



The Lone Star Messenger

Texas Catholic Daughters of the Americas

September 2026 Edition

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Father Dalton Ervin

In the Church's liturgical calendar, we find ourselves in the long stretch of Ordinary Time. Sunday after Sunday is green, green, green, more parables and miracles from Jesus. It does not have the anticipation of Advent or permeate the peace of Christmas. It does not require the discipline of Lent or give the joy of Easter. It is the daily walking and talking with Jesus as he teaches, preaches, and heals. Especially as summer draws to a close and we return to our more normalized routines, this Ordinary Time is an opportunity to rediscover, or perhaps discover for the first time, how Jesus is present to us not just in the highs and lows of life, but even in those ordinary days of waking up, getting things done, going to bed, and doing all again tomorrow. Jesus is not finished teaching, preaching, and healing, and he continues to come to each of us for this purpose, in his word and in his sacraments. His word and the sacraments of his Church should be ordinary parts of our daily lives. When this is so, the other seasons of our lives, and the other seasons of the Church, draw us ever more deeply into the inner life and love of God.

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State Regent Virginia Olsovsky

History was made at the 61st Biennial National Convention of the Catholic Daughters in Coralville, Iowa. For the first time, the elections for national officers and the 2028 national nominating committee were held electronically. No paper ballots were used. On the morning of Thursday, July 23, 2026, the delegates gathered in the meeting room and were certified. Instructions for the new voting procedures were given and then each delegate received an email with a link to the election software site. Each link was unique and could not be duplicated or reused. Delegates opened the link on their cell phones or laptops and selected their choices for each office. A help station was available for those who did not find or receive the link. Members of the election committee staffed computers at the back of the room and assisted those who could not access their voting link or who were not comfortable with the technology. Although the results were available just minutes after the voting was finished, they were not announced until the following day.

Will electronic voting be a possibility for the 2027 Texas State Convention? We are carefully studying the pros and cons before any decisions are made. I am thankful to have served on the 2026 national election committee and for the opportunity to learn each step of the new election process.

In other convention news, most of the changes to the bylaws were editorial in nature - clarifying wording and rearranging existing content for better continuity. The most notable changes were that state chaplains will now decide if candidates for national office are in good standing with the church, and that officers may now choose to wear either black or white chapel veils when in procession and wearing their medallions. The new edition of the national bylaws is expected to be published in the fall. Each court should purchase a copy from the national store as soon as they become available.

Congratulations are in order for Second Vice State Regent Debbie Johnson, who was elected to the 2028 national nominating committee, and State Parliamentarian and Past State Regent Rosie Stockwell for being elected to a second term as National Director. We are so proud to have these ladies represent Texas at the national level.

Special thanks to all the courts that sent delegates to the national convention and to our hostesses from the state of Iowa for their wonderful hospitality and warm welcome. It's not too early to begin making your plans to attend the next national convention which will be held in Greenville, North Carolina on July 26 – 30, 2028.

*Trust in the Lord with all your
heart and lean not on your own
understanding.*

Proverbs 3:5



First Vice State Regent Melissa Gonzalez-Vela

This summer was especially busy as the State Officers traveled across Texas to train our local court officers. We sincerely thank each court that graciously hosted a training session and welcomed officers from surrounding areas. We also extend our appreciation to the district deputies who led the planning and coordination of their assigned sites. Your time, hospitality, and dedication helped make these training sessions successful. It was especially special for us to meet all our wonderful local court officers.

As we begin the new term, we are still awaiting Local Court Officer Forms from approximately one-fourth of our local courts. Please review the Local Regent Roster in the Texas Information Notebook to determine whether your court's form has been received. A revised edition of the Texas Information Notebook was issued at the end of July.

If your court has not submitted its form, please do so as soon as possible. Use only the "Local Court Officer Form (fillable)" available at texascda.org, under Resources and then Forms Library. Please do not use the form located on the National website. The Texas form is linked to a spreadsheet that helps the State Officers collect and process officer information more efficiently.

For those who have submitted the form, receipt was confirmed by email from me. All local court officers should have received this newsletter through Flocknote. If you have not, please email me so I can determine why you are not receiving our communications.

Thank you for your continued service and commitment to Catholic Daughters. In Unity and Charity, we look forward to a productive and faith-filled term together.



Second Vice State Regent Debbie Johnson

Wow! What a busy and productive summer! I hope you all have enjoyed your summer with family vacations, and more. The state officers have been traveling all over the great State of Texas conducting Local Court Officer Training with my last one being in El Paso. It has been so much fun meeting so many of you and getting to know you better. I hope that you not only learned a lot about your officer duties and how to do your jobs, but also enjoyed the gathering of your fellow CDA sisters. We also attended the CDA National Convention in Coralville, Iowa. For me the daily Masses were an inspiration and uplifting. The business sessions were productive, with the election of the national officers and directors as well as the nominating committee for the 2028-2030 national officer and director slates. It is my honor to have been elected to the national nominating committee, which will be chaired by Past National Regent Helene Shepard.



State Secretary Janet Purdy

The state board has been very busy this summer!

The state board started officer training the day after our June state board meeting and financial review. We expect to be completed by the end of August.

In June, we also attended and assisted with the JCDA 100th Anniversary Retreat and Celebration in Jarrel, Texas. It was a wonderful event and everyone had a great time celebrating the milestone. I continue to be amazed by these incredible young ladies and all they accomplish.

The state board attended the National Convention in Coralville, Iowa held July 21-25, 2026. If you were unable to attend, you truly missed a great experience. Although it took an entire day to travel there, the trip was well worth it. We attended workshops, business sessions, voted on Bylaws, and enjoyed some local restaurants. Texas hosted a successful Texas Fun Night at a venue called XTream Arena. By the looks of things, everyone had a great time. Coralville's Fun Night theme was Iowa State Fair which was enjoyed by all. Voting for national officers was conducted online this year, making the process a little different than previous years.

As of July 27, 2026, I am still waiting to receive 7 court dues for May 2025, 16 court dues for November 2025 and 72 court dues for May 2026. In August, I expect to contact all court regents and district deputies of courts that have outstanding dues.

Please double check the following before mailing checks to the State:

1. Make checks payable to CDA Texas State Court.
2. Ensure the numerical and written amounts match.
3. Include two authorized signatures—preferably the regent and treasurer. If treasurer and financial secretary both sign a check, it may be sent back.
4. Mail the check promptly after it is written.

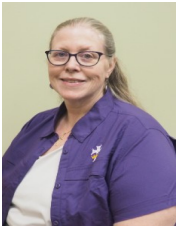
Please remember that national and state dues do not require a vote to be paid. If you have not paid your dues, please do so.

Thank you for your continued support, dedication and commitment to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Your service helps keep our organization strong and we sincerely appreciate all that you do.

Your sister in Christ, Janet.

**October is the month of
the Rosary**





State Treasurer Christine Maniscalco

Hello dear CDA sisters and welcome back from our summer break. officers for the 2026-2028 term, thank you for saying yes and stepping up to lead your court. As you begin your meetings and new term, please review a few items; treasurers and regents do your checks have your court name and number printed on them? If not, when you reorder them please add this information as it is vital information for us at state and to those organizations in which you are sending donations. We need the court's name and number to properly credit the dues, donations and Mass Card payments.

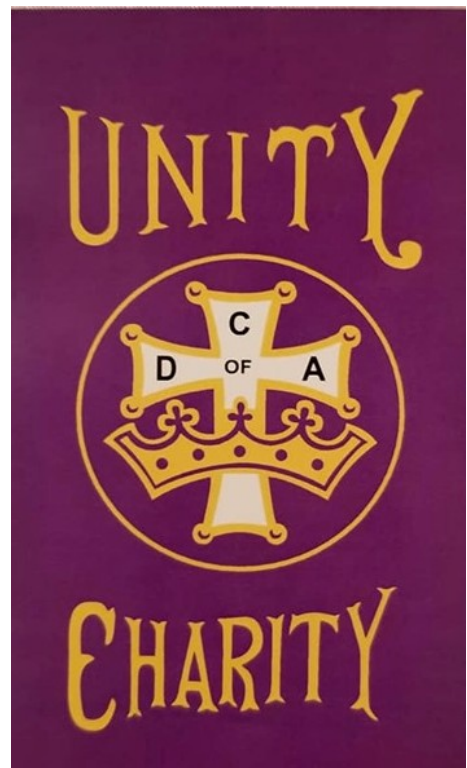
What else is required on checks: two signatures (regent and treasurer preferred). Please include your office after your signature. Numerical amount and written amounts must match, (ie \$135.50, One hundred thirty-five & 50/100—draw a line to end of line that states dollars). When writing the name/payee, it should read; CDA Texas State Court for state payments and checks for the national office should read Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

As you plan your fall/winter activities, think outside the box. What is a new community service project or charity your court can support/sponsor. Do you have a JCDA court you can work with on a service project? The girls enjoy having our support and help. Please take pictures of your activities and post them on the State Facebook page as well as submitting articles to Texas Newsletter. We enjoy seeing your activities, especially those that include your involvement in the community.



Our Patroness
Mother Mary

Our Motto





National Supervisor Peggy Guckin



My dear CDA Sisters,

The 61st Biennial National Convention in Coralville, Iowa is now a memory. Although time was short it was so nice to meet and talk with your state officers and so many members from great state of Texas. Once again, we came together in unity and charity. Your state officers all working together are doing a great job for your state. Congratulations to State Court – First Place in National Projects and Charities.

I congratulate the state court and all local courts who have received recognition for their projects. Keep up the good work.

I also want to congratulate Mary Jane Albert of Court of the Holy Family #2597 who was recognized with St. Faustina Award for her significant work in building membership.

Thank you to the state board and Rosie Stockwell who has enrolled me in the State Court Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Save the Date--Catholic Daughters of the Americas 62nd Biennial National Convention July 26-29, 2028 at Sheraton Four Seasons in Greensboro, North Carolina. I hope to see you all there and renew friendships.

As I finished my 3rd term as National Director it was a pleasure being your national supervisor. I wish you all the best in the year to come. Please keep me in your prayers.

God bless,

Peggy



Mission Statement

Catholic Daughters of the Americas ® strive to embrace
the principle of faith working through love in the
promotion of justice, equality, and
the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TWO OF OUR CATHOLIC DAUGHTER MEMBERS!!!
NATIONAL DIRECTOR ROSIE STOCKWELL WAS ELECTED FOR A SECOND
TERM AS A NATIONAL DIRECTOR AND SECOND VICE STATE REGENT
DEBBIE JOHNSON WAS ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE NOMINATING
COMMITTEE AT THE NATIONAL CDA CONVENTION THIS SUMMER!!

Pictured below are the group pictures of the CDA National Officers, with Rosie Stockwell pictured
third from the right, and in the bottom picture,
the CDA National Nominating Committee, with Debbie Johnson pictured
third from the left..





2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION CONTEST WINNERS

ART – Division II

1st – Gunner Streit – Court Guardian Angels #739, Taylor

ART – Division IV

3rd – Cory Burton – Court Our Lady of Faith #2607, Frydek

ESSAY – Division I

3rd – Jazmine Do – Court St. Ann #369, Victoria

ESSAY – Division II

2nd – Isabel Cano – Court Our Lady of Angels #2505, Seguin

ESSAY – Division III

3rd – Rylie Noska – Court Sacred Heart of Mother Teresa #2570, Schulenburg

POETRY – Division III

1st – Ella Nygren – Court Annunciation #1962, La Grange

2026 NATIONAL ST. FAUSTINA AWARD

Mary Jane Albert – Court of the Holy Family #2597, Tomball

2026 NATIONAL NEWSLETTER WINNERS

CATEGORY I – Division 2

2nd – Court Daughters of the Holy Trinity #2548, Baytown

CATEGORY II – Division 1

1st – Court Our Lady Queen of Lake #2364, Lake Jackson

CATEGORY II – Division 2

3rd – Court St. Bernadette #1108, East Bernard

CATEGORY III – Division 1

1st – Court Annunciation #1962, La Grange

2026 NATIONAL WEBSITE AWARD

LOCAL WEBSITE – CATEGORY I – Division II

2nd – Court Annunciation #1962, La Grange



2026 NATIONAL CDA CIRCLE OF LOVE AWARDS

Leadership Awards

**State – 1st Place Texas State Court
Outreach**

**Local – 2nd Place Court St. John the Baptist #2073, Alvin
Denim & Diamonds Dinner Dance**

Quality of Life Awards

**State – 1st Place Texas State Court
Faith in Action: TX State Court Leadership in Hosting the Texas Rally for Life**

**Local – 2nd Place Court Sacred Heart of Jesus #2422, Odem
Hands and Feet**

Spiritual Enhancement Award

**State – 3rd Place Texas State Court
Pray and Play**

National Youth Award

**State Projects – Texas State Court
Texas State Memorial Scholarship Program**

National JCDA Awards

**State Award – Texas State Court
Convention Project: Jumpin' for Jesus**

**Local Award – Our Lady Star of the Sea #2569, Port Isabel
Project Title: CDA Catechists: From Saluting Saints to Becoming Prophets**

National Scholarship Recipients

\$2,500 Alessandra Solorzano – Court Annunciation #1962, La Grange

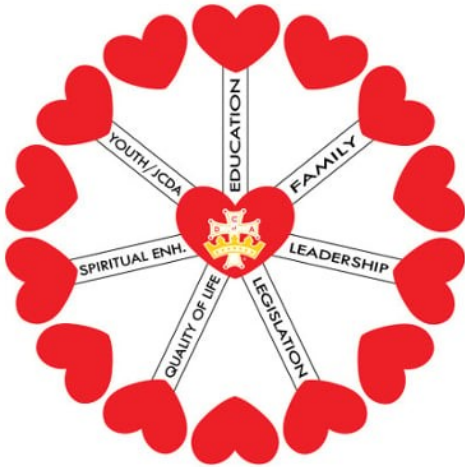
\$2,500 Erica Otto – Court St. Rose #1597, Schulenburg

Runner-Up Irma Moreno – Court St. Ann #369, Victoria

\$1,000 National Youth Scholarship

Manuel Canales, Helotes

CIRCLE OF LOVE



CDA activities and projects at the local, state and national level are an extension of the vision, focus and creative commitment of the Circle of Love program. The seven points represent the needs of the church and community best served by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in the areas of: Education, Family, Leadership, Legislation, Quality of Life, Spiritual Enhancement, Youth/JCDA. This program binds Catholic Daughters of the Americas together in a common cause: members can support large scale projects at the national and state level and also initiate projects in their communities. This program provides local courts with structure and flexibility to creatively minister to their nearest neighbors most effectively.



Leadership Chairman Mary Montague

Greetings from Alvin/Pearland! By the time this newsletter is published summer will be over and courts will already be in full swing again, I hope you were able to enjoy some of the rare summer amenities like longer days, less scheduled activities and more family time. hopefully you took time to stop and smell the roses along the way. I really thought I'd have more time to take care of loose ends but, of course, new and exciting opportunities seem to pop up when least expected!

Although the state COL Leadership contest winners have long ago been announced, I'd like to thank all 52 courts who participated this year. Reading the entries made me appreciate the enthusiasm, creativity and unity that were integral parts of your projects and it was amazing to see how MANY different projects were submitted. It was really tough grading them too! Congratulations to the winners! And to those that didn't place this year or who haven't placed in recent years, PLEASE don't be discouraged. We never know the number of entries that will be submitted and of course the competition field is different every year; so don't give up! I'd love to have a simple system available for all courts to share snippets of their projects with anyone wanting to try something new and different for their court.

With a new officer term come opportunities for members to assume court chairman positions. With new leadership come new ideas and styles. Remember a leader's role is grounded in three essential components:

- Authority: The right to make a decision
- Responsibility: assignment for achieving a goal
- Accountability: acceptance of success or failure. .

And of course leadership styles will be different with each leader, each group and with each situation. I look forward to seeing how our Texas winners fared at National Convention!



Legislation Chairman Pat Smith

Greetings CDA Sisters,

HOT fun in the summertime Texas heat. As members of Catholic Daughters, we are always busy with service to our communities, reflecting our great love for our nation even in the HOT Texas heat as reflected in our summer celebrations and service.

As we approach the midterm elections, we are called to exercise our civic duty, supporting the principles that guide our democracy as defined in “Operation Morning Star” while remaining neutral in support of any candidate or party affiliation. “Operation Morning Star” can be found on the Circle of Love Legislation Spoke of the CDA National website, as well as the Texas state website.

Let us also celebrate the awesome patriotic gathering held for the country’s 250th birthday. Please keep in mind my challenge to you and know the challenge continues throughout this year. Please be sure to submit your court’s reports of your celebration, marking the milestone.

In addition, we’d like to see all courts organize a “get out the vote” committee. The voting dates are as follows:

Last date to register to vote – October 5

Last date to apply to vote by mail – October 23

Early voting – October 19 to October 30

Voting Day – November 3

For more information, check the Secretary of State website at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/>. Besides the Secretary of State, the League of Women Voters provides non partisan voter guides to help people learn about candidates.



Quality of Life Chairman Susie Pierce

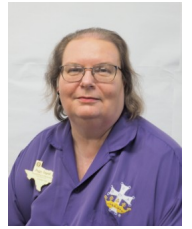
As summer begins to fade and a new season approaches, we are reminded that life is filled with opportunities for fresh starts. Children have just walked through school doors with new teachers, new classmates, and new possibilities. Within our courts, newly elected officers are beginning a new term of service. They accept the responsibility of leadership with dedication, knowing that every act of service, every decision, and every kind word help strengthen our Courts and enrich the lives of our members. Their journey is not simply about holding an office-it is about leaving a legacy of compassion, friendship, and commitment. At the same time, the excitement is already being built as plans for our 2027 State Convention move forward. Countless hours of preparation, teamwork, and vision are being invested today to create an event that will celebrate our Order, strengthen old friendships, and inspire new ones, every meeting, every idea, and every volunteer effort is another step toward something extraordinary.

Fresh starts remind us that the future is not something we simply wait for-it is something we create together. Whether we are encouraging a child on the first day of school, supporting a new officer as they begin their term, or working side by side to prepare for our 2027 State Convention, we are planting seeds that will bear fruit for years to come.

May we embrace each Quality of Life project with gratitude for today. faith for tomorrow. courage to build a better life for others, one meaningful project at a time.



Youth/JCDA Co-Chairman Linsay Tomlinson



Youth/JCDA Co-Chairman Peggy Supak

Back-to-School: Supporting Our Youth Through Faith

As summer begins to fade, we are reminded of the excitement and opportunities that come with a new school year. As Catholic Daughters, we have a wonderful opportunity to support our students, teachers, and families with our prayers and acts of kindness. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to guide and protect them as they begin this new chapter.

There are many meaningful ways we can encourage and uplift our youth throughout the school year, including:

- Spiritual Bouquets – Offer prayers by leading or sponsoring Rosaries, Novenas, or Holy Hours for students, teachers, and school staff.
- Backpack Blessings – Distribute Miraculous Medals or other blessed sacramentals for students to carry in their backpacks.
- Sponsor a Classroom – Donate much-needed school supplies to a classroom or after-school program.
- Faith Mentorship – Volunteer through your parish to mentor young people in their faith journey.
- Care Packages – Send encouraging notes or small care packages to students during exam weeks or other challenging times.

Even the simplest gestures can remind our young people that they are supported by a community of faith that is praying for their success and well-being throughout the year.



Texas JCDA State Retreat and 100th Anniversary Celebration

The Junior Catholic Daughters gathered in Jarrell, Texas, at the end of June for an unforgettable weekend of faith, fellowship, and celebration. More than 300 attendees from across Texas came together for the annual spiritual retreat, which coincided with the historic 100th Anniversary of the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Throughout the retreat, participants enjoyed opportunities for spiritual growth, leadership development, and recreational activities that strengthened friendships and inspired them to continue living their faith with joy and purpose.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the installation of Fr. Kyle Nesrsta as the Associate Chaplain for the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas. We are grateful that he accepted this important role and look forward to his guidance and support as we continue to grow and strengthen the JCDA program for future generations.

The evening's 100th Anniversary celebration honored a century of faith, service, and dedication while looking ahead with hope and confidence. It was a beautiful reminder that today's Junior Catholic Daughters are carrying forward a remarkable legacy that will continue to flourish for years to come.



Participants of the 2026 JCDA Spiritual Retreat

Photo credit: Sheila Martinka



Texas CDA Mission Statement

The members of the Texas State Court love Christ and His Church and are dedicated to leading others to Christ and His service through the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Junior Jazz

September 2026

Be Useful through Message, Service, and Community!

Biennial Texas JCDA State Retreat



The Texas JCDA Retreat took place on June 27, 2026, in Jarrell, Texas. We spent the day "*Running a Race of Faith Together*" as sisters in Christ, enjoying a fun-filled and faith-centered retreat. The day began with energetic dancing and the presentation of the 2026 Outstanding Junior and State Pins before participants rotated through crafts and discussion stations. There was also a mock meeting demonstrated by the JCDA State Officers, giving members the opportunity to learn and practice parliamentary procedure. For lunch, the Round Rock Knights of Columbus prepared delicious burgers. We ended the day with an obstacle course and a peaceful meditation, reflecting on our journey of faith. It was a wonderful day filled with fellowship, laughter, learning, and spiritual growth. We hope everyone left with lasting memories and renewed inspiration. Photo Courtesy of Sheila Martinka.

Texas JCDA 100th Anniversary!



Picture courtesy of Manny Vasquez.

The Texas JCDA 100th Anniversary Celebration held on June 27, 2026 brought together past State Officers and State Chairmen, current Texas CDA State Officers, and many special guests to celebrate a century of faith, service, and sisterhood. Guests enjoyed ice cream floats, cake, and cookies, with the sparkling anniversary cake serving as the highlight of the evening. We honored the achievements of the past 100 years and recognized the dedicated individuals who helped shape our organization. We reflected on our rich history and looked forward to the next 100 years.

State JCDA Board Pro-Life Project



The State JCDA Board supported Annunciation Maternity Home in Georgetown, TX by sorting and organizing donations. The Board chose Annunciation Maternity Home as their Pro-Life Project because it reflects a commitment to protecting the dignity of life while providing compassionate support to mothers facing crisis pregnancies.

Starting September 2026: Women of Faith

After a great year of learning about many different virtues, we are going to transition into learning about Catholic women of the Bible and Saints. These women lived their Catholic faith and we can use them as an example. Get ready to be enlightened by these women!

Attention: New Local Court Officers

The beginning of a new JCDA term is here! Each court has elected their officers. As the new year begins, each officer team should have activities and events planned out to get ready for the year.

Some questions to think about as you plan activities are:

- *What is your pro-life project going to be?*
- *How are you going to incorporate your local CDA court?*
- *What are your community needs?*

Some examples of activities are:

- *Making and delivering items to local nursing homes*
- *Can food drive for local food pantries*
- *Pro-Life baby shower and rosary*

New School Year Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the fresh start of a new school year. Please grant students wisdom to learn, courage to face challenges, and peace to calm any anxiety. Protect everyone as they navigate this season of growth. Amen.

Check out the Texas [CDA website](#) and [Facebook Pages](#)!



JCDA 100th Anniversary



JCDA State Board



Past JCDA
State Chairman



Past JCDA State Officers





Membership Chairman Debbie Johnson

Membership

As the new term begins, it is a great opportunity to invite others in your parish or neighboring parishes to come to your CDA meetings. Reach out to new members of your parish. Does your parish office have CDA information to be included in the welcome packets for new members to the parish? Share your membership recruitment efforts with us on the Texas CDA Facebook page. We love to see all of your membership accomplishments.

Court Development

Now that officer training for the local courts has been completed and the national convention has wrapped up, it is time to get back into the full swing of developing new courts. Over the summer several priest packets were sent out and I am hopeful to see results start coming in from those. We have a new campus court being instituted at the University of Houston in September. If any of you know of a church that doesn't have a CDA court and they would like to have one, please reach out to me and we will work together to make those happen.



Local Court Newsletter Chairman Adelina Ramirez

Congratulations to all the 2026 Local Courts and the Newsletter Contest Winners!! The newsletters were fantastic but very competitive. As the Local Texas Newsletter Chairman, I encourage all local courts to publish a newsletter and to participate in the yearly contest. The yearly contest is from March 1, 2026 to February 1, 2027. Note: There have been changes in the Texas Categories and might be changes for Division I.

Texas Categories and Divisions

Category I	100 or less Members
Category II	101 to 200 Members
Category III	201 or more Members
Category IV	500 or less Members
Category V	501 to 1,500 Members
Category VIII	Campus Courts
Category IX	JCDA Courts

THE NEWSLETTER SHOULD:

1. Educate New Members
2. Communicate to the Members
3. Bring Interest to New Members to join
- 4 . Keep Homebound Members Informed

Divisions

- Division I.....Has 1-4 issues yearly (might change)
 Division II.....Has 5 or more yearly

REMEMBER TO INCLUDE IN YOUR NEWSLETTER:

The CDA Mission Statement, the CDA Registered Logo, the regent's name, the editor's name and email address, the court's name, number and location. Three copies of each of the last three published issues of your newsletter and the contest form and A COMPLETED COVER SHEET.

...The Texas State Cover Sheet is found in the Texas CDA Website (include one per set of newsletters).

...The National Cover Sheet (include one per set of newsletters) It is found in the National Website (in case your newsletter makes it to the national competition) .

...The Score Sheets are found in the National Website (We use the National score sheet for the state competition (underline the word Local).



Habitat for Humanity Chairman Paula Frnka

From Building Homes to Rebuilding Lives

Our partnership with Fayette County Habitat for Humanity continues to be a meaningful example of faith, service, and community in action. Together, we recently celebrated the completion of our first “Critical Home Repair” project in Flatonia for the Futschik family—a project that brought practical improvements, comfort, and renewed support to a family in need.

This repair included new porch decking, a wheelchair ramp, a new front door, and a new ADA-compliant bathroom. Sadly, Mr. Futschik passed away in June, but the work continued with love and purpose in support of Sarah Futschik. State officers Regent Virginia Olsovsky, State Secretary Janet Purdy, and State Habitat for Humanity Chairman Paula Frnka presented our CDA funds to Kenny Couch, Executive Director of Fayette County Habitat for Humanity along with his construction volunteers helping carry this mission forward.

Our next “Aging in Place” project site is expected to begin soon in Schulenburg and will include a new ADA-compliant bathroom and exterior house painting. Additional families in the area continue to be screened by Fayette County Habitat, reminding us that this work is about more than repairing homes—it is about restoring dignity, offering hope, and helping neighbors feel supported when they need it most.

Blessings, Paula





Respect Life Chairman Marissa Reyes

Welcome, ladies, to another wonderful year! Congratulations to all of our new regents and officers. I wish you every success as you begin your leadership journey.

I encourage all new officers to become familiar with the Texas Information Notebook, as it provides valuable guidance on Respect Life and the other Circle of Love spokes.

As new regents, it is important to appoint a new Respect Life Chairman or meet with your current chairman to begin planning your activities for the year. Remember to document your projects, take plenty of photos, and create meaningful experiences that can be submitted for the Respect Life Contest.

September

- Begin planning your Respect Life projects for the year.

October

- October 4, 2026: Respect Life Sunday, marking the beginning of Respect Life Month.
- October 22–30, 2026: Participate in the Novena for Respect Life.

November

- Visit your local veterans' homes with your Quality of Life team to honor and support those who have served our country.

December

- December 8: Celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- During the Advent season, consider hosting an Advent Donation Drive to collect warm baby clothing, diapers, and other baby essentials for your local pregnancy centers.

January

- January 16–24, 2027: Observe the Nine Days for Life novena.
- Saturday, January 23, 2027: Mark your calendars for the Texas Rally for Life.

With your dedication and commitment, our courts can make a meaningful impact in our communities. Thank you for all that you do and for all that you will continue to do in support of the dignity and sanctity of life.

May God bless you and your service throughout the coming year.

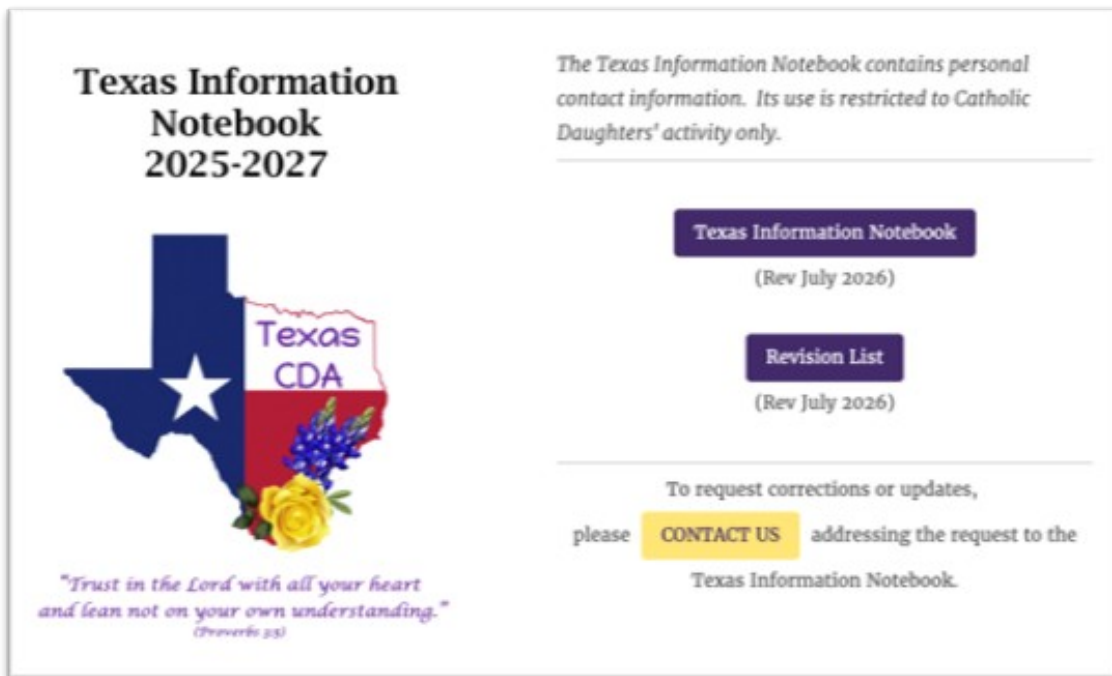
IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

Nov. 1—All Saints' Day
Nov. 2—All Souls' Day
Nov. 29—First Sunday of Advent



State Digital Resource Notebook Chairman Suzanne Delcambre

The digital Texas Information Notebook (TXIN) is a compilation of CDA member sensitive data and is made available on the Texas CDA website under the Resource menu (<https://texascda.org/texas-information-notebook>). The TXIN has the goal of supporting correspondence between Texas CDA districts and courts. The TXIN is maintained by compiling data inputs from local court leaders and the Texas State Regent, following their respective elections. The TXIN resides on a secure webpage and is password protected; your Regent or District Deputy can provide the password upon request. Updates to the TXIN for each release are itemized in a Revision List also located on the TXIN webpage and shown in the image below:



Help! Where are my forms? In response to user feedback, all fillable forms have been moved from the TXIN to the TX CDA Resources/Forms Library webpage (<https://texascda.org/forms-library>) as of the June 2026 release. Website forms are stored in the cloud for all users and need to be downloaded from your browser to your computing device. This action will create a blank copy of the form on your computing device. Fill in that copy and save your changes. The form can then be printed or attached to an email as needed.



Financial Review Chairman Janis Wright

Hi ladies. I hope you've had a restful summer. It's time to get back into the swing of things with court meetings. Please get involved with your court activities. New officers bring new ideas to the courts, please support them. All officers should have attended training this summer. Don't hesitate to ask for additional help/training with your office.

October is the month for mandatory court financial reviews. The April through September books will be reviewed. It is now time for regents to consult with district deputies and set your dates. The DD must be present at the court review and must sign the financial review form. The DD should relay to court officers all the paperwork that is needed for the review.

The financial review of the state books for March 2026 through May 2026 was held on June 12, 2026 in Flatonia. The books were in good order. The review of the state books for June 2026 through August 2026 will be held in Flatonia on September 10, 2026.

Hope you have a wonderful fall season! Thanks and God bless!



Ways & Means Co-Chairman Cynthia Novak



Ways & Means Co-Chairman Darice Miksch

Convention Raffle

Prizes are needed for the convention raffle and now is the time for courts to make donations. The deadline to send raffle donations is Friday, November 13, 2026.

Purse Silent Auction

State Regent Virginia Olsovsky has requested we have a Purse Silent Auction. Courts, districts or members donate a purse stuffed with items. The items from the purse will be displayed in clear cellophane next to the purse during the bidding. We look forward to seeing the many diverse "stuffed" purses that come in from all over the state. The deadline to send purses for the silent auction is Saturday, March 20, 2027. After March 20, 2027, please bring your purse to the convention.

Lucky Lotto

Drawings for Lucky Lotto will be held on Friday & Saturday, April 9 & 10, 2027. There will be three separate drawings.

Please watch your email or mail for the First Call to Convention and or a letter from State Regent Virginia Olsovsky highlighting all the details for the convention raffle, silent auction, and lucky lotto. Donation forms will also be included for raffle prizes and silent auction donations. A completed form will need to be submitted for each item donated.



Past Regents Club President Christine Moore

As we complete the first twelve months of this term of office, let us review the PRC activities for the past twelve months.

- PRC membership currently stands at 422.
- PRC Gatherings have been held in the dioceses of Brownsville, Houston (2), Dallas, and Victoria, with one more planned in Edinburg on September 19. From these events, \$2,900.00 was raised and given to local organizations selected by the gathering attendees.
- Per our budget, the Past Regents Club has financially supported/gifted \$5,300.00 to the new courts, courts with 50th and 75th anniversaries, District Deputy medallions, Memorial Scholarship Fund, State Education Contest, Pray and Play, and Habitat for Humanity, and local charitable organizations. And there is still more to come before we meet in April 2027.

Important news from PRC is that we can now communicate with our members using the Flocknote platform. We sent two messages in February. If you did not receive or see them, please check your “trash” or “spam” files, and open the messages. Doing this will then send future PRC messages to your primary file. If you receive an email from us through Flocknote, please open it.

Our focus now shifts to preparing for our upcoming biennial meeting and luncheon scheduled for Friday April 9, 2027. The meeting is open to all PRC members. The official invitation will be issued in late January. Watch for the newsletter which will include the meeting/luncheon invitation, the Nominating Committee Report, the Treasurer’s Report, the 2027-2029 Proposed Budget, and various other reports.

Membership is open to any regent who has served a full term as regent. Many of you became eligible in June when your term of office ended. Registration information is available on www.texascdca.org, under the Past Regents Club tab or by contacting Mary Jane Schuster at mjschuster@schustermanagement.com.

See you next April and continue to “do everything in love.” 1 Cor.16:14

A Daughters Litany 1917

To be able to rise with a cheerful heart while the Angelus’ chimes do ring;
To be able to offer thanks and prayers for the blessings the day will bring;
To be able to meet my sisters all with a greeting kind and gay;
To be able to do my duty well through the hours of the live-long day,
Help me God.

To be able to seek and find the good every kindness to be done;
To be able to meet temptation’s lure and make sure that the battle’s won;
To be able to help all those in need, most the timid, poor, and weak’;
To be able with patience, cheer, and love, only Christian words to speak,
Help me God.

To be able to do my daily work with my soul a-singing a song;
To be able to frown away a frown, and to smile when all goes wrong;
To be able to bring some happiness into hearts where ‘tis unknown;
To be able to lighten my sister’s cross while resignedly carrying my own,
Help me O God.

(Credit to the Texas Catholic Daughters of the Americas website)

Save the Date!

55th Biennial Texas CDA State Convention once again in Dallas April 8-11, 2027

Come and enjoy workshops, spirituality, Fun Run, raffles, auction,
Fun Night,

seeing sisters from across the state and some shopping!!

How will your court help?

Co-Chairs

Mary Jane Schuster

mjschuster@schustermanagement.com

469-556-1549

Linda Rodriguez

lindrodriguez@gmail.com

512-669-8915

Isabel Campbell

isabelcampbell8796@gmail.com

214-499-2979



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not
on your own understanding."

Proverbs 3:5



District Deputy Corner

My name is Suzy Acosta DD #32

Don't ignore the call. Our Past DD Genevieve Basham, had been trying to get someone to replace her for several years. She is from Marfa, and one has to understand our demographic area. She was 100 miles away from Pecos and 150 miles from Monahans one way. Finally, my husband, who had been a DD for several of the Knights of Columbus State Deputies, told me the "The Man upstairs has been calling you", so I said yes.

I inherited three courts, Mother of The Word Incarnate #2235 (Marfa); Our Lady of The Blessed Trinity #2437 (Pecos) my home court; St John The Apostle and Evangelist #2642 (Monahans) and my new courts, Daughters of St Stephens #2818 (Midland); and Our Lady of Guadalupe Fort Stockton #2826.

Due to the distance, I don't attend meetings in Midland and Marfa, it would a 200 mile round trip, but I do go as often as I can.

Midland has a fantastic Recording Secretary, Paulina Perez, who created a newsletter, and a powerpoint to recruit members. Pecos has a member Rosie Salcido that helps our priest with Mass at the nursing home, weekly. Our only fundraiser is our Rose Project, for Mother's Day, Father's Day and all Saints Day. We provide monetary help for both parishes in Pecos. To my sisters in Christ, when the calling comes to you, do not ignore it, you will not be disappointed.

AROUND THE STATE OF TEXAS

Court Our Lady of Faith #2607, Freydek

In addition to the recent installations of officers, our court has made several donations and awarded scholarships. Information is below each picture.



Court donates to the HOA - Meals on Wheels for Austin County Citizens. Pictured, from left, Mayor Carolyn Bilski, Regent Doris Sodolak, Office Manager Cookie Curry, Member & Volunteer Sharon Krenek and Recording Secretary Cathy Ondruch.

Our court makes a donation to the Sealy Christian Pantry. Pictured standing, second from left is Treasurer Cindy Gassner next to the Director Sue Kristynik and Regent Doris Sodolak, along with pantry volunteers.



Court Scholarship Winners and State Scholarship Recipient. Pictured, from left, Recording Secretary Cathy Ondruch, Emily Mock, Karissa Harding, Megan Ondruch, Madison Ondruch and Hayley Havel. Also, Karissa received her State Scholarship.

District 28 Installation

Courts from District #28 held a joint Installation of Officers and Chaplains on Tuesday, June 23rd, at St. Mary's Church in Frydek. District Deputy Cynthia Grigar handled the installation of CDA Officers and Chaplains from Court Queen of Angels #1538 of Wallis, Court St. Elizabeth #1616 of Sealy and Court Our Lady of Faith # 2607 of Frydek.