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Glory Before Us

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to attend the Cathedral Ministry Conference hosted at the San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio, TX. A good friend of mine mentioned candidly, "so you get to attend a rector school, huh?" I just laughed, and later thought it indeed was that and more, especially in my new role at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, CA.



Father John Erick Villa
National Chaplain

Grateful for the trust and confidence of my Bishop, His Excellency Michael C. Barber, SJ, I echo in my ministry within and outside the Cathedral his priorities: embody corporal and spiritual works of mercy, strengthen parishioners' Sunday experience, and form missionary disciples.

These priorities must be ours, too, as dwellers in our homes, the domestic church. Catholic Daughters of the Americas has a unique and blessed opportunity to do this by engaging our families first, and fellow members as importantly, to the great work before us. When we create opportunities for our local courts to pray within or outside of Mass, when we visit the sick and the homebound, when we raise funds to support the needs of the parish or local community, when we adopt in prayer and

offer scholarship to seminarians, when we provide outreach to the imprisoned or impoverished, we allow our hands and feet, our voice and heart to truly be extensions of Christ's to the whole in so much need of Him. As we help others, we are helped in return, in much greater ways and means as we have given. Such is the providence of God once we commit ourselves to be missionary disciples!

Every night before I retire (for the day), I gaze at the Cathedral building, and realize this: it is the focal point of the life of the Diocese; and as it is situated in the heart of the city, it serves as a unique place of encounter of the human and divine, of welcome and excitement! It is an earthly icon of the heavenly city where joy and peace can be found!

The next time you are in a church, whether it is your home parish, or the Cathedral, or a church you visit on a pilgrimage or mission, pause for a moment and appreciate the glory before you ... the glory before us: Christ is Risen in our midst, not only on Easter, but each and every time we recognize His presence in our lives - through the Church as a temple, and through each one of us as members of His Body! ✠

SHARE



Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Winter 2026
Volume 56 | Number 1

National Chaplain
Father Erick Villa

National Regent
Susan Moné, Arizona

National Regent-Elect
Essie Walker, North Carolina

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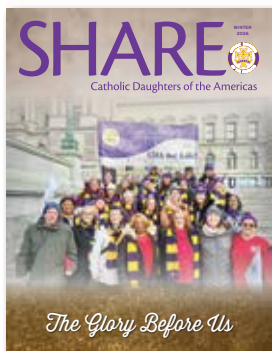
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About the Cover

"See the Glory Before Us" captures the moment when Catholic Daughters in the cover photo reached the culmination of their March, united in purpose and faith. We are called to recognize and uphold the sacred dignity of every human life. The "glory" before us is revealed in the beauty of community, compassion, courage, and hope. Through our faithful presence and steadfast commitment to protecting life, the Catholic Daughters make visible God's love and affirm the inherent value of every person.

*Thanks to Past National Regent
Helene Shepard*

www.catholicdaughters.org

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Submission of materials for publication in Share: All articles, stories and items must be submitted electronically via email to Tom Panas at the following email address: cdashare@aol.com. They should be submitted in a Word document attached to your email or within the body of your email. Photos must be sent in JPEG format as attachments to your email. NO HARD COPY PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Be sure to identify individuals in photo, "from left to right." Deadlines for final emailing of your stories for publication in SHARE Magazine's Court News section are: Spring 2026 - March 15, 2026; Summer 2026 - June 15, 2026 (Convention Issue); Fall 2026 - September 15, 2026; Winter 2026-2027 - December 15, 2026. Due to limited space all material appearing in Share is evaluated for interest to readers, theme in keeping with the purpose of Share, educational, informational, and religious value to readers and date received. The publishers are not responsible for factual errors from information submitted by authors and readers.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas has approximately 53,000 members in 1,250 courts in the United States, Mexico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

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NATIONAL REGENT'S MESSAGE

As I prepare my National Regent's Message, we are in the midst of the Advent Season and Christmas is a week away. But while you are reading this, we will be in the Lenten season and Easter will arrive in a few weeks.

How uplifting it is to be able to reflect simultaneously on the blessings of Advent and Christmas as well as Lent and Easter. It is a blessing to breathe in this moment that is "sandwiched" between the wondrous birth of our Lord and His glorious Resurrection. The birth of Christ has no meaning without the Resurrection of Christ. It was wonderful to have so many of you joining your National Board each day in prayers during Advent and hopefully again now during Lent. It is a blessing to share as sisters in Christ from across the country to pray together to enhance our spirituality and grow closer to our Lord.

Another event important to the Catholic Daughters is approaching fast: our 61st Biennial National Convention in Coralville, Iowa. You received the First Call to Convention in December. If you have not received the Second Call, know that it is on the way and convention information is posted on our CDA website. The Iowa CDA members are very busy and working together with the National Board to prepare for a wonderful National Convention. They are excited to be hosting us with their warm Iowa hospitality.

Our National Convention is always a big event, central to our experience as Catholic Daughters. This year it will have an extra special twist since during the Installation Mass the newly elected National Officers and National Directors will be wearing their new crisp and sharp CDA black and white outfits and receiving their new medallions for the first time.

Our history has previously marked this occasion with the newly elected officers processing into the church to be installed in their new positions wearing our traditional robes. Catholic Daughter history will be made as we move forward. Come join in our new tradition with all local/territorial, state and national officers displaying their medallions with CDA pride in Unity and Charity.

Mentioning robes motivates me to remind you that in the Fall National Quarterly and on our CDA website you can find many useful ideas for what to do with your robes. Although we are moving beyond the robes, they remain a treasured tradition of our historic past and will always hold important symbolic meaning.

The March for Life in Washington, D.C. is another Catholic Daughter tradition in which we proudly have participated every January since the very beginning on January 22, 1974. The March was held on January 23, 2026, when 12 National Board members joined Catholic Daughters from around the country. We will post pictures on our CDA Website, and I refer you to the article in



Susan Moné
National Regent

this issue written by National Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Anderson and National Public Relations Chairman Tom Panas. You can catch up on Pro-Life activity from Legislative Chairman Kathleen Grange's informative Operation Morningstar newsletter in the National Quarterly and on our CDA Website. Many CDA members participate in their home state's March for Life. We will continue to march and pray until abortion is no longer.

Importantly, we are in the 1st quarter of our 2026 Membership Contest. Our 2025 quarterly Membership Contest motivated many of you to acquire new members and encouraged the

National Board to continue the contest into this year. We are in Phase I for 2026 which will last until the end of the month. Phase II for 2026 will occur April 1st through June 30th. Please "go for it!" We need more members and your court can win some money. Remember that EVERY CDA member is a part of the Membership Committee. Ladies won't join if you don't ask and give them a reason to join us.

This is a big year for the JCDA. We are celebrating the JCDA Centennial Anniversary, a wondrous occasion to honor our beloved Juniors. February 22 was National JCDA Day, and many of you presented the National JCDA Proclamation to honor them. Remember that the National JCDA Biennial Retreat will be held from June 9 through June 12 in Lake Charles, Louisiana. And the deadline for National Youth and JCDA Scholarships is coming up fast: April 1, 2026. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to help hard working young women move ahead in their education.

An important housekeeping item, I'd like to remind everyone that the deadline for the all-important Financial Review is May 1. Keeping our finances in order is part of being diligent Catholic Daughters.

On Thursday, June 18, we will celebrate our 123rd anniversary. Formed in 1903 in Utica, New York, as the Daughters of Isabella with a group of strong women of faith who took a big step outside the box. We have had a glorious run and there is much we can look forward to. June 18 will be a good day for individuals and courts to reflect on where we have come and where we want to go to ensure a bright future for our wonderful organization and all our members.

As the saying goes, time flies when you're having fun. I reflect on the fact that my two-year term as National Regent will end in August. It is such an honor and privilege to serve you, and I am grateful to each one of you for this opportunity. I am so proud of what you do to make a difference in your parish, community, our country and the world in the name of Catholic Daughters of the Americas. You are AWESOME!

In the meantime, best wishes for a Blessed and Joyous Easter! God bless you! 🌸

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MOVING CDA MEMBERSHIP

in a New Direction



Essie Walker
National Regent-Elect
National Membership Chairman

First, I would like to thank members for their continuous support of CDA and for participating in the CDA Membership Drive held April-December 2025. Your dedication and hard work contributed to positive results within your local courts.


However, our membership numbers show that retention and recruitment are still areas of opportunity. It is reflected in our numbers that we are losing members daily. In the Summer SHARE Magazine, the membership numbers were 52,824. As of November 2025, the numbers have decreased to 52,017.

To ensure our long-term success, it is essential for all members to collaborate and prioritize Membership/Court

Development. I have always said that “our members are the most valuable resource within our Order.” Building membership together will allow us to be more visible in our parishes, communities, and to better serve others.

Let us start by putting Membership/Court Development and the Membership Prayer on the monthly Court Agenda. It is important that we not only focus on recruitment, but retention as well.

If not already in place, prior to the next meeting, seek out a chairperson to chair the Membership/ Court Development Team. At the next meeting ask for volunteers to join the team. Ask the committee to review the roster. Verify the number of members listed on the roster. For members who



“Teamwork facilitates the achievement of shared objectives.”

~ Author Unknown

are not actively participating in or attending meetings, reach out to inquire about the cause of their absence.

Also, ask the committee to research ways to recruit new members. At the next meeting, review all findings during the meeting. Ask members for their input. Make everyone feel included. If you need a Membership Roster and are a local court officer, please contact Thelma in the National Office, by calling 212-877-3041 or emailing her at Thelma@catholicdaughters.org.

It is important to acknowledge that membership is experiencing a notable decline due to multiple contributing factors. Now is the perfect time for us to focus on recruiting new members and to keep current members engaged and informed. Let us remember that communication and inclusion are two key factors.

As a gentle reminder, consider the Member's Survey. Every three months or so, compose about six questions related to spirituality, education, recruitment, and retention. Ask members what is working and not working for them. This is just a way to request feedback on how the court is progressing and to learn what can be done differently. Additionally, this will even give members the opportunity to express themselves. Ask questions such as the following:

1. What would you like to see added to the agenda to make the meetings more educational and/or spiritual?
2. How can we better integrate unity and charity into the meetings?
3. Do you look forward to attending court meetings? Why or why not?
4. What can be done differently to meet your needs at meetings?

5. On a scale of one to five with five being the highest, how well do you enjoy the meetings? What suggestions would you like to share?

6. You are encouraged to ask additional questions that relate to matters specific to your local court.

Members are encouraged to say this Membership Prayer together at every monthly CDA meeting. This prayer can be printed from the CDA website and laminated.

MEMBERSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as we venture into growing our membership, we come before You, asking for Your guidance, wisdom, and support. Fill us with your grace, Lord, as we make contact with others. Remind us that all we do, all that we accomplish, is for the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of your kingdom, and for the service of humanity.

Guide our hearts...our words...our actions, to be a shining light for all to see.

May the face of Christ shine through.

We ask Your Mother, our Patroness, by her powerful intercession, to be with us as we witness to others.

We ask all these things in Your most Holy name. Amen

Prayer was taken from the CDA Membership website page written by Past National Membership Chair Dawn Fortenberry. Permission was obtained to print.

A repeat from a previous membership article written. Remember that the goal is to retain the members we already have and to recruit new members. Members' expectations change daily. We must focus on changing times. ✚

Preparing for the *Glory Before Us*



Connie Dronette
First Vice National Regent
National Spiritual
Enhancement Chairman

How do we prepare for the Glory that will be before us? As Catholics, we begin preparing for the glory of the Resurrection during the season of Lent. Lent is a period of forty days in which we spend more time in prayer, in finding ways to give to the poor (almsgiving), and in fasting (sacrifice). The Easter Vigil is considered the most significant vigil, and Easter Sunday is the foremost of all Sundays for Catholics, marking the Resurrection of Christ. The Easter season, lasting fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, celebrates His Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The octave of Easter, spanning eight days, extends the joy of the Resurrection, which is central to Christian faith: “If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith.” (1 Cor 15:14)

I remember how my family observed Lent and celebrated Easter when I was a young girl. Even though the Vatican relaxed the rule regarding abstinence on Fridays, my mom refused to serve meat on any Friday during the entire year, so Fridays during Lent didn’t feel much different than every other Friday. We also “gave up something” each Lent. I usually gave up chocolate or cold drinks. Even though Sundays are not days of Lent, Momma didn’t allow us to “cheat” on Sundays.

The forty days of Lent were quiet and somber at our home. We prayed The Rosary every night. There were no parties



Easter Glory Cake

Ingredients:

- 2.5 cups of sifted cake flour**
- 3 teaspoons of baking powder**
- 1 teaspoon of salt**
- 1.5 cups sugar**
- 1/2 cup shortening (room temperature)**
- 1 cup milk**
- 1 teaspoon vanilla**
- 2 eggs, beaten**

Preheat oven to 375 F. Combine sifted flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar in sifter. Cream shortening, sift in dry ingredients, add 3/4 cup of the milk and vanilla until all the flour is dampened. Then beat for two minutes. Add eggs and remaining milk and beat 1 minute longer. (Mix vigorously by hand or at a low speed of electric mixer. Count only actual beating time. Scrape bowls and spoons or beaters often. Pour batter into two round 9-inch pans, which have been lined on bottom with paper. Bake for 25 minutes or until done. Cool then frost.

Easter Glory frosting recipe

Combine **2 egg whites**, **1.5 cups sugar**, **dash of salt**, **1/3 cup of water**, and **2 teaspoons light corn syrup**. Beat until thoroughly mixed. Cook over rapidly boiling water, beat with rotary beater or electric beater for 7 minutes, or until peaks get stiff. Remove from heat, add **1 teaspoon vanilla**, and beat one minute longer. Spread between layers and over cake. Then sprinkle with **1.5 cups coconut**. Decorate with **jellybeans**.

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or dances. I remember asking to go to a school dance during Lent when I was in high school. My mother was livid when she said, “Absolutely not!” And that was the end of the discussion. All my friends, even the Catholic ones, went to the dance. I couldn’t understand why Momma wanted us to be so solemn, but I still practice that tradition today.

During Holy Week, we prepared for Easter Sunday by dyeing eggs. We would use crayons to draw pictures on the eggs. Then Momma would drop the eggs into food coloring instead of using store-bought kits, even though I wanted one. Since my grandmother visited annually from Baton Rouge, we attended church only on Easter, as my mom chose to stay home with her during the rest of the Triduum. On Saturday, we baked two cakes, a bunny cake, and a glory cake for the Easter Sunday feast.

We used a boxed cake mix to make the bunny cake. The glory cake was made from scratch. I couldn’t find momma’s recipe, but as they say, “You can find anything on “Google!” I found the recipe and can’t wait to bake it this Easter. The recipe

was published by Swans Down Cake Flour in 1958. The icing that they named Easter Glory frosting is the same recipe that Momma used for seven-minute frosting. I encourage you to bake it for your Easter feast this year, and I am including the recipe. Happy Easter my sisters in Christ! ✨



Attention CDA Convention Goers:

Travel World is arranging flights for the National Board and other Catholic Daughters to this year's Biennial Convention and we'd be very happy to help you get to and from this important occasion.

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Catholic Daughters at the *National March for Life*



Brenda Anderson
National Secretary-Treasurer



Thomas A. Panas
National Public
Relations Chairman

Photo credits to Past New York State Regent Theresa Duran and Past National Director Mary Impellizeri

Each January, Catholic Daughters attend the annual National March for Life in Washington, DC. It has been a tradition since 1974. Marching against abortion is a profound and committed expression of the Catholic Daughters deeply held Pro Life belief. It continues despite the end of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision because much work remains in the ongoing fight against abortion.

As Past New York State Regent Theresa Duran said, “We have to keep defending Life. We can’t give up. We can’t let the evil powers that exist win.”

This year the dates of the March and related activities were January 22-24, beginning with a Leadership Mass attended by National Regent Susan Monè and National Regent-Elect Essie Walker on Thursday. After Mass, they joined Catholic Daughters at the beautiful Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the 5:00PM Opening Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life. The theme of this year’s Mass was “For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life.”

Catholic Daughters gathered for the Mass in their usual spot in the front pews on the lower left. Many who were viewing the Mass on EWTN were happy to see their CDA Sisters at the Mass.



National Regent-Elect Essie Walker and New Mexico State Regent Crystal Montoya pause in front of the Catholic Daughter area pews.



Seated in the Sanctuary during Mass, front row, National Regent-Elect Essie Walker, left, with National Regent Susan Monè, right. Second row, Past National Regents Emily Guilherme, left, and Helene Shepard, right.



Monsignor Rossi stands in front of the sanctuary with, left to right, Past National Regent Emily Guilherme, National Regent Susan Monè and Past National Regent Helene Shepard.

National Regent Susan Monè, National Regent-Elect Essie Walker, First Vice National Regent Connie Dronette and Past National Regents Helene Shepard and Emily Guilherme were honored to have special seating in the Sanctuary.

Monsignor Walter Rossi, Rector of the Basilica said, “The National Shrine has been pleased to host the Vigil for Life for the past 47 years. It is always a great joy to see the Catholic Daughters seated in the front pews as well as in the sanctuary, and of course, to take a picture with the leadership! The Catholic Daughters of the Americas have been wonderful supporters of Mary’s Shrine since 1960 with the donation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary Chapels in the Great Upper Church and we remain grateful for their continued faithful support.”

Bishop James D. Conley of the Diocese of Lincoln,

Nebraska, was chief celebrant and homilist. In his homily, he said, “Each year it’s like a shot in the arm to be with so many of you, particularly you young people, who share a passion and a joy for the gift of life, and who want to build a ‘culture of life and civilization of love,’ where babies are protected in their mother’s wombs, and women are loved, heard and cared for when they find themselves faced with very difficult and life changing decisions.”

The Rally and Concert began at 11:00 AM on Friday and included many notable speakers, musicians and officials. Vice President J.D. Vance spoke, “The theme of this year’s March for Life, as you all know, is that life is a gift. And I know for me personally this year, there is so much to be thankful for. I’m grateful to my own family, for my beautiful wife, Usha, and that God has given us the miracle of new life again.”



Catholic Daughters gathered outside the hotel before leaving for the March.

At 1:00PM Susan Moné and Essie Walker were interviewed on EWTN. The interview went very well. You can watch it on the CDA website. During the interview, Susan spoke of the long history of the Catholic Daughters attending the March and Essie pointed to the importance of educating people, especially young women, on the true nature of abortion.



Teresa Tomeo, left, with Susan Moné, center and Essie Walker, right before their EWTN interview.

Before joining the Rally Catholic Daughters gathered with their traditional CDA banner, pennants and signs in front of the Museum of Natural History. After the March began, they stepped in. They were later happy to see Susan and Essie join the March after, literally, running



Beaming Catholic Daughters gathered for a “group selfie” before the March.

from their EWTN Interview to find the moving CDA Banner and join their marching Catholic Daughter sisters.

The National March for Life website has a good description of the event: “The March for Life is an inspiring, peaceful, vibrant, and joy-filled rally of women, men, young people, and children from all across the country – and it’s the largest annual human rights demonstration in the world. But the March for Life is not just a protest... it is a celebration of each and every life, from the moment of conception. We envision a world where every life is celebrated, valued, and protected.”

Catholic Daughters marched along the parade route, praying, singing, waving their flags and pennants and taking turns carrying the CDA Banner. They gathered at the end of the March for a group picture.



CDA in Action! The marchers walk briskly along the parade route behind their banner.

After the March, many gathered at a restaurant for warmth, sisterhood, relaxation and “review of the day.”

Excitement and fun was added upon returning to the hotel lobby where the drawing for the Grand Ole Lady Contest winner took place. National Regent Susan Moné



Marchers gathered at a restaurant after the long march for a little "R&R."

drawed the winning name and announced that it was National Director Rosie Stockwell. Rosie was present and was met with cheers and congratulations.



National Director Karin Dudash hugs Grand Ole Lady raffle winner National Director Rosie Stockwell while National Regent Susan Monè, National Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Anderson and others cheer her on.

This was the second March for Pennsylvania State Secretary Pam Callahan. Pam, who is member of Court Reverend Patrick McGardle #448, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, said "I loved my first March. It was so moving and spiritual that I never wanted to miss another. I'm such a pro-life supporter, even before I became a Catholic daughter. I've always believed in Life."

Pam encourages Catholic Daughters to attend the March. "It's very moving and humbling to be a part of this wonderful organization at this big event."

Past National Regent Helene Shepard has dual membership in Court Margaret Mary #768, Monroe and Court St. Ann Mother of Mary #2419, Washingtonville, both in New York. She is a "regular" at the March and has been coming for many years. Helene said she marches, "First of all for the cause, the fight for life. I thank God for the opportunity to come and to say what I believe and to do so in action. I wouldn't miss it. I wouldn't miss it!"

Past New York State Regent Theresa Duran is another "regular." A member of Court Stella Maris #822, Freeport, New York, Theresa said, "we need to worry about social problems, education and immigration, but if we're not allowed to have Life, none of that matters."

"I am proud to be part of the Catholic Daughters who support life, but I feel so strongly about it that if I weren't

a Catholic Daughter I would still be for Life. We must never give up, never give up."

This was the eighth March for Past National Director Shirley Hall of Court St. Rita #523, Tyrone, Pennsylvania. Shirley, who has been a Catholic Daughter for 66 years, said, "I like to see so many people expressing their views on Life, not only infants, but the elderly. When I go home, I will share my feelings with my court sisters of what I experienced spiritually being in God's and Jesus' presence."

National Director Barbara Wiechmann is a "first timer." When asked what she experienced upon first entering the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the Vigil Mass, she replied that it was "absolutely gorgeous, all the side altars and mosaics and places to pray were beautiful."

"The procession with all the priests, deacons and bishops was very impressive," Barbara continued. "The homily was fantastic. I've heard Bishop Conley (Most Reverend James D. Conley, Principal Celebrant and Homilist) speak before and I've always been impressed with his message." The annual Legislative Meeting, scheduled for Saturday morning, was cancelled because



The clergy procession in the grand Basilica during the Vigil Mass is majestic.

a major snowstorm was on the way.

Why continue to march when Roe v. Wade has been overturned? Sadly, according to the National March for Life website, the number of abortions annually is still well over 900,000 each year, and that number is only expected to decrease by roughly 200,000 each year in a post-Roe America. Many national legislative battles loom ahead, waiting to be fought.

As Past National Regent Helene Shepard said, "You know, we say it in words, but we also must put our belief into action. Coming here is the action that I take to let people know that all life is important from conception to death."

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*Train up a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6*

Building HOPE

FOR THE FUTURE OF FAMILIES



Barb Wiechmann
National Director
National Family Chairman

As I was reading about hope and families, some of the focus was on how loud life is now. I always thought that family life was loud until the lights went out at night. At times it was a challenge to find a quiet, isolated spot. Yes, I was the second oldest in a family of 9 kids in a house with 4 bedrooms. It was just family noise... not TV, social media etc.

The first chapter in a person's story begins with family, and family is where we learn what it is to love and to care about others. With the world changing fast, families are learning to evolve with the changes. It is how they evolve and adapt that is challenging. In the "olden" days we did not have the social media influence of today. Today, families need to learn to use social media in a positive way. I know there are calendar apps to enter everyone's activities on a schedule, and that schedule is usually full, pulling parents/caregivers in so many directions. A suggestion can be to add Mass to the calendar with options for attending different times on Saturday and Sunday. The Church is not always on an important list of activities. So how do we encourage church to be moved up

on the list of important events?

As parish members, we see families at community events and can encourage them to join us for an activity at church. As it is our responsibility to be a positive ambassador for the church, Catholic Daughters can sponsor fun family activities that help parents to build healthy, positive relationships with their children in the church. Prepare a handout or bulletin insert with the names of family apps and Catholic websites available for kids and parents. Consult with your parish or diocese evangelization contact for information to share.

I encourage you to continue your wonderful activities and to share them with other CDA sisters. Remember that this is not just for the local courts to sponsor Circle of Love Family projects. Each State Court should also have a Family project or Statewide event.

Each parish, each culture and area of the country is different, so different activities work to support families. We need to learn from each other, encourage each other, and pray for each other.

Yours In Unity and Charity. 🙏

St. Mary's University, San Antonio TX



THE GLORY OF THE LORD BEFORE US!

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!



Rita Carlson
National Director, Iowa
National Campus Court Advisor

Please join me in welcoming the newly instituted Campus Court, #2825 Blessed Mary, St Mary's University in San Antonio TX. The institution ceremony took place on October 26, 2025. This is very exciting news for Catholic Daughters of the Americas!

What a thrilling time we are in with the increased movement of our youth and their deep Catholic faith. We are so blest to have four Campus Courts in Catholic Daughters of the Americas, they are our future. Please remember them in prayer, and pray for the growth of their court and of other Campus Courts to come. We currently have one more Campus Court in the works as I am penning this article. So exciting!

I encourage you to launch a Campus Court in your area. Do you have a College, University, or a Newman Center nearby? Just imagine (and several of you have experienced) going away to college and for the first time living away from home—feeling nervousness and excited about meeting new people and being in an unfamiliar environment. The one stability the women have, just

like home, it is like going home...to Christ...sharing, caring, and serving the Lord. They involve themselves in ministries on campus and in the church, and it feels like home. What better way to ground yourself and feel at home in the Glory of the Lord!

The impact that a campus court can have on the college campus and in their community with their activities and projects is a vital benefit to all. The benefits for the campus court members abound as they are involved in Spiritual Enhancement, Service Projects, Social Events, and Leadership. Active participation in the campus court will provide faith formation, community engagement, personal growth, and lifelong friendships. One of my many CDA mottos is "The spiritual benefits are plentiful the friendships are priceless."

Let us come together in Unity and Charity and share our faith and talents with the next generation of Catholic Daughters. We are so blessed to have these beautiful ladies join us in loving the Lord.

Blessings! ✨

JCDA Celebrates 100 Years of Service

Honoring a Century of Dedication and Easter Reflections



Institution of JCDA Court Resurrection of Our Lord #2222

Giving Glory to God and Empowering Young Girls



Yvette Griego
National Director
National Youth/JCDA Chairman

As the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA) marks 100 years of service, we pause to celebrate this remarkable milestone during the Easter season—a time of hope, renewal, and gratitude. This centennial is not only a testament to the enduring spirit of our organization but also a moment to give glory to God for the countless girls who have dedicated themselves to our mission over the decades.

At the heart of JCDA's mission is the cultivation of a spirit of service. From their earliest years, girls in our program learn the value of volunteering within their churches and communities. Through hands-on experiences—whether assisting at parish events, supporting charitable drives, or helping those in need—members discover that giving their time is a powerful way to live out their faith and make a tangible difference in the world.

Learning to volunteer at a young age is essential. By encouraging girls to share their gifts and talents, JCDA instills in its members a lifelong commitment to service. These formative experiences teach responsibility, compassion, and leadership, laying the groundwork for dedicated and engaged adults who continue to contribute to society.

As we honor 100 years of JCDA, we celebrate the countless girls and JCDA advisors who have answered the call to serve. Their dedication brings glory to God and strengthens the bonds within our faith communities. Through volunteerism, these young women learn that

their actions—no matter how small—can reflect Christ's love and compassion.

The JCDA's centennial is more than a commemoration. It is a renewal of our mission and a call to action for future generations. As we continue to guide girls in faith and service, we remain committed to fostering a legacy of volunteering, gratitude, and joy. This Easter season, we give thanks for the past 100 years, and we look forward with hope to the next century of empowering young women to serve, lead, and give glory to God.

Recently, the State of Pennsylvania witnessed a significant development with the establishment of newly instituted JCDA Courts. For some time, Pennsylvania had been without any active JCDA Courts, creating a gap in opportunities for young girls to engage in service and faith-based activities within the state. State Regent Margaret Giordano responded swiftly and enthusiastically when approached about starting a JCDA Court. Her leadership and dedication played a crucial role in launching the initiative and revitalizing the presence of JCDA in Pennsylvania.

Margaret Giordano shares her account of the journey so far, reflecting on the challenges faced, the progress made, and the renewed hope that this new chapter brings to the future of JCDA in Pennsylvania. Her story exemplifies the spirit of action and commitment that defines JCDA's mission across the nation.



JCDA Court St. Katherine of Siena #2628 Officers President Mackenzie Elliott, First Vice Regent Lily Murphy, Second Vice Regent Alexa Mansley, Secretary Reagan McGeehan and Reporter Annabelle Rosenella.



JCDA Chairman Vanessa Rymer



Institution of JCDCA Court St. Katherine of Siena #2628

The Benefits of Supporting JCDCA



Margaret Giordano
Pennsylvania State Regent

Catholic Daughters of the Americas works through Unity and Charity to serve the Church and our communities. Our Circle of Love Program helps us to accomplish this.

One Circle of Love spoke, Youth/JCDA, is much needed for us to encourage today's young people, to foster individuals spiritually, to inspire them to serve others and to promote mindful gratitude of diversity through an assortment of activities and events. By working with our young people, we can help them grow in their Catholic faith and spirituality. After all, we are here to do what God wants us to, not just what we want to do. So, this is a great way to help direct our youth.

Supporting JCDA, Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas, is a way to highlight the Youth Program. Hopefully, too, down the road, we can increase our CDA

membership when our JCDA members grow up.

At the beginning of 2025, we had not had any JCDA courts in Pennsylvania since 1995. Last spring was the first time I was approached with an interest in starting a JCDA Court in my state. How exciting! I have asked that each of the eight dioceses in PA start a JCDA Court. There are currently two new JCDA Courts in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. One started in September and the second on CDA Day in October. In the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese a JCDA Court will be starting this coming February (on National JCDA Day). Currently there are also proceedings to develop JCDA Courts in the Diocese of Harrisburg and Erie. We are on our way! I pray that this will help increase CDA Membership in the years to come.

Pennsylvania Photos Courtesy of National Director Peggy Guckin ✠

The Glory Before Us

WITH EIGHT DIMENSIONS OF WELLNESS



Mary Ann Kizer
National Director
National Quality of Life Chairman

Mental Health has come to the forefront in the past several years as a community service project for many organizations. Being kind instead of nice and Mental Health First Aiders are part of holistic health as we prepare for the Glory Before Us with Eight Dimensions of Wellness. Our bodies are tabernacles of the Lord, and we want to present them having lived life as well as possible.

Most University Extensions have now identified Eight dimensions of Wellness. The University of Arkansas Extension identifies them as: emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, occupational, physical, social, and spiritual. The following dimensions provide a holistic framework for understanding and enhancing well-being in all aspects of life:

- **Emotional Wellness:** Positive people listen to their children whether they are in elementary school or millennials. They develop coping strategies, have a sense of self-esteem, and share hugs with family and friends.

- **Environmental Wellness:** They understand the impact of their surroundings and take care of both the personal environment and the natural world of plants. Think about healthier air in their homes with green plants.

- **Financial Wellness:** They manage their money to reduce stress and feel secure, including budgeting and setting financial goals such as saving for the next CDA Convention or Pilgrimage. They write a will, sign it in front of witnesses, and give a copy to an attorney – or the power of attorney to a trusted individual.

- **Intellectual Wellness:** They engage their minds through life-long learning, creativity, brain games, writing life stories, or trying new hobbies.

- **Occupational Wellness:** They find personal satisfaction and enrichment through work, school, career choice, balancing work with leisure time, and staying in assisted living homes.

- **Physical Wellness:** They maintain a healthy body through exercise, nutrition, sleep, and regular medical



care. Walk more, lift weights, stay active up to age 100 and past. Eat by the Mediterranean Diet and sleep for at least 7 hours each night. Nap when needed.

- **Social Wellness:** They build healthy relationships, supportive friends, and participate in community activities.

- **Spiritual Wellness:** They find purpose and meaning in life with prayer and serving as a lector, Eucharistic Minister, religion teacher, CDA officer, or committee chairman.

As you meet many needs every day of the year, think about these Eight Dimensions of Wellness. Ask what you can do for yourself, your family, and your community to help each person have a more holistic approach to health as we all pass through life on our way to see the Glory of God.

Take the Eight Dimensions of Wellness to heart and become a healthier version of yourself. Stay Kind. Stay Blessed. 🙏

LEADERSHIP

THE GLORY BEFORE US! THE JOURNEY FROM LENT TO RESURRECTION



Rosie Stockwell
National Director
National Leadership Chairman

The journey from Lent to Resurrection is one that will lead us from “ashes to glory” in a relatively short span of time. The ashes signify our mortality and remind us that Lent is a solemn period and a time for spiritual rebirth. Reflection, repentance, and renewal will be the keys to recognize “The Glory Before Us!”

The Journey of Lent

Lent is the preparation for a journey through darkness manifested by our sins and Jesus on the cross, which reflect the mercy of God. Focusing on prayer and scriptures as a discipline to become closer to God and practicing self-denial helps us to understand the forty (40) days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and facing temptation. Our own personal reflections during this time will help us confront sin and weaknesses.

The Passion of Jesus and ultimately His death on the cross helps us to understand that suffering and obedience build the foundation for a straight path to honor the commitment we made on Ash Wednesday. Today many understand that Lent is a time of spiritual renewal and a time to practice self-discipline.

The Glory of the Resurrection

Understanding the manifestation of God is the start of finding glory in the Resurrection. Here we realize that God has demonstrated His power to overcome death by His Resurrection. The Resurrection also teaches us that Jesus has triumphed over darkness and sin, validating His identity. Easter celebrates the Resurrection because it proves it is the ultimate victory over death, the promise of hope, and a new life for believers.

Connecting Lent, Resurrection, and God’s Glory

Lent is a journey to glory because it shows us that



we are capable of reflection, repentance, and renewal which are the foundation of the Lenten journey. We travel towards the triumph of Easter and Resurrection which offer us life. The connection between Lent and Resurrection gives us faith, hope, a purpose for living, and security that we will experience a new life. Through the suffering of Jesus, we learn that He will rise again for our sins and most importantly we will participate in His life, death and Resurrection

to experience “The Glory Before Us!”

Leadership Suggestions for Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) courts to implement

“The Glory Before Us!” during Lenten and Resurrection:

1. Plan and sponsor a day of reflection or a half day of retreat with a Lenten theme.
2. Lectio Divina (scripture reading) or Visio Divina (sacred art or work of art); both are a slow or meditative prayerful way to develop a deep personal relationship with God.

Below is a well-known hymn suitable for the Lent Journey leading to Resurrection.

Glory and Praise to Our God

*“Glory and praise to our God
who alone gives light to our days
Many are the blessings he bears
to those who trust in his ways.”*

**“We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!”
Pope John Paul II.**

Yes, He is risen indeed! Have a blessed Easter season.
*Be a Beacon of Hope, A Light in the Darkness
~ The Glory Before Us! ✝️*



RETREAT FOR CALIFORNIA COURTS

Court Ramon Mestres #1505, Monterey, California, co-hosted a retreat with members of Court John Paul II #2563, Salinas, California. It was entitled The Way of Martha and Mary: Balancing Action and Contemplation in Our Faith. "In the 'busy with charitable works' lifestyle of Catholic Daughters of the Americas, it's good to take a breath and focus on 'for Whom' we are accomplishing our works," Miriam 'Mimi' Schwertfeger said. "This retreat reflected on the gifts of Martha and Mary, who were faithful followers of Jesus Christ." Retreatants can be seen smiling in the photo.



COLORADO COURT MAKES PILGRIMAGE

Members of Court Daughters of St. Elizabeth #2785, Longmont, Colorado, recently made a pilgrimage to St. Francis of Assisi where they followed up after Mass with a rosary for world peace. Pictured left to right, Vice Regent Donietta Stritchko, Financial Secretary Peggy Olheiser, Thais Hafer, Juana Lopez, Lee Cline, Dana Thompson, Pat Iacovelli, Patricia Sokolik, Sharon Steinbrecher, Lise Strieder, guest Kathy Stadler and Past National Director and Colorado State Regent Barb Ward.

California ~ State Regent: Lorine Bakowsky

*"Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established."*

Proverbs 16:3



TOTE BAGS BY CALIFORNIA COURT MEMBER

When a Catholic woman joins Court Santa Maria #1079, Santa Maria, California, she is presented with a tote bag created by member Teresa Collier. It contains various items that a new member needs to help her understand what Catholic Daughters stands for and what the court can offer the community. Items include a Membership Pin (removed from the tote bag and pinned to the member during her Membership Pledge), Welcome Flyer (with important information such as the list of activities that the Court participates in), Membership Directory (with inserts for changes/additions/deletions), Emergency Contact Form, Court Standing Rules, Schedule of Events, CDA Bylaws and Rosary. In the photo Teresa stands behind the remaining ten large membership canvas tote bags that she created.



IOWA COURT HONORS HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Members of Court Ave Maria #269, Sioux City, Iowa, attended Mass to honor Health Care Workers and their service to others with Bishop J. Keehner presiding. Front row, Cleo Harder, Jan Masteller, Regent Char Thoma and Ramona Blair. Second row, Jeaneen Nacke, Paula Kohn, Iowa State Regent Brenda Vore and Deacon Doctor Tom Morgan.



COLORADO COURT VISITS SHRINE

“On a beautiful autumn Sunday morning in October, Colorado was alive with its finest fall colors when twelve pilgrims from Court Our Lady of Peace #2728 Woodland Park, Colorado, their hearts full of anticipation, boarded a van bound on a sacred journey,” Chris Schwester said. “Their destination...Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, Colorado. As the van wound its way through the majestic Rockies, nature put on a breathtaking display — shimmering golden aspens, glistening mountain streams, and rugged peaks rising like silent sentinels. The day’s journey provided a deeply enriching spiritual retreat, offering countless opportunities for reflection, prayer and deepening of faith. From quiet corners for personal prayer and meditative walks through peaceful paths, to the serene rosary garden and inspiring grotto, every space invited contemplation.” Retreatants with beaming smiles can be seen in the photo.



STATE CONVENTION IN COLORADO

The Colorado State Convention was held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Colorado State Regent Barb Ward explains. “On Saturday we had the privilege of having the Most Reverend James R. Golka, Bishop of Colorado Springs, preside at a Mass that he had requested to do for us. The Installation Mass on Sunday was held at the St. Dominic Catholic Church in Security.” In the photo are those presiding at this Mass, left to right Deacon Joe Hensley of Lakewood (partially hidden), Deacon Doug Marsh of Security, Father John Stapleton incoming Colorado State Chaplain of Broomfield, Father Ricardo Rosales of St. Dominic Parish, Security, and State Chaplain Humberto Marquez of Longmont, all in Colorado.



FATIMA HONORED BY ILLINOIS COURT

As part of the annual nationwide promotion to spread the message of Our Lady of Fatima, Court West Chicago #432, West Chicago, Illinois, hosted an America Needs Fatima Rosary and Prayer service. “Our court has a strong devotion to Our Lady,” Rosalinda Campos said, “and we are especially grateful to Fr. Andrew Buchanan for leading us in prayer.” Court and parish members can be seen at the service in the photo.



LOUISIANA COURT HOSTS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Court Blessed Father Seelos #2736, Sidell, Louisiana, hosted a “Pilgrims of Hope” Women’s Conference. Lisa Hampton explains. “We began the morning with a continental breakfast in the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School gym. This was followed by a presentation by guest speaker Sister Judy Gomila, M.S.C. in the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Sister Judy, a native of New Orleans, is a Marianite Sister of Holy Cross. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Sister Judy is a great speaker. Donations from the proceeds will support Project Lazarus and Support Our Aging Religious (SOAR!).” Sister Judy and court members can be seen at the church in the photo.

New Hampshire ~ State Regent: LizaMarie Francesca Kupp

*“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.”
Philippians 2:3*



"ALOHA!" FROM MINNESOTA COURT

Court St. Rita #409, Perham, Minnesota, is the third oldest Court in Minnesota, having been instituted in 1919. The court held its 56th Style Show and Brunch Fundraiser with 130 guests who enjoyed a fun filled morning with friends and family while viewing the latest styles from five Perham businesses surrounded by Hawaiian decor on the tables, stage and surroundings. The theme this year was "Aloha!" Pictured are members ready to greet guests wearing Hawaiian outfits. Proceeds from this day helped Court St. Rita support local charities in the community.



TEXAS COURT ENJOYS SOCIAL TIME

Members of Court Madonna #1817, Dallas, Texas, savored Vessels of the Holy Spirit while sharing Social Time. "We took a little time out for a breather and re-energizing with our sisterhood," Gloria Castillo said. "CDA inspires us to gather and do good things." Pictured enjoying the company of their CDA sisters, Lupe Gonzales, Laura Martinez, Kathleen McGann, Theresa Kleineck, Rene Reyes, Virginia Looney, Belen Alvarez, Paula Rios, Phyllis Zermeno and Sandra Alfaro.

Puerto Rico ~ State Regent: Julie Juarbe

*"Walking with Mary
in Faith and Hope"
(Caminando con Maria
con Fe y Esperanza)"*

"Encourage one another and build one another up."

First Epistle to the Thessalonians 5:11



TAGS FOR CHILDREN BY MINNESOTA COURT

Court St. Joan of Arc #1291, Marshall, Minnesota, created a Blessed Backpack Tag that was gifted to over 400 students in Four Catholic Schools in Southwest Minnesota to have on their very own personnel backpacks. "All the tags had a very special prayer and were blessed by Reverend Dennis Labat," Regent Susie Sammons explains. "Each tag was personally attached to each student's backpack by a Catholic Daughter and the prayer was read to them. The students loved them and are very happy to have them." Some of the happy schoolchildren can be seen in the photo.



ELDER SCAMS DISCUSSED AT NEW YORK COURT

Court Mother Seton #2413, Bellmore, New York, invited Detective Greg Fisher of the Nassau County Police Department to discuss a troubling and growing issue: elder scams. Detective Fisher, a seasoned investigator with extensive experience in financial crimes, spoke candidly about common scams affecting the elderly—including romance scams, tech support fraud, Medicare fraud and phishing calls impersonating government agencies. Regent Sharon Byrne expressed gratitude: "We're thankful for Detective Fisher's time and expertise. His visit empowered us to be proactive and look out for each other." Seated, left to right, Vice Regent Rosemary Wildeman, Pat Del Giorno, Pat Stockerl, Bernadette Hevican and Irene Olsen. Standing, left to right, Eileen McCarthy, Barbara Codignotto, Marilyn Huhn, Carol Studer, Connie Scire, Regent Sharon Byrne, Pat LoSquadro, Elizabeth Dreyer, Detective Fisher, Treasurer Jackie Murray and Recording Secretary Pat Cronin.



TEA PARTY AT NEW YORK COURT

“An absolutely delicious event was held by Court Nilan #985, Highland, New York,” Court Editor Jessica Simmons said. “It was a wonderful time spent with our fellow sisters and friends, a successful event held by our Regent Christine Giangrosso and Tea Party Chairs Gina Hansut and Gina Vaccarino-Carpinelli, and Fran Helmeset who also helped with the raffle. Many thanks to all our Court Nilan sisters who helped make this such a lovely success, as well as our CDA sisters in Court Madonna #114, Court Assumption #690, Court St. Ann Mother of Mary #2419, District Deputy Karen Rave, and Past State Regent Dr. Heather Rave for joining us!” The photo shows a broad view of the tea party.



NORTH CAROLINA COURTS JOIN PILGRIMS

The Diocese of Charlotte welcomed over 14,000 Pilgrims of Hope from North Carolina on September 5th and 6th! Bishop Michael Martin led a Holy Hour in the Convention Center right after the procession that took place in downtown Charlotte. The Knights of Columbus led the procession followed by the Catholic Daughters. “A special thanks to National Regent-Elect Essie Walker,” North Carolina State Regent Debbie Del Corro El-Chayeb said, “accompanied by Debbie Guimond, Regent of Court Sacred Heart #1759, Salisbury, Vice Regent Alexa Bartel and Member Jean Barbee for helping promote Catholic Daughters to prospective members at their reserved table.” Claudette Morrison of Court Ave Maria #2650, Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State Regent Debbie Del Corro El-Chayeb had the privilege of exhibiting the Eucharistic Miracles that Saint Carlo Acutis, who was canonized September 7th, catalogued and documented on his computer. Participants can be seen in the photo with their Unity and Charity banner.



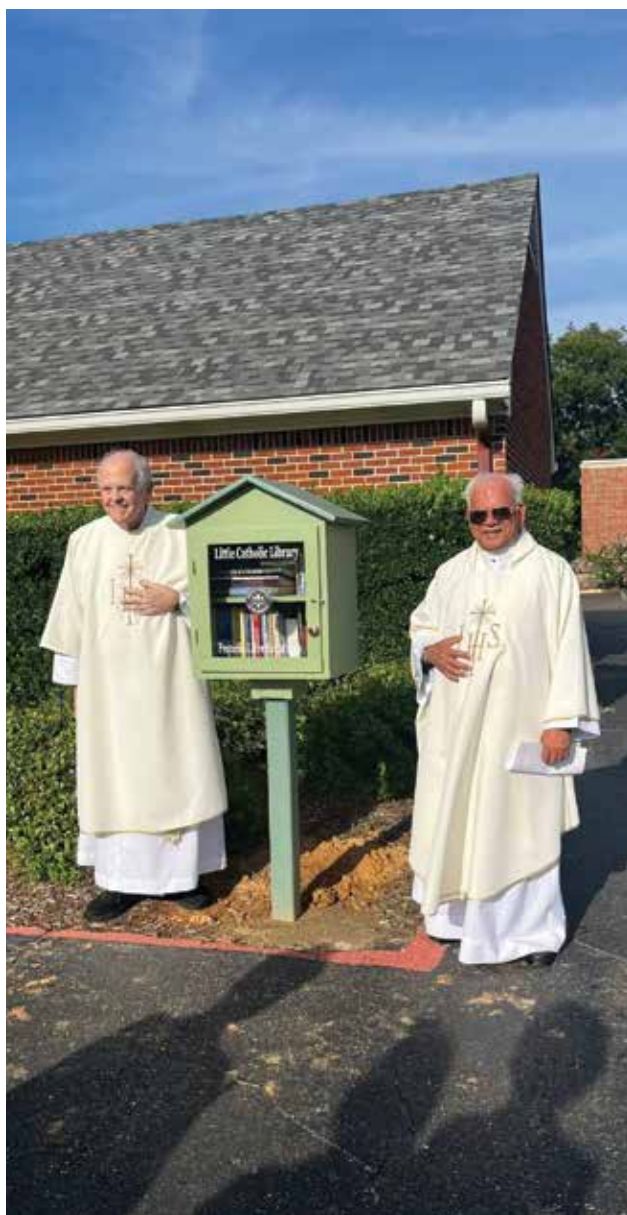
NEWSPAPER FEATURES PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625, Altoona, Pennsylvania, was featured in the Blair County Proud issue of the local Altoona Mirror newspaper. Blair County Proud is an annual publication that features and recognizes nonprofit groups that reach out and contribute to the needs of the communities. In the photo, left to right, Mary Grace Horton, Sally Lockard, Mary Kowalski, Regent Donna Hoover, Carol Galioto and Judy Wood.



HOMEBOUND COMFORTED BY LOUISIANA COURT

Court Circle of Love # 2756, Zachary, Louisiana, created and delivered Christmas baskets to the homebound parishioners of St. John the Baptist in Zachary and Our Lady of the Assumption in Clinton. Court members with festive smiles can be seen surrounding their nicely wrapped presents.



LIBRARY BLESSING FOR TEXAS COURT

"The Little Catholic Library, sponsored by Court Santa Maria #184, Marshall, Texas, is filled with faith-based books to inspire and nurture our Catholic faith," Karen Juno said. "On July 14, 2025, Monsignor Zacharias Kunnakkattuthara (right in the photo) and Reverend Deacon John Sargent (left) held a Blessing of the Library at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Marshall. Parishioners are welcome to take a book, share a book, or return a book. Our motto for this Circle of Love project is: Read, Pray, Grow."

North Dakota ~ State Regent; Debra Johnson

*"Be Still and know
that I am God"*
Psalm 46:10



SHOE DRIVE AT TEXAS COURT

Court St. Cecilia #1396, Orange, Texas, assisted St. Henry Catholic Church on a shoe drive. "Shoes will be sent overseas to empower families in developing countries to establish their own businesses," Regent Jeanne Boudreaux explained. "Every pair contributed has an impact. Our court collected 200 pairs of shoes to assist in our goal of 12,000 pairs. Currently we have exceeded our goal and have collected 13,200 pairs." Pictured left to right with some of the shoes they will donate, Nanette Sonnier, Susan Bayliss, Mary Orta, Jeanne Boudreaux, Joanne Landron, Mavis Fore, Odette Hill, Dale Gunn-Weatherford and Angie Smith.



ROSARIES FOR KIDS AT TEXAS COURT

Diane Bartek and Laura Hromadka of Court St. Michael #559, Weimar, Texas, taught rosary making to the 7th grade students at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Columbus, Texas. The children were guided to pick out their favorite colors and made a rosary for a special person in their lives and for themselves. The rosaries were blessed by their priest. The charming young students can be seen in the photo holding their rosaries.

Vermont ~ State Regent; Jeannine Young

*"Many Gifts,
the Same Spirit."*
1 Corinthians 12:4



TEXAS COURT HELPS INITIATE CATHOLICS

Volunteers from Court Our Lady of Perpetual Help #296, Windthorst, Texas, rotate responsibility for preparing Sunday Lunch each week for the parish's OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation as Adults) participants, who are individuals studying to learn more about the sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church. Pictured with bright welcoming smiles, left to right, court members Kate Syrus, Denise Cooper, Jean Berend, Trissa Jensen, and sponsor Victoria Anderle.



CHANCE ENCOUNTER FOR WISCONSIN COURT MEMBERS

Lisa Polnow, of Court Mazzuchelli #2609, Green County, Wisconsin, and Ruth Busch, Court Cuba City #4, Cuba City, had a surprise encounter as they were delivering 'Boxes of Joy' to a Drop Off site in Wisconsin. Neither knew the other would be at the place or at that time. "God is Good!" Ruth Busch said. Lisa and Ruth can be seen with bright smiles with their Boxes of Joy.

Oregon ~ State Regent: Gail Holt

*"Whoever remains in me
and I in him will bear much fruit."*

John 15:5



BLESSING FOR WASHINGTON COURT

Court St. Pius X #2270, Mountlake Terrace, Washington, gathered for a 9:00 AM Mass celebrated by Parochial Vicar Fr. Juan Antonio, M.S.P.S. "There were 35 members present for the blessing that Fr. Antonio conferred on the Court reminding us to continue our works of Unity and Charity for the love of God and community," Regent Angela Francois said. "The Court provided coffee and donuts for the parishioners of St. Pius the X Church after the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM Masses. The attached picture was taken after Mass with the five officers in our new ceremonial attire with our Medallions." From left to right, Fr Juan Antonio, Treasurer Loraine White, Regent Angela Francois, Vice Regent Cynthia Reed, Recording Secretary Maureen Cline and Financial Secretary Loretta Olsen.

Washington ~ State Regent: Thereasa Trujillo

*"The Fruit of the Faith is Love.
The Fruit of Love is Service."*



ARIZONA COURT HOLDS SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

Court Our Lady of Lourdes #2278, Sun City West, Arizona, hosted their annual spaghetti dinner on September 25. “It was the first fundraiser of the 2025-2026 year,” Recording Secretary Dorothy Alexander explained. “Our Spaghetti Dinner Chairperson Mary Beth Kunze (pictured, top row, second from left, in the picture of court members in beautiful white) led our group of 28-hard-working members for this successful event that had 244 attendees. Our court, led by Regent Judy Penman (front row, third from left), is thankful for our very dedicated members.



CALIFORNIA COURTS HELP RELIGIOUS ORDER

Four California courts came together to help the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception: Court St. Joachim #2553, Court St. John’s #2526, Court Daughters of Divine Mercy #2753, and Court Our Lady of Success #1661. Susan Crosno explains. “The courts pulled together and let their light shine to help the sisters move from San Francisco to Clovis, California. They relocated to an old rectory that had been vacant for a few years and in much need of cleaning and miscellaneous repairs. With the help of the CDA sisters, their husbands and some Knights of Columbus, the sister’s home is now cleaned, and some repairs are completed. The sisters are very grateful, and we are beyond blessed belonging to such a great organization.” Pictured left to right, Sister Esperanza, Sister Pilar and Sister Monica.

Nebraska ~ State Regent : R.Kim Meduna

*“For we are God’s coworkers:
you are God’s field, God’s building.”
1 Cor. 3:9*



IOWA COURT SUPPORTS PREGNANCY CENTER

Court Mary of the Assumption #1976, Manchester, Iowa, joined the local Knights of Columbus to present a check to Clarity Clinic representative Andy DeWitt for \$2000 from proceeds from a steak fry. Clarity Clinic is a local pregnancy center in Dubuque that offers free services to promote respecting the unborn with free pregnancy and ultrasound tests. Shown in the picture with the large check are Kathy Boeding, Jean Pasker, Erinne Fessler, Mary Ann Schneiders, Nancy McDonald, Dennis Lyons, Don Holtz, Ken Wilgenbusch, Dennis Scherbring, George Aberle, Andy DeWitt, Dianne Larsen, Linda Bessey and Nancy Appleton.



GARAGE SALE BY LOUISIANA COURT

Court Most Holy Trinity #2734, Covington, Louisiana, held its biannual garage sale. “Our garage sale helps us support many ministries in our community,” Jeri Ferrara explained. “Our 2025 Chairs Paula Henderson and Kathleen Rooney, who can be seen front left in the photo, did a wonderful job of including so many members of the court over an extended period, which resulted in a most successful event. As individuals and as a Court, we strive to be the hands and feet of Jesus.” Court members can be seen behind a table of sale items at their garage sale.

Louisiana ~ State Regent: Sheila Moore

*“Serve Him Faithfully
with all Your Heart.”
1 Samuel 12:34*



VETERANS HELPED BY CALIFORNIA COURT

Court Our Lady of Peace #1306, San Bernardino, California, had its first meeting after summer break, celebrated with a delicious lunch, and wrote get well notecards to veterans who are patients at the local Veterans Hospital. Eva Garza explains, "All members present participated in writing personal notecards. Our Regent, Olivia Guerrero, provided the blank notecards and a variety of stickers (flowers and Bible verses) to affix to the cards. Our guidelines were to thank them, pray for their return to good health and bless them so that each recipient would be presented with a lovely, heartfelt sentiment of appreciation." In the photo, left to right, Eva Garza, Chaplain Fr. Ignacio Estrada and Regent Olivia Guerrero.



FOSTER FAMILIES AIDED BY COLORADO COURT

Court Holy Family #1794, Security, Colorado, presented 10 frozen meals to Fostering Hope for foster families to use as needed. Pictured, front row, Vice Regent Christine Million and Desarey Balloon from Fostering Hope. Standing are Barbara Thibault, Fran Bosso, Louise Johnson and Cordell Blair.



PUBLIC ROSARY BY IOWA COURT

Our Lady of Fatima Public Rosary in the Park was held in Manning, Iowa at the City Park. Carleen Schwieso of Court Our Lady of Fatima #1492 led the rally and was assisted by fellow members of the Court #1492. In the photo, back, left to right, are Jean Behrens, Betty Ferneding, Connie Huebner, Karen Kasperbauer, Jim Huebner, with Vickie Tibben in the middle row, then the next row has Carleen Schwieso and Dolores Herbers seated in the front. The picture was taken by Cathy Pfannkuch.



BOXES OF JOY AT LOUISIANA COURT

Court St. Rose de Lima #1194, St. Amant, Louisiana, filled 96 Boxes of Joy in October for delivery to the Catholic Community Radio Station in Baton Rouge. The Boxes of Joy program of Cross Catholic Outreach sends the boxes filled with school supplies, clothes, toys and more to underprivileged children in many countries. "October may seem too early to be boxing up Christmas gifts," Debi Graham said, "but it's actually the perfect time to make Boxes of Joy." Seen in the photo assembling the boxes are, left to right, Melissa Madere, Shirley Doucet, Deborah Heath and Connie Braud.

"All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions... and distribute the proceeds to all, who are in need."

Acts of the Apostles 2:44-45



DRAGON PACKS BY MINNESOTA COURT

Court St. Bernard #886, Lismore, Minnesota, helped donate “Dragon Packs” to schoolchildren at the Adrian School. Each bag holds notebooks, folders, pens, pencils plus a coupon from the local consignment store to help purchase Dragon spirit gear. The Dragon Packs will be distributed to mid-year enrollees who need school supplies. Court members pictured with bright smiles holding the Dragon Packs are front row, Pearl Wieneke, Mindy Kemper, Steph Diekmann, Lydia Diekmann and MaryAnn Loosbrock. Back row, Laura and Madelyn Fodness, Mary Metz, Julie Brake, Lisa Diekmann, Deb Lutmer, Denise Lynn, Donna Dew, and Roxanne Kemper. “The ladies chose to wear flannel just for the fun of it!” Deb Lutmer said.



NEW YORK COURT CLEANS MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Court Mother of Good Counsel #1311, Blaisdell, New York, collected, cleaned and bagged 1595 prescription pill bottles and 1200 needles to be donated to Matthew 25: Ministries, which, Therese Constable explained, is “an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping the poorest of the poor and disaster victims locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally regardless of race, creed, or political persuasion.” Court members can be seen in the photo with the fruits of their labor.



NEBRASKA COURT HELPS CHILDREN WITH CANCER

Court St. James #2007, Kearney, Nebraska, was visited by representatives of Angels Among Us which helps families with expenses such as travel, utilities and home payments allowing parents to focus on their child and worry less about the rest during a stressful and devastating time. “We partnered with our local Knights of Columbus Chapter, Council 1728, and started planning our event and selling tickets at our churches,” Ashley Bostron said. “We viewed a presentation highlighting the work Angels Among Us do for pediatric cancer patients and their families in Nebraska.” Court and Knights of Columbus members and personnel from Angels Among Us can be seen in the photo with a replica of the check donated.



BABY HATS FROM NEW YORK COURT

Court Queen of Life #2664, Commack, New York, delivered 30 hand knitted baby hats to help moms and babies who are supported by the Long Island Life Center. The Life Center is a non-profit organization that provides guidance, hope and encouragement for women and men struggling with an unplanned pregnancy, to choose life, and offers them the support needed to take care of their babies and themselves. Some of the colorful baby hats can be seen in the photo.

*“If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says...
‘Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,’
and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that?”*

Epistle of James 2:15-16



CANCER SURVIVORS HELPED BY NEW YORK COURT

Court Our Lady of the Lake Court #2585, Patterson, New York, hosted a Ladies Fall Luncheon in partnership with the American Cancer Society and Aversano’s Restaurant. “We had approximately 85 attendees, and we honored the memory of Adeline Aversano, who was a Catholic Daughter and Sacred Heart parishioner,” Margarat Zambraski said. “We also honored all Cancer SURVIVORS! A special thanks to all our parishioners and to the Catholic Daughters from our local courts for their continued support. A special thanks to the American Cancer Society for their support and to Aversano’s for the wonderful lunch and for their generosity.” Attendees can be seen in the photo with their Survivor ribbons, giving the thumbs-up sign.”



NORTH DAKOTA COURT CREATES NATIVITY

Court Immaculate Conception Court #322, Bismarck, North Dakota, has put up the blessing of the Nativity scene at the State Capitol in Bismarck for the last seven years. “We are blessed!” Regent Karen Selensky said. Court members at the Nativity Scene, front row, left to right, seated, Selma Schumacher, Johanna Nagel, Patti Armstrong, Recording Secretary Diane Krupinsky, Virginia Dolajak, Rose Mayo and Fr. John Paul Gardner. Back row, left to right, standing, Lorri Lengenfelder, Shirley Staiger, Krystyna Gorzelska, Norma Rajme, Delores Friedt, Alvina Reichert, Robynn Berger, Vice Regent Dorleen Wolbaum, Regent Karen Selensky, and Treasurer Mary Ann Morford.



TRUNK OR TREAT BY OHIO COURT

“On a gorgeous October Saturday, sisters of Court Ashland #1245, Ashland, Ohio, participated in Trunk or Treat at The Apple Fest,” Claudia Stupi said, “An annual awareness day for Safe Haven, our town’s Domestic Violence Shelter. Our Cookie Monster-themed trunk was a delightful addition to the line-up of treat cars.” Standing with the Cookie Monster in the photo are court members Cindy Burson, Claudia Stupi, Kay Bloodhart, Mascot Chase Bullard, Nella Blackford, Deb Kemp and Ashley Freshwater.



ILLINOIS COURT HOSTS ROSARY

Court St. Jude #2166, Lawton, Illinois, hosted the 38th Annual Block Rosary that took place at Blessed Sacrament Church in Lawton. Court member Elizabeth Carrillo coordinated the event. Attendees can be seen in the photo.

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.”
Epistle of James 1:17

“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.”
Book of Proverbs 19:17



TEXAS COURT HOLDS PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Court Queenship of Mary #2776, Beaumont, Texas, prayed for the entire United States during their “Patriotic Rosary” held in October. Seated, left to right, front row, Sparrow twins, Regent Debralynn Johnson, Esther Jacks and Tammy Derzapf. Second row, Nancy Skaggs, Eva Simon, Dolores DeBlanc, Peggy Sonnier, Mabel Briggs and Melinda Turtledove. Third row, Secretary Natalie Roberts, Nicole Sparrow, Treasurer Catherine Walker, Evanna Roberts, Magdalena Barbar, Elaine Forrester, Joyce Lombard, Maureen Cummings, Anna Phillips, Shirley Roberts, Henrietta Berotte and Kathleen Landry. Fourth row, Richard Johnson, Gene Schultz, Carl Sparrow, Thomas Landry, John Roberts and Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Steve Mcgaha.



TEXAS COURT BRINGS CHRISTMAS TO CHILDREN

Court Loving Mother of Mercy #2689, Brownsville, Texas, hosted a member toy drive to benefit the children receiving services at the Bob Clark Social Services Center in Brownsville. “Over 50 toys were collected for distribution during the Center’s ‘Take a Picture with Santa’ event,” Emma Martinez said. “On Wednesday, December 3, 2025, our members attended to help distribute the toys.” Pictured are court members Lydia Trevino, Gloria Gomez and Karen Betancourt.



THOSE IN NEED HELPED BY PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Court Bellevue #655, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is proud to partner with the Christ Our Savior Parish outreach ministry. Regent Maria Faller explains, “This is truly a wonderful ministry, and we at Court Bellevue are so happy to be able to help in a small way. We filled nearly 100 treat bags to go with the Thanksgiving meal. Our Court’s coordinator for this project is our Recording Secretary Karen Smay-Brown. A photo is attached of some of our members working on filling the treat bags at our November meeting.” From left to right, Linda Scalamogna, Janine Littlefield, Dorothy Pavlasky, Treasurer Lauren Devlin and Maria Faller, Regent.



PENNSYLVANIA COURT HELPS ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Court St. Bernard #339, Indiana, Pennsylvania, raised money from a white elephant auction. “Members brought nice items that they no longer needed,” Barbara Minor said. “They wrapped them and auctioned them at their September meeting and raised \$500 to be donated to St. Vincent De Paul Society in Indiana.” Pictured at the check presentation are court members Joy Behr, Kim Dolan, St. Vincent DePaul store president Mary (Sis) Morehead, Recording Secretary Kathy Sgro, St. Vincent de Paul Conference President Karen Swisher, also a CDA member, and court members Jan Sharbaugh and Vivian Rolling.



PATRIOTIC ROSARY BY TEXAS COURT

Members of Court St. Gianna Beretta Molla #2691, Corsicana, Texas, came together in faith to pray for the brave men and women who have served, to thank them for their sacrifice, and to ask God’s continued blessings upon them and our country. They said a Patriotic Rosary at Immaculate Conception Catholic church. Members paused for a photo at the Mass.



TEXAS COURT SUPPORTS PREGNANCY CENTER

Members of Court St. Ann Mother of Mary #2649, La Vernia, Texas, attended the 25th Anniversary Fundraising Banquet for the South Texas Pregnancy Center in Seguin. “The STPCC is one of the court’s sponsored non-profit charities,” Publicity Chairman Bettie Trainer explains. “We support them financially and donate items for their clients including diapers, clothing for both moms and babies, and other needed supplies.” Seen in the photo at the banquet, seated, Regent Pamela Wilson and Treasurer Joanne Tiller. Standing, Linda Dylla, Rosemarie Kotara, Bettie Trainer and Janice McMahon.



VERMONT COURT SUPPORTS LIFE

Because October is Respect Life Month, Court St. Veronica #1273, Hardwick, Vermont (the youngest court in Vermont) decided to set up a display with information regarding abortions performed in Vermont from 1972-2023. Crosses were cut out and a display was set up on the bank next to St. Norberts Church with three signs which read: “ ‘October is Respect Life Month,’ ‘Do you know over 104,000 abortions have been performed in Vermont from 1972-2023?’ and ‘Each cross represents nearly 520 abortions performed in Vermont (an embryo development chart is also shown).’ ” In the photo, left to right, court members Helen Willey, Joceyln Lussier, Financial Secretary Nicole Duhamel, Robin Gauthier, Regent Deborah Brown, Vermont First Vice State Regent Annette Gann (also Court St. Veronica member), Jean Clary and Treasurer Mary Jane Fradette. Photo by Terri Schoolcraft.



FOOD PANTRY SUPPORTED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Mercy of Jesus #2407, Tomball, Texas, raised funds to donate to the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St. Anne’s Catholic Church in Tomball. The pantry provides assistance to many people in need. Pictured at the check presentation, left to right, Recording Secretary Pat Wientjes, Saint Vincent de Paul Administrator John Norris, Regent Pat Meriam, and District Deputy Rose McKee.

“May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another... that with one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Epistle to the Romans 15:5-6



CALIFORNIA COURT CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

Officers and members of Court Our Lady of the Miracle #1707, Novato, California, joyfully celebrated their 70th Anniversary at Our Lady of Loretto Church. Mass was celebrated by Reverend Tony Vallecillo followed by a delicious lunch. California State Regent Lorine Bakowsky, First Vice State Regent Sheri Kanagawa, and State Treasurer Michelle Eck attended. In the photo, left to right, first row, Cathy Timmer, Kathi Landi, Selena Peterson, Sr. Jeanette Lombardi, OSU, Past Regent Jeri Kruse, Reverend Tony Vallecillo, California State Regent Lorine Bakowsky, Vice Regent Jean Schuster, Marie Sullivan and Regent Mary Wahlberg. Second row, left to right, Donna Morris, Cindy Wise, Paula Caldwell, Past Regent Connie Baczinski, First Vice State Regent Sheri Kanagawa, State Treasurer Michelle Eck, Jean Emma Bova and Financial Secretary Karen Raccanello. Top row, left to right, Annie Wilson, Mary Trello, Moriah Stafford and Treasurer Val Ireton.



CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY FOR NEW YORK COURT

Court St. Joseph #953, Albion, New York, honored their 100th Anniversary with Court Chaplin Rev. Mark Noonan celebrating Mass. A luncheon followed acknowledging court members from 1925 to the present. The Joan of Arc of Orleans Assembly 4th Color Corps and Knights of Columbus Council #1330 participated. Attendees front to back, left to right, Florence Surdi, Margaret Joy, Jean Bailey, Corinne Pahura, Pauline Radzinski and Evelyn Kreckic; Regent Janet Albanese, Joanne Heminway, Jeanne Crane, Jean Shervin, New York State Secretary Susan Potazala, New York State Regent Judy Sterling, Ann Marie Sterling, Financial Secretary Loraine Dibley, Vice Regent Susan Jessmer, Donna Laubacher, Agnes Piskorowski and Phyllis Misso; Mary Marsh, Carolyn Flynn, Michele Grabowski, Darla Swiercznski, Treasurer Gayle Ashbery; Sally Lusk, Secretary Joyce Monacelli, Brenda Haight, Court Chaplin Rev. Mark Noonan, Mollie Radzinski, Mary Kay Vagg, Deborah Magliocco and District Deputy Charilla Conner.



FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY FOR TEXAS COURT

Court Our Lady of The Bluebonnets #2268, Ennis, Texas celebrated its 40th Anniversary. Regent Virginia Lopez presented 19 Charter Members with a certificate, 40-Year Pin, and Yellow Long Stem Rose. All officers were in attendance, including District Deputy Mary Ann Trojacek. "It was a blessed evening with lots of smiles, hugs and renewal of friendships," Maureen Spaniel said. "Court members and families enjoyed a delicious Italian dinner and desserts. Charter Members able to attend the celebration pause for a memory photo left to right, standing, Suzie Betik, Patsy Kubala, Irene Kubin, Madelyn Long, Margaret Bouska, Dorothy Bobalek, Paula Call, Annette Honza, Carolyn Schleback, Vera Betik and Nancy Valek. Left to right, sitting, Frances Divin, Margaret Martinek, Nancy Betik, Dorothy Pustejovsky, Angeline Slovacek, Barbara Liska, Marian Zhanel and Elizabeth Zabochnik.



CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY FOR VERMONT COURT

Court St. Augustine #976, Montpelier, Vermont, celebrated its 100th anniversary with Mass in which Most Reverend John McDermott, Bishop of Burlington, Vermont, was celebrant and Vermont State Chaplain Fr. Pat Forman was co-celebrant. Following Mass, there was a luncheon and fellowship. Each CDA member in attendance was given a certificate showing her years of membership. Claire Guare was thanked for 71 years of membership in the court. The most senior member, Marguerite Smyrski, 101, was also in attendance. Anniversary celebrants, pictured, left to right, Vice Regent Rose Pelchuck, Regent Denise Parry, and Recording Secretary Mary Morrison (holding the Papal Blessing); Bishop McDermott; Financial Secretary Janet Koval, and Treasurer Danalda Chenette. Back row, Fr. Pat Forman, Vermont State Chaplain and Court St Augustine Pastor and Chaplain.



IOWA COURT ANNIVERSARY ON CDA SUNDAY

Court Sacred Heart #408 Spencer, Iowa, gathered on Sunday, October 19 to celebrate Catholic Daughter Sunday. Members participated in various parts of Mass while celebrating their court’s 105th anniversary. Participants gathered for a photo to mark the double occasion.



Correction: in the Fall issue of SHARE we published an incorrect story to accompany the photo of the 105th Anniversary of Court Uniontown #505, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. We apologize for this error, especially to the members of Court Uniontown. The correct story and photo are below.

PENNSYLVANIA COURT HONORS 105 YEARS

Court Uniontown #505, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, celebrated their 105th Anniversary with Mass followed by dinner and a memorial service for deceased members. Pictured next to a statue of the Blessed Mother and the CDA Unity and Charity banner, left to right, District Deputy Nikki L Meglis, Recording Secretary Donna Mehalek, Vice Regent JoAnn Coppolino, Regent Pauliminia Rawlings, Financial Secretary Darlene Centofanti, Treasurer Carletta Fronczek and Pastor/Administrator Father Anthony J Klimko.



CDA SUNDAY HONORED WITH NEBRASKA COURT ANNIVERSARY

Court Our Lady of Fatima #1549, North Platte, Nebraska, celebrated their 75th Anniversary on Catholic Daughter Sunday. Nebraska State Officers Janet Macklin, Laurie Hergott and Elaine Sluti attended, and the entire court, seen in the photo with their Unity and Charity banner, enjoyed breakfast in St. Patrick’s Parish Hall following the 8:30 Mass.



TEXAS COURT CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Court Sister Mary Walter #2401, Rosenberg, Texas celebrated its 30th Anniversary on CDA Sunday with morning Mass followed by a brunch. The court’s charter members, seen in the photo, are Shirley Lopez, Maria Gonzalez, Frances Villarreal and Adela Segura.



NORTH DAKOTA COURT CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

Court St. Claire #1846, Linton, North Dakota, celebrated its 65th Anniversary with a Mass of celebration in September. In the photo court members can be seen in church with an anniversary plaque and their CDA banner.

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.”

Book of Psalms 100:1-2



ANGEL AWARD AT CALIFORNIA COURT

Court St. Anne #2517 (St. Kateri Tekakwitha), Beaumont, California, presented their first Angel Award at their November 4th meeting. This award is presented to a member whose life and service over the past year have reflected the heart of the Catholic Daughter mission—Unity and Charity—and the light of Christ in all she does. Court Regent Dorothy Araiza said, “Every Court has someone who quietly weaves threads of love, unity, and service through everything we do. Someone who shows up—not only in body, but in spirit. This evening, we take a moment to honor such a sister—our St. Anne Court’s own ‘angel among us:’ Frances Chapparosa.” In the photo are Angel Award Winner Frances Chapparosa (seated), with, left to right, niece and court member Virna Valdivia and court officers Vice Regent Eileen Huddleston, Regent Dorothy Araiza, Secretary Rita Delgado, and Financial Secretary Kim Sweet.



FLORIDA COURT RECEIVES 12 NEW MEMBERS

Court Mother Teresa #2582, Zephyrhills, Florida, was very proud and happy to receive twelve new members resulting from a dedicated effort by court officers and members. This included pulpit talks at Masses, bulletin announcements, personal invitations and an evening Meet and Greet. At the Meet and Greet there was a welcoming atmosphere with a brief presentation about CDA, displays, questions and comments, snacks and door prizes. Pictured around the Blessed Mother from left to right are Cynthia Frye, JoAnn O’Riley, Becky Finley, Joanne Allan, Judith Martinez, Mary Ann Malamas and Leda Fones. Not pictured are new members Rose Ann Stokes, Dawn Hyre, Maria Thottukadavil, Marina Geoffrion and Kathe Patrick.



NEW MEMBERS FOR FOR IOWA COURT

Court St. Anthony #330, Council Bluffs, Iowa, welcomed three new members. Seen at the ceremony are new Catholic Daughters Judi Kjeldgaard, Diane Crane and Judy Pedersen.



MINNESOTA COURT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Regent Ruth Kastner of Court Joan of Arc #691, Blue Earth, Minnesota, center in the photo, welcomes new members Janessa Warner, left, and Sue Cory, right, at the court's December meeting.



IOWA COURT HONORS LONG TIME MEMBER

Court Holy Rosary #1602, Anton, Iowa, celebrated Linda Dixon's 45 years as a Catholic Daughter. Invited dignitaries were Father Michael Erpelding, Iowa State Regent Brenda Vore and District Deputy Cleo Harder, as well as Linda's daughter Leslie Beeson, granddaughter Olivia Beeson and daughter-in-law Kristin Dixon. In the photo, back row, Kathy Bernard, Donna Crilly, Eileen Flood and AJ Petersen. Third row, Janet Augustine, Debi Weaver, Leslie Beeson, Sandy Ortner and Diane Cloud. Second row, Linda Hayworth, Kristin Dixon, Linda Dixon, District Deputy Cleo Harder and Father Mike Erpelding. Front row, Lori Berning, Iowa State Regent Brenda Vore, guest Faye Hill, Jackie Clausen-Hoaglund, Cathie Rosauer and Haley Hayworth.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

We received many submissions from members celebrating National Catholic Daughter Day on October 19, 2025. Because so many courts were motivated to honor this Special Day, we felt it deserved its own section. We hope our members enjoy and benefit from seeing the varied and creative ways that courts honored this annual day that is so important to our organization.



ARIZONA COURT SHARES BREAKFAST AND CORPORATE COMMUNION

Court Daughters of St. Anthony #2651, Casa Grande, Arizona, celebrated National Catholic Daughters Sunday by attending a Corporate Communion Mass and sharing breakfast together after Mass. The breakfast was cooked and hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 2651. Court officers in the photo, left to right, Arizona State Regent Lynn Wilson, Regent Carolann DiMuzio, Vice Regent Susan Gladman and Recording Secretary Betty Zambrano.



FLORIDA COURT HOLDS TEA

Court St. Anthony the Abbot #2816, Brooksville, Florida, held their first annual Women's Tea to celebrate Catholic Daughter Sunday and recruit new members. "Attendees wanted to know if we would have the tea again next year," Denise Gardner said. "Decision made, it will be an annual event." Attendees can be seen in their tea fashion finery enjoying the event.



CDA SUNDAY AT COLORADO COURT

Members of Court Sacred Heart #1606, Cortez, Colorado, gathered after Mass at St. Margaret Mary Church. In the photo are, Court Chaplin Fr. Soosai, center, court officers in white, front, left to right, Regent Mary Helen Ganir, Vice-Regent Margie Dove, Treasurer Stephanie Ferland, Financial Secretary Vicki Volk and Recording Secretary Ani Jessup.



DUAL GUAM COURTS GATHER FOR SPECIAL DAY

After celebrating Mass at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica, members of Court Our Lady of Camarin #2047, Hagåtña, and Court Maria Raina'n y Familia #2450, Tamuning, Guam, resplendent and sharp in their new white outfits, paused for a photo with Rev. Fr. William Mamangun, Deacon John Terlaje and Deacon Gregorio T. Calvo. Court Our Lady of Camarin was chartered in 1972 and its offspring, Court Rainan I Familia, was chartered in 1997. To continue the celebration, a luncheon was hosted at VIP Restaurant.



MASS AND BRUNCH BY IOWA COURT

Twenty-eight members of Court Cedar Rapids #1768, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, along with their guests, gathered for Mass and brunch to celebrate Catholic Daughters Sunday. “It was a beautiful Mass and a joyful celebration,” Regent Roberta Peters said. “The Catholic Daughters from St. Joseph hosted our Court and led the way in preparing a wonderful brunch following the Mass. Many members contributed to the delicious spread of food. This celebration also marked the first occasion for our officers to wear their new medallions.” Participants can be seen after Mass in the photo.



IOWA COURT CELEBRATES WITH ROSARY

Court Our Lady of LaSalette #1585, Milford, Iowa, celebrated CDA Sunday by leading The Rosary and sitting together during Mass and assisting with various parts of the Mass. A reception followed in the Parish Center. Celebrants, left to right, front row, Donna Goebel, Glatha Langel, Cheryl Aumer, District Deputy Peggy Muhlbauer, Angie Beem, Barb Kollasch, Connie Tesene and Cheryl Houseman. Second row, Deb Bode, Donna Schmidt, Wynette Moore, Jennifer Davis, Mary Beth Gehling, Patti Scott, Barb Langel, Karen Naber, Tammy Brant, Julie Fairchild and Teresa Abbas.



“PAINT & PRAISE” AT MARYLAND COURT

Court Divine Mercy #2821, Baltimore, Maryland, held a Paint & Praise Fellowship Event for their first Catholic Daughter Sunday, October 19, 2025, at New All Saints Catholic Church. Court members and guests decorated canvas bags and made cards for the Oblate Sisters of Providence. The court also used the occasion to provide Blessing Bags to the Sisters. The bags were personalized and included useful toiletries for all 37 Oblate Sisters. The court also donated the extra toiletries for the Oblate’s prison ministry. Court members pausing behind a table of their canvas bags, Lisa Scott, Stephanie Makle, Charisse Walker and Stepanie Baker.



MINNESOTA COURT SHINES BRIGHT ON CDA DAY!

Court St. Mary #509, Moorehead, Minnesota, used National Catholic Daughter Day to achieve major success in service and recruitment. “Using the national recognition day as a powerful platform, our court showed up in multiple ways throughout the weekend,” Brandy Pelzel said. “Members graciously served coffee and donuts after Mass, hosted a highly successful fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, and personally addressed the congregation with inspiring pulpit talks at every Mass to recruit new members for both Court St. Mary and a new JCDA court.” Court members can be seen in the photo at their booths.



EIGHT NEBRASKA COURTS GATHER

Court Our Lady of the Rosary #2511, Omaha, Nebraska, hosted National Catholic Daughters Day for eight metro area courts. A noon Mass was celebrated by Reverend Mark McKercher and Deacon Michael Fletcher. Attendees included fourteen new members who were received during the Mass. Others in attendance included Nebraska State Regent Kim Meduna, State Secretary Marilyn Lowery and Past State Regent Judy Reed. A luncheon was served by the host court. Guest speaker, Susan K. Gnann, Director of Advancement of Saint John Paul II Newman Center, captivated the audience with her presentation. Attendees can be seen in the photo.



MANY COURTS FROM PUERTO RICO GATHER

Members from many courts in Puerto Rico celebrated National CDA Day by attending Mass at their local parishes. Participating courts were Court Borinquen #1101, Mayaguez; Court Santa Rosa de Lima #612, Bayamón; Court San Fernando #1961, Carolina; Court Isabel La Católica #606, Ponce; Court Jesús Nazareno #2345, Isabela; Court Santa Teresa de Jesús #1933, San Juan; and Court Nuestra Señora de la Consolacion #1837, San Germán, whose members can be seen in the photo, happily waving for the occasion.



NEW MEXICO COURT CELEBRATES WITH SPECIAL MASS

Court Our Lady of Fatima #1293, Roswell, New Mexico, celebrated National Catholic Daughter Sunday and Corporate Communion at St. John’s Catholic Church. “During Mass, celebrated by Father Lalo, court members were recognized and welcomed,” Regent Mary Ann Delgado said. “After Mass, the members and family members enjoyed a delicious breakfast at a local restaurant. In the photo, court members in white, back row left to right, Yolanda Gallegos, Rosa Linda Chacon, Nina Vigil, Father Lalo and Louise Miller. Third row, left to right, Mary Ann Delgado, Gina Hernandez Cathy DelNobile, Fran Trujillo, Margie Luevano, Margarita Mireles, Past State Regent, Rosie Duran and Mary Garcia. Second row, left to right, Maria Luisa, Janie Cortez, Aurora Mares, Esther Aragon, Michelle Littrell, Vanessa Gamboa and Arlene Rodrigues. Front row, left to right, Sister Martha and Sister Rose.



MANY ROLES IN MASS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA COURT

Court Our Lady of Peace #1708, Flandreau, South Dakota, celebrated CDA Sunday by acting as greeters, lectors, sacristans, Eucharistic ministers and members of the choir for Mass. Pictured are most of the court’s members with Fr. Bill Hamak, District Deputy Kathy Feurhelm and three future Catholic Daughters, acting as altar servers.

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Gospel of Matthew 25:40



CONTEST WINNERS AT MASSACHUSETTS COURT

Court Sacred Hearts #864, Bradford, Massachusetts, awarded Education Contest winners from the 8th grade graduating class and grades four to seven. In the photo, the local and state award winners in Grades four to seven can be seen holding their certificates at a school assembly prior to their school year's end. Presenting the awards were Regent Kathy Valerio and Education Chair and Vice Regent Maureen Trainor, far right in the photo.



NEW JUNIOR COURT IN NORTH DAKOTA

JCDA Court St. Gianna Molla #322, Bismarck, North Dakota, was instituted this year. In the photo, left to right, Vice Regent Dorleen Wolbaum, Regent Karen Selensky, JCDA Officers First Vice President Aubrey Kral, Second Vice President Kennedy Michlitsch, Reporter Morgan Waliser and Secretary Kristina Heinert; and Chaplain Fr. John Paul Gardner. Not pictured, President Eva Brooke.



SCHOLARSHIP WINNER FOR NEW JERSEY COURT

Court Mater Creatoris #1808, Williamstown, New Jersey, announced the winner of the National Youth Scholarship Award of \$1000 from St. Mary School. Riley Rae, a graduate of St. Mary School Class of 2025 and a parishioner at Our Lady of Peace, received the award at 9:30 AM Mass. In the photo, front row, left to right, St. Mary School Principal Patricia Mancuso, Recording Secretary Patricia Hallman, Financial Secretary Nilka Gualtieri, Scholarship Winner Riley Rae, Regent Patricia Adams, Treasurer Fran Beltrante and Vice Regent Dee Carney. Second row, left to right, Fr. Sanjai Devis, V.C., Pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Scholarship Committee member Pam Tighe and Court Chaplain Deacon James Hallman.

WHAT DO YOU SEEK?

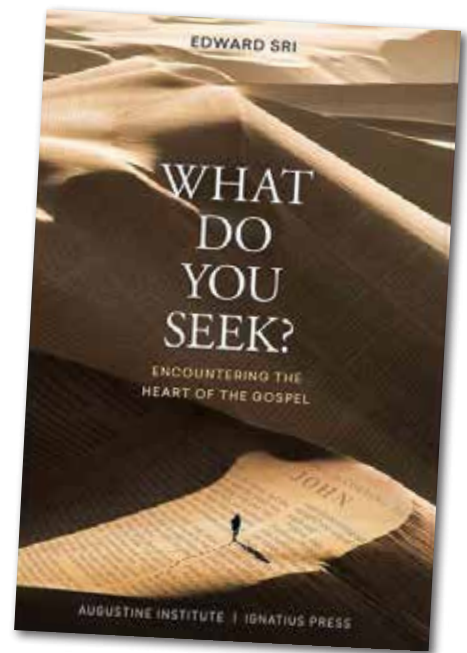
ENCOUNTERING THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL

By Edward Sri, S.T.D.

(Ignatius Press, San Francisco, California,
and Augustine Institute, Greenwood Village, Colorado, 2024)



Reviewed by
Peggy Eastman
Past National SHARE Editor



This book is a clear, concise, helpful guide to drawing nearer to Christ's Gospel message of love. Edward Sri, S.T.D., is a professor at the Augustine Institute, an author, a presenter of worldwide faith formation programs and co-founder of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students).

Sri has an accessible writing style, reminding us that Jesus and His apostles used simple language and real-life examples to bring the Gospel message to people of their time in all walks of life. They reached fishermen, shepherds, farmers, tax collectors, beggars and the disabled and ill. The Gospel is primarily a love story of God for His people, as Sri makes clear. It is for everyone. God loves us and longs for us to join Him in a close relationship; that is the heart of the Gospel.

Six chapters in the book address the aspects that encompass the Gospel: relationship, rebellion, reconciliation (which has two chapters), re-creation and response. Each of these chapters sets forth a part of the human story. Each of us was chosen by God for a relationship with Him; our world is broken, due to rebellious fallen humanity; our pathway to salvation is reconciliation with God; God in His infinite mercy is re-creating our world and making all things new; and our response is to follow Christ and live as chosen children of God.

Each of these chapters contains reflection questions at the end to help draw the author's message into our hearts. Examples include: How do you think God is using you to respond to His love? What would you say to Jesus at Calvary? Do you believe you can be changed? Do you want a closer friendship with Christ?

The book's last chapter focuses on the four habits of a disciple, as defined in the Acts of the Apostles. These are:

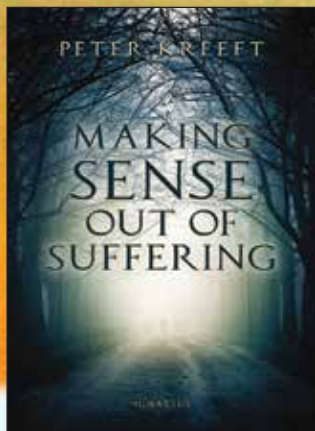
daily prayer; frequent participation in the sacraments; spending time in Christian fellowship; and forming the mind with the teachings of Jesus and His apostles. This last point, what we put into our minds, is vitally important. Sri writes: "In our non-Christian age, we have to realize there's a battle for our minds. What we put in our minds matters. It shapes our imagination, what we perceive as good, and our desires." He warns us against spending too much time on shows, videos, sports and secular content, which will conform our minds to the secular world. Think about the barrage of secular information that comes at us from smartphones, the Internet, TV, radio, movies and many other sources. Think about how much time can be spent on social media.

We need to put aside these temptations and spend more time on reading the Scriptures, the writings of saints and Church teachings. Our time is precious. A regular schedule of prayer, Bible study and spiritual reading will help us focus our minds on the Gospel and resist the pressures to divert our attention to secular concerns.

Sri makes it clear that God means for the Gospel to be shared. God is looking to us to bring the good news to others. In that sense, each of us is a missionary. In his introduction, the author writes: "When introducing someone to Christianity, it is usually best to start with the simple message that God loves us, has a plan for our happiness, and wants us to share in his love. And even though we turned away from him in sin, He still seeks us out and wants to be reunited with us. He even became one of us in Jesus Christ and came to forgive us, heal us, and restore us to relationship with the Father."

That is the heart of the Gospel, and that is very good news indeed. ✨

SUFFERING, MEDICINE & THE MERCY OF GOD



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Grace and Healing in the Modern Medical Center

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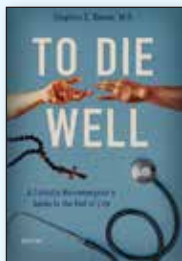
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—**John Bruchalski, MD**, Founder, Tepeyac OB/GYN; Author, *Two Patients*

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Adrienne von Speyr, one of the most original spiritual writers of the twentieth century, draws from her experience as a medical doctor to teach Christian medical professionals the art of treating and loving their patients. Physicians and nurses are called by God to be more than mere custodians of health, but bearers of Jesus' good news, healers who care for the body as well as soul.

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