



UNITY
AND
CHARITY

NOVA EVA NEWSLETTER

(St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church)
CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
COURT REV. PATRICK McARDLE #448

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2021 PA State Convention Recap

Our State Convention was held on April 16-21, 2021. Its theme was "Full Speed Ahead with CDA." It took place at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona.

The delegates that attended the convention for our Court were Lucia Stover, Barb Surovec, Pam Callahan, Karen Pipta, Linda Womeldorf and Janet Oesterling.



Everyday there was a Mass and our days included CDA business, activities, inspiration, fun, and of course food.



On Friday after checking in and picking up our registration packets we had a beautiful Mass at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Altoona. The celebrant was Bishop Mark Bartchak. In the evening was the opening banquet. It was really nice to see many of our Catholic Daughters from different courts, including our State Officers.

On Saturday was the first day of CDA business with the welcome speech given by Essie Walker, our 2nd Vice National Regent and PA National Supervisor. The Civic Welcome speaker was State Senator, Judy Ward speaking about how God guided her throughout her life. A Mass and memorial service was held at the Convention Hall and the names of CDA members who passed away within the last two years were read. Our Keynote speaker was Jack Rosati from the Knights of Columbus in western PA. He spoke about their work with the Ultrasound Project. Saturday concluded with "fun" night with musical entertainment.

On Sunday voting was conducted for State Officer positions and we are so very proud that our very own member Pam Callahan was elected as State Treasurer. Congratulations Pam. At 5pm the installation of officers took place at Mass followed by a banquet.

On Monday morning after Mass and Breakfast we headed back to Bellefonte to share everything we had learned at the convention with our court members.



CDA meetings: 1st Thursday every month: 6:30p.m. social / 7:00p.m. meeting
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church 134 E. Bishop Street, Bellefonte, PA
CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS—www.catholicdaughters.org



Youth and Education

CDA Annual Art in Education Contest



We are proud to announce the winners in the local court Art in Education Contest that is sponsored by the Catholic Daughters each year.

The 1st place winner is Megan Weiser, 2nd place winner is Bridget Dechow and 3rd place is Finn Kelleher.

Megan Weiser went on to place 2nd at the State level. Congratulations to these creative students.

CDA Outstanding Senior Award Winners

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Outstanding Senior Award - An award of \$100 given by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Ct. Rev. Patrick McArdle #448, to a senior who is a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and who has achieved academic success. The student must demonstrate good conduct and exemplify the motto of the Catholic Daughters : Unity & Charity.

The following high school seniors were the 2021 recipients of this award from the local school districts.

Penns Valley High School: Alaina McCloskey
Bald Eagle Area High School: Adrienne Basalla
Bellefonte Area High School: Isabella Pruss
St. Joseph Catholic Academy: Reese Bloom

St. John Catholic School: They used the money for miscellaneous items for the Mass of Blessing. This is their graduation Mass for the 5th graders.



Confirmation

Was held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 7:00pm only those getting their confirmation and their immediate family were able to attend due to Covid-19.

First Holy Communion

Was celebrated on May 1, 2021 for 28 children from both St. John school and parish receiving the blessed sacrament. The ceremony was lovely and was limited (due to Covid-19) for the children, their parents and siblings only, extra seating in the school auditorium was provided to watch the event via live stream.



Although the CDA couldn't be there in person to host a reception for them, we were still able to provide a special gift for each child. Father placed the gifts at the end of each pew and announced that they were from our dear Catholic Daughters to commemorate their special day.

Inside each bag was a mass book (with a label placed inside from our court, a scapular and rosary in a velvet bag with a First Holy Communion medal all blessed by Father George. Also included were white paper crosses embedded with seeds that the children could plant with a note attached "Growing in God's Love", a white (pull) bow to hang on their doors so that as parishioners drove thru town they would know something special happened in the life of that child today. We were able to provide individually wrapped cookies (from Dolce Vita Bakery) for the children to enjoy since we could not provide an in-person cookie reception.

Vacation Bible School

The Catholic Daughters will once again sponsor a week of Vacation Bible School from August 2-6, 2021 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm each day. The theme for this year will be **Anchored—Deepening Faith in God**. Children entering Kindergarten to 5th grade are eligible to register.

There will be room to accommodate 40 children and the announcement will be placed in the bulletin on the weekends of June 20th and June 27th. Registration forms will be available on line or a paper copy can be picked up at church, they will be on the registers.

Vacation Bible School



Quality of Life Committee



Here is an update on the Bellefonte Easter Egg Hunt. All the children were really excited to see the Easter Bunny, and to receive their bag of eggs and prizes.

There were over 200 prizes given away and the line was all the way through Governors Park by 11:30 so they started 15 minutes early and the line of cars never stopped until 2:30.

A thank you note was received by the court from one of the children that was the recipient of one of the two bicycles and gift cards for helmets that were donated by the Catholic Daughters.

Financial Secretary Officer Needed!!!

**WE NEED
YOUR HELP**

Regent Lucia was informed that Pam Callahan has to resign as our court's Financial Secretary, due to her State Treasurer position.

This is unexpected and it's a surprise. It has now occurred, or been decided, that any State CDA officer must resign their local position, if they have one.

Once again, the court will be searching for a member to fill this vacant officer position. We would be so grateful if one of our members would come forward to serve as our Financial Secretary. Please contact Lucia if you would consider filling this role.

All of the officers will be able to help the new person, and especially Pam will be able to "sit-down" and explain the duties of this position.

We hope to hear from someone because a CDA court cannot function without a full slate of officers.

Court St. Rita to Celebrate 100 Years

On Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 2:00pm, our daughter Court St. Rita #523 will be celebrating the institution of their court with Mass followed by a banquet.

If you are interested in attending, the cost is \$16 per person. Please notify Regent Lucia by July 23, 2021.



Spiritual Enhancement Committee



With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from December 8, 2020, to December 8, 2021.

The Spiritual Enhancement Committee worked very hard to offer Court members The St. Joseph's Retreat "***Deposits/Withdrawals from St. Joseph's Bank.***" The retreat was held on Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 9am to Noon in the Church.

Members of the Spiritual Enhancement Committee guided attendees through prayers, reflections and spiritual hymns to develop a deeper devotion to St. Joseph. Everyone was given a bag with various items of St. Joseph. The following prayer was prayed at the start of the retreat and was in the bag.

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart.

Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

**St. Joseph, patron of departing souls - pray for me.
Amen.**

Some comments from members that attended the retreat are listed below, it was a wonderful event.

"What a spiritual day!! I came away with so much more information about...and devotion to...St. Joseph." "The talks from the heart truly showed the impact St. Joseph has on the hearts of our members."

"I especially loved the spiritual St. Joseph hymns. Seeing the words and visuals on the projected screen was so moving!" "The three hour retreat was perfect! The SEC speakers shared so much information."



Classroom / CDA 101

Priest Appreciation Mass



Court members attended Mass as a group to show how much we appreciate what Fr. George and Deacon Tom do for the parish as well as the Catholic Daughters.

Lucia gave the following presentation during the 10:15am Mass on Sunday, June 6, 2021. It was such lovely words that we wanted to share them with all those who may not have been able to attend that Mass.

Good morning everyone, My name is Lucia Stover, and I'm here today as Regent of the Catholic Daughters, Court Rev. McArdle #448, here in Bellefonte.

Today, Catholic Daughters all across our country honor our priests on this Priest Appreciation Sunday, which takes place every year in June. And in our St. John's parish, it's a day when we express our deep gratitude to Fr. George, as well as Deacon Tom.

A simple "thank-you" is not enough for their commitment to God, the Church and its people. They serve in many ways; through administering the sacraments, enriching our spiritual lives...also teaching & inspiring us through their homilies...and the list goes on and on.

We appreciate their talents and for being there when we need them. We ask God to continue to bless them. As Catholics, we also remember to pray for vocations, as we support our own new seminarian, Max Kroell.

Now this year's Priest Appreciation is rather ironic, since it happens to be on the last weekend that Fr. George is here as our pastor.

Father: We thank you from the depths of our hearts for all you did for our church, for being here these 8 years, and finally, for just being you. We will miss you.

So, on this Priest Appreciation Sunday, on behalf of the Catholic Daughters, I would like to present to both Fr. George and Deacon Tom these gifts to show our gratitude and love for your service. Thank you very much.

National Projects & Charities

There are 15 National projects and charities that the Catholic Daughters as an organization make donations. Listed are 5 of the Charities, the next 5 will be listed in the September Newsletter.

Taken from the CDA National Website.

The North American College

Formation of men for the Priesthood of Jesus Christ at the Pontifical North American College is characterized by the four pillars of priestly formation as described in human, spiritual, intellectual and academic development. There are about 160 seminarians, as well as numerous faculty members and graduate students, from across the United States, Canada and Australia who devote themselves to personal formation for priestly ministry under the attentive guidance, supervision and evaluation of a formation faculty of priests and religious.

Catholic Relief Services

In 1943 this international project was started to provide assistance to the people in the poorest parts of the world. CRS reaches out to more than 100 countries with support such as food, medical supplies and religious assistance.

Apostleship of the Sea

In 1920 Port Ministry was conceived. Its goal is to provide spiritual, physical, and psychological services to seamen at port locations in the United States. They are always happy to receive gifts and useful articles to place on board ships in ports at Christmas time.

Covenant House

Covenant House was founded 38 years ago with the mission to help homeless kids. Today, Covenant House is the largest privately-funded agency in the Americas providing food, shelter, immediate crisis care, and essential services to homeless, throwaway, and runaway kids.

Mother Teresa

On October 7, 1950, Mother Teresa received permission from the Holy See to start her own order, "The Missionaries of Charity", whose primary task was to love and care for those persons nobody was prepared to look after. In 1965 the Society became an International Religious Family by a decree of Pope Paul VI.



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"