

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

NATIONAL QUARTERLY



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Winter 2026

A Message from

Susan Moné

National Regent



“Be a Beacon of Hope, a Light in the Darkness”

As you read this, we are preparing for the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This is such a special time for us as Catholics. It is a time for Spiritual growth during the 6 weeks of Lent. It's has been 2 months since we celebrated Christmas and the Birth of Jesus. Now, 33 years later we enter the journey with Jesus to the cross. Many times, we think of Christmas as the highlight of Jesus' life on earth, but His birth has no meaning without His passion, death, and resurrection. His resurrection is our salvation as Jesus gave up His life for our sins so we can have all eternity with Him in Heaven.

I imagine many of you can remember what lent was for us when we were growing up. We made sacrifices like no sweets, not going to the movies, no TV on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and of course in those days, no meat on Friday was the rule all year, not just during lent. And then there was lots of time spent in church during Holy Week. My brothers and I waited anxiously for Sundays because we could break our Lenten fast. As an adult we look at lent in a much different way. Rather than giving up things, lent is a time to give of ourselves. We give back to God by actions such as serving in a soup kitchen, maybe cleaning those clothes we haven't worn in years and take to St. Vincent DePaul, attending days of reflection or a retreat. It's a great time to visit our older court members who are home bound or in a nursing home. Many of them have no family to visit them and are lonely. I'm sure we can all think of ways to serve those in need.

During these 6 weeks, I encourage you to spend more time with God. Spend extra time in a quiet place which may be in church or at home, so not only can you speak to God, but in the quiet God will speak to you. There are numerous books available to read and meditate on the passion of Christ. Lent should be a time to change our minds and hearts as we grow closer to God.

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The National Board and the State Board of Iowa have been busy with convention 2026 as it is just 4 months away. You have already received the first call to convention and the second call will arrive soon. Please share the information with all your members and encourage them to come to Iowa in July. The second call will include the proposed bylaws to bring before the assembly of delegates. I ask all Regents to take time with your members to review and discuss these bylaws so that the delegates from each court know how the members feel about them. The Court Delegates are your voice at convention. I look forward to seeing many of you in Coralville, Iowa, for a great convention. I wish a very Blessed and Joyful Easter to you and your family.

*Susan Moné
National Regent*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW COURTS

IA002819 Saint Mother Teresa

Instituted April 3, 2025
Regent Patrice Cronin
718 S Main Street
Holstein IA 51025
Phone # (712) 251-8328
Email jpcronin1972@gmail.com

TX002820 Saint Clare's Vineyard

Instituted May 3, 2025
Regent Kathryn Gleghorn
3212 Fannin Lane
Grapevine TX 76092
Phone # (817) 458-2451
Email kdagleghorn@gmail.com

MD002821 Divine Mercy

Instituted May 25, 2025
Regent Sherita Thomas
6209 Seton Hills Lane
Gwynn Oak MD 21207
Phone # (410) 504-9080
Email mrssheritathomas@gmail.com

LA002822 Our Lady Gracia Plena

Instituted May 18, 2025
Regent Kimberly Laqua
2518 Planters House Lane
Katy TX 77449
Phone # (281) 415-0773
Email kimlaqua@yahoo.com

LA002823 Mother of Grace

Instituted July 12, 2025
Regent Tracie Greely
9623 Trendale Drive
Greenwell Springs LA 70739
Email tbgreely63@gmail.com
Phone (225) 229-8136

LA002824 Our Lady of Wisdom

Instituted June 21, 2025
Regent Penny Shaw
360 W Willow Street
Ponchatoula LA 70454
Email givememyspace@aol.com
Phone (985) 630-8984

All Roads Lead to Coralville, Iowa in July 2026!

I am so excited and honored to tell you about our upcoming 2026 National Convention in Coralville, Iowa on July 21-26, 2026. Continue reading to hear more reasons why you should plan on coming to Iowa in July.

Come and have a RENEWAL

R. Rejuvenating and rewarding when we gather as the largest Catholic group of women, Catholic Daughters of the Americas. You will be amazed with the total sum of women in attendance. Delegated and alternates from everywhere! Seize the opportunity by making plans now to be there. See for yourself why there are rewards for attending this National Convention.

E. Energy, enthusiasm and excitement to be with like-minded women who want to experience being at a national convention with your CDA sister. Learn from those who have walked before us. Enjoy the responsibility of being a delegate or an alternate and have your voice take flight.

N. Noteworthy and nourishing for the soul and body. Excellent **free** workshops held the day prior (Tuesday) to the opening of convention. You will want to plan to take advantage of this small setting to ask questions and connect with the presenter.

E. Enjoy the **free** concert on Tuesday evening. Fun night on Thursday night will make you laugh and fill you with renewed energy. This is one of the many best “best highlights” of the convention.

W. Warm hospitality in the hearts of the Midwest. Coralville, IA offers accessible travel, comfortable accommodations, welcoming venues and a chance for our Iowa sisters in CDA to show off with pride the land they love. We know they will make us proud, genuinely welcomed and cared for by your presence. Friendly and loving Iowa CDA faces with their attentive services and genuine sense of welcoming.

A. Awesome, amazing Faith-filled experiences. Daily Mass, available adoration, prayer time, and opportunities for spiritual growth that brings us together in Christ. Make sure to bring your State Chaplin, Court Chaplin, and/or your parish priest with you. AMEN.

L. Lasting opportunities to make new friends, reconnect/further discover the beauty of friends from across local courts, states and see how much more we are at the national level with the mission that first brought us together as Catholic Daughters of the Americas. We are the Body of Christ, sisters serving others in Charity and Unity. We are unique, women, volunteers, who make a big difference in the church, community and across the nation.

It is time for RENEWAL ladies. Don't be left behind.

Yes, we will make history in Coralville, IA, and we want everyone to be with us to see and feel it happening. Yes, we can do this!

See you in Coralville, Iowa—July 21-26, 2026.

Nancy Bambenek, Second Vice National Regent

Scooter rentals for Convention/Coralville, IA

101 Mobility

319-220-0672

\$135,00 Per Week

\$50.00 Delivery Fee (Each Scooter)

JVA Mobility

319-366-5355

\$150 Per Week

\$25 Delivery Fee (Each Scooter)

Limited number available so please reserve asap!

“It’s the Law”

Brenda Anderson, Bylaw Chairman

At our New State Officer’s Conference in Arizona this past July, our national bylaw committee, Sheriff Brenda Anderson, Deputy Connie Dronette and Deputy Susan Killian shared the confusion and downright difficulty in what or how our National Bylaws are interpreted. Everyone was quizzed on parts of the Bylaw Book, and a few good folks were awarded ‘stars’ for their understanding of the ‘law’. Some did not get a star.

Our intention was to have a little fun by working on, understanding and applying the bylaws with our membership. We have been meeting as a committee many hours over Zoom and have gone through every section of the book. Susan Killian, as the past national regent’s secretary had the Bylaw book in digital format so we could look at the sections, side by side and work on mirroring them IF applicable. We found that National and State Courts shared many similar things, and the Local/Territorial Courts and Campus Courts shared similar items too. This in essence is an entirely new way of looking at the bylaws and yet still working with any bylaw amendments that were submitted. Grammatical changes were noticed and with each of us bringing our own experiences to the table, we feel we made a good review; I feel that as Sheriff, the members will be happier members with how this was done. We all heard the discontent on how things were before and by looking at things side by side, we feel it will just make good sense.

The Bylaws were written years ago as a roadmap of continuity for our Order. We need that. Our National Bylaws are the governing ‘laws’ and when applied appropriately, when followed justly, problems at all levels of the Order can be minimized. Our Tools of the Trade is a Procedure manual to help you ‘apply’ the bylaws within each of your Courts. Sometimes the process or procedure may have to be tweaked to fit the situation but still following the bylaws, but with the Bylaws, ‘tweaking’ is not up for debate. As our Bylaw committee can attest, we must all follow the Law of the Order. After years and years of changes after each national convention, it was time to do the investigation and find answers to the mismatched type of bylaws on each level. Changes were made in different levels at different times and so many were not in synch. When these are presented at the national convention in Iowa, explanations will be made. The bylaws will be in the 2nd call to convention that you will receive very soon. If there are additional bylaws, they will be in the 3rd call to convention. Please share these with your courts and encourage them to discuss with the members. You may wish to bring a copy of the proposed bylaws to convention with you. Bring your copy of the current 2024 bylaw book.

Bylaws of the Order – still needed as in days past, relevant in all we do today, and necessary to carry on as an Order of faith-filled women, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

PAYPAL & VENMO ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Policy Regarding Funds and Purchases

Acceptable Uses:

- Local and state courts may use PayPal or Venmo to receive funds (dues, donations, fundraisers, or other payments).
 - Funds received must be deposited into the official local or state court bank account.
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Prohibited Uses

- Purchases may not be made through PayPal or Venmo.
 - Credit or debit cards linked to PayPal or Venmo accounts are not permitted.
 - Personal accounts (in a member's name or linked to a personal bank account) are strictly prohibited.
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Account Setup Guidelines

- To remain compliant with 503(c) non-profit requirements:
 - **Account Name:** Must be opened as "Catholic Daughters of the Americas."
 - **Account Type:** Must be opened as a Charity Account.
 - **Non-Profit ID:** Use your Court's official non-profit identification number.
 - **Email:** Must be connected to a court email that contains a court number. (i.e FinSec1255@gmail.com)
 - **Bank Deposits:** Transfer funds into your Court's bank account at least once per month.
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Fees and Taxes

- **You will not be charged sales tax, as the account is tied to your non-profit ID.** Venmo Business only accounts do have a lower fee but could cause taxes to be collected at the end of the year and should not be opened.
 - Standard transaction fees from PayPal/Venmo still apply.
 - For eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, PayPal's discounted rate is 1.99% + \$0.49 per domestic transaction
 - Your Court must decide by vote whether:
 - Donors/members cover the transaction fee, or
 - The Court absorbs the fee.
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Download the full instructions to create an account on the National Catholic Daughters website or by scanning the QR code blow.

Chrome Extension



Goggle Link



Prayer, Almsgiving, and Fasting

Gather small bare branches, Epsom salt, three jars, small slips of paper, and small purple ribbon. Set up jars of bare branches with Epsom salt on front table with lit candle in front of each.

Leader: Lent is a 40-day period dedicated to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, commencing on Ash Wednesday and concluding at sundown on Holy Thursday. This season serves as a time of preparation for the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection during Easter.

We are invited not only to refrain from luxuries during this time but also to undergo a genuine inner transformation of our hearts as we strive to align ourselves more closely with Christ's will. Furthermore, we reflect upon the waters of baptism, which symbolize our baptism into Christ's death, our renunciation of sin and evil, and the new life we embrace in Christ.

As we enter the season of Lent, we concentrate on three essential practices: Prayer, Almsgiving, and Fasting. Let's reflect on how we can incorporate these meaningful activities into our lives this Lent.

Reader 1: A Reading from St. Paul to the Philippians (Philippians 4:6-7)

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

The tradition of the Catholic Church highlights four basic elements of prayer: (1) Prayer of Adoration/Blessing, (2) Prayer of Contrition/Repentance, (3) Prayer of Thanksgiving/Gratitude, and (4) Prayer of Supplication/Petition/Intercession. What type of prayer do you pray? How will you add prayer to your day this Lent? How often do you read the Bible? (Give a moment of silence.) On one of your slips of paper, write how you will pray this Lent.

Reader 2: A Reading from Isaiah (Isaiah 58:10)

If you lavish your food on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; Then your light shall rise in the darkness, and your gloom shall become like midday;

Leader: The Church teaches that almsgiving is a moral obligation for all Christians. It reflects love for one's neighbor and a commitment to social justice. How do you share your blessings with others? Do you give to the poor? Do you volunteer your time and skills to those in need? Do you give to charitable organizations and initiatives? (Give a moment of silence.) On one of your slips of paper, write how you give alms this lent.

Reader 3: A reading From the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Matthew 6:17-18)

But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Leader: The church requires us to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. What else can we fast from? How will you fast this lent? (Give a moment of silence.) On one of your slips of paper, write how you will fast this Lent.

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Have participants come up and tie their promises on the bare branches, one branch for each practice. Play the song St. Theresa's Prayer by John Michael Talbot while they are moving around. If you need more than one song, you could play The Towel and the Basin by Michael Card, and Hosea by Kairy Marquez / Jonatan Narváez.

Leader: (When all participants have placed their promises on the tree) Let us pray:

Lord, help me to persevere even when being faithful to my Lenten promises are difficult. Teach me patience and trust in Your timing. Strengthen my heart to continue seeking You faithfully. May my perseverance be pleasing in Your sight. Amen.

Submitted by Connie Dronette

And the Winner is . . .

Rosie Stockwell

of Texas

**She is the winner of the
Grand 'Ole Lady Raffle!**

A special Thank you to all who participated.