 people and led a prayer service. Soon other Board Members, Past State Regent Mary Impellizeri, Past National Regent Helene Shepard and others took on the task of praying the rosary, a chaplet, or leading a prayer service nightly at 8: pm. What began as a response to a call for leadership has turned into leadership training for the New York State Board, cultivation of leaders from New York State members and an example of leadership training to others across the country.

**Oklahoma
State Regent Martha Dudash**

Leadership

The state court held their annual State Workshop on September 25, 2021. Each annual workshop is an opportunity to share leadership skills, ideals and information received at the National Leadership Conference. The year’s theme for the workshop was “You are the Apple of His Eye.” They felt this was appropriate for a refresher on the National Projects and Charities. Each of the State Officers summarized and shared information on a project or charity. During tabletop discussions, the members shared and brought different ideals to light that could be used by other courts. The CDA members had a fun-filled day and left with more knowledge of the National Projects and Charities.

**Texas
State Regent Rebecca Brown**

Leadership Workshop

The state of Texas currently has 67 District Deputies and 30 Chairmen. A workshop is held for all leaders. To facilitate all workshop topics, the ladies are divided into groups. The groups are given scarves of assorted colors and designs to designate each group’s members. Members gather in the morning and then rotate from topic to topic. Everyone has an opportunity to attend each topic presented. Usually, topics include but not limited to financial reviews, conflict resolution, planning for and conducting local court officers training, technology and deadlines, ceremonials and parliamentary procedures. The workshops are presented by State Board members, Past State Regents, and some State Chairmen. The Leadership Workshop runs from Thursday to Sunday. The days are packed with learning, time for God, time for fellowship and exchanging ideas. All District Deputies, State Chairman, and Past State Regents sign their commitment to the work of CDA and to the Texas State Court. The State Workshops are opportunities for the leaders in Texas CDA to grow closer to God, gain knowledge, and continue the path with grace and mercy in unity and charity.

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National Family State Court Recognitions
Nancy Bambenek, National Director and National Family Chairman

State: New Jersey

State Regent: Audrey Spenard

A Home of Their Own

The New Jersey State Court is honored to participate in the Habitat for Humanity Funding for the current year. An application has been filed for a Habitat Build in Middletown, New Jersey. We have contacted the National Habitat Chairman and filed our application to contribute to participate and received acknowledgement and confirmation from the National Director in Habitat for Humanity. We deeply appreciate National joining us. With our monetary contribution and “hands on” talents of our New Jersey Court members we will volunteer our services and help to complete the project so that a needy family can move in and enjoy a better life. We are so excited to be a part of this project and look forward to working through to its completion- to see the fortunate family to live in a home of their own, who otherwise would not be able to have one.

State: New York

State Regent: Theresa Duran

Thank You Project

The New York State Family Project continues to be the Thank You Project. This project began in 2019 and fit right into the newly created Family spoke of the Circle of Love as the U.S. Military is a crucial part of our American Family. It’s easy to see that these members of our American Family make it safer for us to enjoy our time with our own families. We also realize how the military men and women sacrifice time with their own families to protect our rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The Thank You Project is a project, event, drive that happens all over our State each fall. We ask our members, parishes, students, families, and communities to join us in writing a thank you to an active U.S. military man or woman. In turn we send these letters to a Charity, A Million Thanks. This Charity sends letters of hope and thanks to military personnel all year long so they can remember just why they are needed on the frontline and just how much we all appreciate them.

Local courts organize writing campaigns, coffee hours, school drives and other events to spread the name of CDA while asking all to support the men and women that have dedicated their lives to serving the United States of America. In many cases we have a table with papers and pens at parish picnics, we ask schoolteachers to have the children write letters or we place a notice in the Church bulletin asking people to drop letters in a basket by the doors. Local courts have been creative in how to take on the project. We are proud to support our Military. During the 2020 and 2021 campaign, a total of almost 6000 letters were sent. Our goal for 2022 is 5000 letters.

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**National Education Recognitions
Darlene Moritz, National Director and National Education Chairman**

State Court Projects

**Massachusetts State Project – “Pray –The Story of Patrick Peyton”
State Regent: Nancy Meehan**

Prayer was the central theme of the Fall 2021 State workshop in Massachusetts. All local courts were represented at the gathering held at the Holy Cross Family Ministries and its new Museum of Family Prayer. A highlight of the workshop was the screening of the movie “Pray—The Story of Patrick Peyton”. A poor Irish immigrant who accepts the position of a janitor at the cathedral, that rekindles his long-lost desire to become a priest and changes his life. Fr Peyton is well known for his timeless message, “The family that prays together stays together”.

**New York State Project –Back to Basics
State Regent: Theresa Duran**

Aside from encouraging participation in all of the Education contests, the New York State Board created a series of ‘Back to Basics’ videos designed to give local courts some ideas on how to proceed with business during the early days of COVID.

State Regent and Vice State Regent were able to meet together and film three videos that were posted to the newly revived State Website and newly created State You Tube Channel. Courts were glad that their courts were bolstered and that some of the ideas for virtual meetings and events were warmly received.

**Texas State Project—Education through Technology
State Regent: Rebecca Brown**

Our technology project has been daily and ongoing throughout the year, constantly evolving and adapting to meet the needs of over 14,000 plus members and 243 courts. It has impacted local courts and their members with improved communication and knowledge. Technology has become an important bridge between the state and local courts. Improved communication has educated the State Board as well as our members as it has increased our awareness of the needs and concerns of our local courts and has enabled us to serve them more effectively.

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National Quality of Life State Court Recognitions

Emily Guilherme, National Regent-Elect and National Quality of Life Chairman

State: New York

State Regent: Theresa Duran

The Ladies of Martha and Mary

All courts are encouraged to have a designated “Martha and Mary” group that acts as a sunshine club of sorts for members that are ill, hospitalized, homebound or just in need of cheering up, cards are sent, phone calls made, prayers are said. The “Ladies” often put together a basket of goodies (gift cards, crossword puzzles, Prayer cards, groceries depending on the situation and pay a visit to the member in need. We have found that a personal visit (when COVID restrictions allowed it) plus that thoughtful touch of specially chosen fun and/or helpful items really helps improve the spirits of our members and show are concern for their Quality of Life.

State: Texas

State Regent: Rebecca Brown

Habitat for Humanity Texas State Build

The Texas State Court began their 9th state court build in Redwater in February 2020 with the ground blessing after manually clearing the land limb by limb. They soon faced many months of no build days, one right after the other. Between torrential rain flooding to the lot, to COVID shutdowns, delays brought an anxious awareness for both CDA members and the family. However, through the determination of Catholic Daughters through prayer, the build continued when possible. CDA members are unstoppable. For weekend build days, members provide meals to the workers while others provided manual labor with hammers and paint brushes. Finally on Sunday, April 18, 2021 toured the finished home and celebrated with a dedication and blessing of the home by State Chaplain Reverend Justin S. Bruan. This home has been a blessing for a single mother of 2 children.

**Youth States Recognition
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
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**Ivone da Silveira National Director and Youth Chairman
National Youth State Recognition**

List State: Texas Name of Project: Memorial Scholarship Fund

State Regent: Rebecca Brown

The State Court of Texas sponsors a Memorial Scholarship Fund program. Each year 120 to 160 high school graduating seniors compete for a scholarship from Texas CDA. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$3000 depending on the judges scoring and essays, school activities, and church involvement. The MSK has 3 goals: gives graduating seniors who are JCDA members and/or a relatives of living Texas a CDA members to apply for an academic scholarship. Encourages CDA members to give the gift of prayer for the living or deceased and honors past State Regents, living and deceased. The MSF are funded from contributions made by local courts and individuals members. Mass enrollments, donation of \$2.50, or more, per card, are for a period of one year with the celebration of the Mass by the Texas CDA State Chaplain, on the first Friday of each month. The monies generated from this project over the past 2 years, February 1,2020 to February 1, 2022, was \$90,000 and awarded to 87 deserving high school graduates

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National Spiritual Enhancement Local Court Recognitions
Connie Dronette, National Secretary-Treasurer and Spiritual Enhancement Chairman

Court Kavanaugh #54, Alexandria, VA
Marguerita McAuliffe, Court Regent

Day Trips to Sacred Places – Members of Court Kavanaugh accompanied by their chaplain traveled to Emmitsburg, Maryland to visit the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American born canonized saint. They toured the grounds and houses where Mother Seton lived with her children until the death of her husband and where she opened her schools. They also spent time in the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Seton and viewed a special exhibit of her personal effects. The trip to the shrine was the latest in a series of “Day Trips to Sacred Places” organized by their Spiritual Committee and designed to help members learn more about their faith and spend time at important religious sites.

Court Our Lady of Camarin #2047, Hagatna, Guam
Marian Aflague, Court Regent

The Resurrection Garden, Lenten 2021 – the goal was for members to create a DIY Easter Resurrection Garden that represented the resurrection of Jesus Christ in line with our mission of unity and charity. The gardens were donated to St. Dominic’s Mercy Care to brighten the elderly’s view in their confined rooms. Directions and ideas on making a Resurrection Grden were given to the members and the Resurrection Gardens were brought to the meeting after Easter. Some of the gardens were raffled off and \$300.00 was given to the archbishop as a donation for the community. Some of the gardens were delivered to the Care Center by CDA members.

Court Our Lady of Humility 2653, Basile, LA
Connie Nini, Court Regent

Praying for Life – the goals of the project were to make everyone aware of the sanctity of all life, to encourage everyone to deepen their prayer life, and for everyone to follow up their prayers with action. The first activity was held on Sanctity of Life Sunday in January. Court members, Knights of Columbus, CCD students, and church groups gathered and prayed around the tomb of the unborn. The next phase of the project was a campaign that took place in February, Members and parishioners were given the opportunity to spiritually adopt a baby as they chose a heart with the Spiritual Adoption Prayer Cards from a Baby Basket. Participants prayed for their spiritually adopted baby every day. The vocation of parents was prayed for in May and June. As the year progressed, the Court invited the community to pray for life at all stages. During October, a rosary was prayed daily during Respect for Life Month. As the nine months of the spiritually adopted babies approached, members focused on the community by praying for the needs of expectant parents and hosting a baby bottle campaign. At the end of the campaign in December, the Court presented a donation of \$1,886.00 to the New Life Pregnancy Center. The year of praying for life helped all to rely on God for help and to turn to Mary, our Mother, to intercede for us.

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National Leadership Local Court Recognitions
Essie Walker, National Second Vice Regent and Leadership Chairman

Court Saint Clementine #821, Medford, MA
Regent: MaryGrace DiMartino

Pastor’s Request-‘Build Me a House in Viet Nam’

During the summer of 2020, St. Clementine Parish, Medford, MA was in jeopardy of being shut down. The only way for the parish to remain solvent was to transition the parish to become the first recognized Vietnamese Catholic Community in the Archdiocese of Boston. Father Phong in speaking with the regent mentioned that he would like the Catholic Daughters at St. Clement to sponsor a fundraiser to build a home in Vietnam for a deserving family. Cost to build a home was \$2,500. MaryGrace DiMartino brought the matter to the attention of the court members. Following approval of the court members, a Meat Bingo was planned and committed 50% of the profits to kick off the campaign to build a home in Vietnam. The fundraiser was opened to the entire community. Forty people attended the fundraiser. This was during a time members were hesitant to mingle. \$1,400 was raised. Due to a rise in COVID, another event will be planned to raise the remaining amount. Accepting the challenge to raise funds for the building of a home in Vietnam provided an opportunity to express thanks and appreciation to the Vietnamese community for bringing the parish back to life. The event also helped foster and promote the building of a relationship between the English speaking members of the parish and the newly established Vietnamese Catholic Community at St. Clementine Church.

Court Santa Cruz, #1298, Las Cruces, NM
Regent: Bernadette Pina-Garcia

Installation of a new JCDA Court during the Pandemic

The installation of a JCDA court began before the pandemic. Mandated shut downs of churches and meeting places made it difficult to meet and gather. Members of the court remained diligent in their intentions. Members kept praying and planning. On February 28, 2021, a first meeting with other state JCDA courts was held in the form of a Tea Party. Court Our Lady of Heaven #1298 was installed with 13 new members on June 13, 2021 at Holy Cross Parish. Members are from different parishes. There is now a sisterhood between the junior and senior courts.

Court Our Lady of the Sea, #2767, Biloxi, MS
Regent: Tania Garrard

Parish Gift Shop

The court was asked to start a gift shop for the parish. A committee was formed from the court and the daunting task began. The committee visited other gift shops. Fourteen ladies maintain the shop to include the ordering. The goal of this shop is to provide parishioners and visitors a variety of items for gifts of personal use that are Catholic focused and available at a reasonable price and a fitting location. The court led the parish in this endeavor, and it continues to grow.

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**National Family Local Court Recognitions
Nancy Bambenek, National Director and National Family Chairman**

Court Salve Regina #847, El Reno, Oklahoma

Providing for the Safety of Our Families

A member spoke at a CDA meeting about an idea she had “to help mothers and their babies”. She had already spoken to **Love of the Children asking them what do you need but** can’t provide? All the staff unanimously said, “car seats”. Not just any car seat or a used car seat, “We need car seats that are certified as safe for mothers to bring their babies home from the hospital”. The need for car seats stirred an emotion and a fire for this member to become the chair of the Love of the Children car seat fundraiser. The chair has already approached the local Walmart who agreed to sell the car seats at cost. Love of the children formerly known as Birth Choice is a nonprofit organization in our community that provides clothing, diapers and formula to mothers and their children. They accept monetary donations from parish members and the community to assist with the purchase of diapers and formula. They also accept gently used toys and clothing for infants, toddlers and children. Walking door to door with a letter explaining the fundraiser and making numerous phone calls asking business owners and pillars of the community for just \$120 to purchase a care seat to help a mother and her baby. The chair had an initial goal of the sky as the limit for the amount of money she wanted to raise, however, Covid dampened the enthusiasm of potential contributors. Regardless, within weeks the committee raised \$1,670.00 which was more than enough to purchase 12 car seats with extra being used to purchase formula and diapers. A large number of CDA members were present to deliver the car seats with the local paper taking photos for an article in the paper. The chair of this fundraiser feels so passionately about helping families she would like to do this yearly.

Court St. Bridget of Sweden #2461, Houma, Louisiana

Helping the Less Fortunate Stay Warm

Category 4 Hurricane Ida made landfall in the bayou country of the Diocese of Houma Thibodaux. Court St. Bridget of Sweden #2461 is in the northern most end of Terrebonne Parish, yet many members and parishioners suffered unprecedented damage. Praise God, no life was lost due to the storm and her wrath. Traditionally, the court has distributed needy family’s food baskets for Thanksgiving. Due to the hurricane, the local food bank had an abundance of food and supplies as well and monetary funds. The Court voted to distribute blankets and socks to Terrebonne Parish residents living in ‘tent cities’ due to damage from Hurricane Ida. Blankets and socks were collected from members and families from the parish. A school 50 miles away donate 100 blankets when they heard of the project from a CDA member. Court members personally delivered the blankets and heard stories of the ‘tent city ’residents. Ironically, this winter has been cold! Many are still living in the tent cities. God has truly blessed our community with volunteers willing to reach out to the less fortunate. Approximately 400 blankets were distributed to 5 tent cities. We estimate that 100 or more families were impacted. **The impact of Hurricane Ida will not be forgotten nor will the love of God and unity and charity experienced by CDA members with this project.**

Court Daughters of St. Dominic #2549, Houston, Texas

Little Shoppers Christmas Market

On Sunday December 12, 2021, our court hosted our first Little Shoppers Christmas Market. Our parish has a large economically disadvantaged population, but we wanted the children to experience the joy of giving during the Christmas season. With that in mind, we got busy. Members donated new and gently used items and we made some gifts also. We priced the gifts from 10 cents to \$2 so that every child, hopefully would be able to purchase some gifts for siblings and parents. We invited children in grades Pre-K-5th to shop. Parents helped students fill out the shopping list on their envelopes. Younger children received one-on-one help. The KCs served parents coffee and donuts in the foyer of the Life Center, while the children shopped. When the shopping was done, gifts were wrapped and tagged and over 80 children proudly walked out with their arms full of brightly wrapped gifts. This project was a lot of hard work, but the smiles on all those faces and the appreciation of the parents made it worthwhile. It was a wonderful event, and we are already planning for the event next year.

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National Education Recognitions
Darlene Moritz, National Director and National Education Chairman

Local Court Projects

Court St. John Vianney #1944 St Pete Beach, FL

State Regent: Kathy Brady

Education Contest

This year the Education Chair reached out to all 74 Catholic schools in the Diocese of St Petersburg, FL, inviting them to participate in the CDA education Contest. She had an amazing response. Nine (9) schools sent entries for a total of more than 500 actual entries among the many categories.

The team of judges spent many hours reviewing the entries. All winning recipients will receive a handwritten note from the Chairman as well as a check. All the winners and their parents were invited to the April meeting displaying many of the entries. Refreshments and awards presented along with a membership table to garner more members.

Court Ashland #1245 Ashland, OH

Territorial Court Regent: Deb Kemp

85th Anniversary Celebration of Court Ashland

The 85th Anniversary celebration paid tribute to the rich history of their court, parish and at the national level. An impressive historical display set up in the gathering space with a framed copy of the original Court Charter. A poster of “Regents Through the Years” captivated parishioners as they read the names of grandmothers, cousins and family friends from years gone by. They educated current members and also parishioners on the history and impressive legacy of Court Ashland. This celebration with all the artifacts and memorabilia helped to clarify who they are and what they do. It reflected on the vibrancy of their Court, past and present and has been helpful in solidifying the commitment of current members. They have experienced a 10% increase in membership since the anniversary celebration and believe additional seeds of interest have also been planted. They are proud of their 85 years as a CDA court, going strong and looking forward to a bright future!

Court St. Gerard #2518 Valley City, ND

State Regent: Mary Baer

A Journey Through Church History—The Early Church

Court St. Gerard led a 10-part study series on the first 500 years of Church History. The study group met from September 2021 to February 2022. The study was hybrid as it was in person as well as on-line. The content included home readings, questions, small-group discussion and video presentations by Church History Professor Steve Weidenkopf, lecturer at Christendom College in Alexandria, Virginia. 26 participants including 5 Catholic Daughters. The goal was to discover the roots of our Catholic church, learn the story of the Church Fathers and strengthen our Catholic faith journey.

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National Quality of Life Local Court Recognitions

Emily Guilherme, National Regent-Elect and National Quality of Life Chairman

State: New York

Local Regent: Patricia Mancino

Local Court Name: Pere Le Mayne #833

School Break Lunches

Our community has many low-income families. They rely on free breakfast and lunch at school for their children, when school is not in session the children would feel the impact. Our court therefore saw the need to step forward and help. Our court Pere LeMonye has been collecting food items such as: small individual boxes of cereal, cups of fruit, canned soup, crackers w/peanut butter, microwave mac & cheese, anything that they can safely prepare themselves, when they have vacation from school, we supply them with enough food to tie them over till the school break is over and school is back in session. The school has partnered with our court in this endeavor. They give us a count of children and we do the rest. We have a very giving parish which without their contributions this would not be possible. We have bins at the entrances of our parish and the parishioners deposit the item which are then emptied weekly and saved for the next school break. Members of our sort compile the bags to be distributed at school. They are taken to the school and the school gives them out before these students leave to go home. We have gotten several notes from families thankful for our support. This is truly heart warming to all our members for the help we are giving these families.

State: West Virginia

Local Court Regent: Mary Washington

Local Court: Bishop Donahue #784

The Gabriel Project

The Gabriel Project of West Virginia (named after the Archangel) is committed to protecting and honoring life by providing immediate, practical and tangible assistance to expectant mothers and families in need. This organization benefits families and single mothers who do not have the financial ability to meet the tangible needs of a child. They also provide mothers with emotional support, answer questions about baby care, offer information materials and make referrals to other social service organizations. They also serve teenage mother's and single moms who do not have the support of their families. At 9 out of our 10 court meetings during the year our members have brought donations of diapers, shampoos, lotions, and other items for babies and young children up to 3 years of age. Some of our members have even donated crocheted or knitted baby blankets, etc. These items are then delivered to the Marshall University Catholic Newman Center. The items are then distributed to needy mothers regardless of race, color, disability, national origin or religious affiliation or lack thereof. Our members feel blessed to be able to aid in this outreach to help women choose life instead of abortion and to assist them with their many needs after their babies are born. We feel this is part of being a Catholic Daughter of the Americas and serving our Lord and His Church.

State: Guam

Local Court Regent: Marian Aflague

Local Court: Our Lady of Camarin #2047

Kamalen Karidat Feeding of the Homeless

We provide monthly feeding for the hundreds of homeless individuals and their families who are less fortunate with their essential human needs. There are approximately 50 members divide into various groups 1 through 4. For a 12-month period. These include non-perishable items, i.e., cases of bottled water, canned goods, personal home care items, in-kind donations, etc. The Homeless meal program is a shining light in the Archdiocese centrally located and ministers to hundred of homeless families each week. It may be the only meal they have. But they are assured of at least one per day.

**Circle of Love JCDA
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Ivone da Silveira National Director and Youth/JCDA Chairman**

National JCDA Local Court Recognition

Local Court Name: JCDA Court Kavanaugh, Court Number 54,

City: Alexandria and State: Virginia

Court Regent: Brenda R. West

Title of the Project: JCDA Court Activities

The JCDA's sponsored by Court Kavanaugh is 60 members including 45 middle school girls and 15 high school girls. They hosted the Director of Digital and social media for the Diocese of Arlington at their April 30th meeting for a presentation on how young Catholic Women can manage the influence of social media in their lives. The girls showed support for the pro-life issue in collecting baby clothes and other items to donate to Divine Mercy Care and Tepeyac OB/GYN, a pro-life medical practice that provides life-affirming care to vulnerable women and babies at risk of abortion. I think this project shows us our future in digital and social media that has changed the world after the pandemic.

Local Court Name: Court Senora de la Providencia, Court Number 1242,

City: Yauco and State: Puerto Rico

Court Regent: Clara Casiano

Title of the Project: Presence in our communities in hard times

Due to Covid-19 and a earthquake with many replicas (still at this moment they haven't stop) in this area, The JCDA saw a need to help there community that was suffering a lot. First for covid-19 they created a video to "stay in the house" which was seen over 14,000 people. Also, an activity of "Putting makeup on your soul", that included doing art crafts, dips, manicures with Gods themes, makeup etc. all for the soul of every single person that attended. Also, keeping working for God they did 31 Christmas boxes full of gifts for kids in their neighborhood. In overall it was God through them changing lives.

Local Court Name: JCDA Court La Rosa de Guadalupe, Court Number 2252,

City: Carlsbad and State: New Mexico

Court Regent: Dr. Catherine Collins

Title of the Project: Act of Love for our Community

The JCDAs purchase Valentine's card for their local Nursing Home, members of the "Meals on Wheels" program, praying groups, staff and clergy of San Jose Church and St. Edwards Church, of Carlsbad, New Mexico. The goal of the activity was to celebrate the month of February showing love for our neighbor. The girls wanted to remind them of their love and connection to God, and that we're thinking and praying for them. So, they gave out 455 valentines to the members of the Meals on wheels program, and 78 valentines were delivered to Lakeview Christian Nursing Home and 20 cards were delivered to the individual prayer's groups. Overall, reminded them about "loving our neighbor" and that they were praying for them.

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Ivone da Silveira National Director and Youth/JCDA Chairman**

National Youth Local Court Recognition

Local Court Name: Infant of Prague, Court Number 1643,

City: Jacksonville and State: North Carolina

Court Regent: Mindy Rusch

Title of Project: Teddy Bears for Victory Junction

Court Infant of Prague to provide a camp experience to physically and medically challenged children began to make stuffed Teddy bears, given to each child when they arrive at the camp and at the end the camper takes the bear home. The court met in the Parish Hall, donated suitable material to have a sewing day. They made 31 teddy bears for Victory Junction, and they were very appreciative of there efforts to brighten a child's camp experience with a teddy bear.

Local Court Name: St. Francis de Assisi , Court Number 1652,

City: Hanford and State: California

Court Regent: Mary Beasley

Title of Project: Helping the Youth in the Foster Care System

The goal of Court St. Francis of Assisi is to support our youth by showing them that others care about them and want to help them feel safe and important. It was known to CDA court members about how the foster care go from home to home using a garbage bag carry their clothes. The members gather some luggage's from different places etc. and also school supplies and back packs for the start of school year to take to the Kings County Human Services office. Then at Christmas time there was a need for clothes, socks, underwear, and a toy for each child in the foster system. Also, depending on the age the child's received a art supplies, a stuffed toy and even a 49er baseball cap.

Local Court Name: Court Cedar Rapids, Court Number 1768,

City: Marian and State: Iowa

Court Regent: Rita Carlson

Title of Project: Fresh Colorado Peaches Fundraiser

I really liked this project because the court, parish and community felt the impact of this positive collaboration. Both generations of workers learned from each other. Physically, the peaches were moved to where they needed to be. Spiritually, faith was shared, and missions explained. Organizationally, the CDA displayed leadership and the youth responsibly assisted and planned with instructors to get credit for their service hours. Practically, generations enjoyed each other's company. Their idea in collaborating in order to produce a win-win came to fruition. More important rounds of laughter's.