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National Chaplain's Message Father Shenan J. Boquet

Be a Blessing to Others



Father Shenan J. Boquet
National Chaplain

DEAR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS,
Everything we have in life is because of God's magnanimity, most especially the gift of life itself. With a willing and grateful heart, God wants us to be generous as He is generous. And He blesses us, so that we can be a blessing to and for others, living not for ourselves. Our Lord intends this love to always express benevolence and good will, which are due to every person and should be done heartily and sincerely, with a view to the neighbor's good, and God's glory: "You shall love the Lord your God...[and] love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39).

However, to begin to love our neighbor, we need to know two things: to know what love is and that we are loved. "This is love," says St. John. "Not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10). We are the object of this love. And not just loved, but unconditionally loved; God having loved us first is the source of our love: "It's God who works in us" (Philippians 2:13).

Loving God and our neighbor pleases our Heavenly Father, and grace helps us to accomplish this, teaching us proper love and respect for ourselves and for our neighbor. Freely receiving grace also empowers us to freely give it. For "without cost you have received; without cost you are to give" (Matthew 8:10).

People often note that loving God is much easier than loving one's neighbor. We all know at least one person who proves this observation true. However, that does not excuse us from seeking to carry out the command: "Do to others whatever you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12). Loving our neighbor cannot be limited to what is convenient. A neighbor is anyone in our path who needs our help (Luke 10:29-37), and we ought to treat each person the way we would want to be treated, acting with their best interests in mind, irrespective of our feelings toward them or the present circumstances.

In obedience to Jesus' command, we manifest our love for God, which brings blessings: "...And whoever loves me

will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him" (John 14:21). This kind of love shapes our view and actions: "There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale ... and they were distributed to each according to need" (Acts 4: 34-35).

This is all part of how God, who is good and generous, makes us more like Himself. "And I will give them one heart and put a new spirit within them. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 11:19). In other words, to have a heart of flesh means that God has put His spirit within us, so that we might understand Him, follow Him, and proclaim our love for Him in and through our lives: "Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father" (Matthew 5:16). The whole glory belongs to Him alone.

My inaugural column begins with this reflection because it best expresses and describes my experience with the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and how your witness to discipleship – love of God and neighbor – has impacted my spiritual journey. My initial encounter with CDA occurred when I was a teenager, where I witnessed firsthand both the interior and active life – the interior life being manifested through acts of charity in the service of neighbor. I have never forgotten this experience.

Nothing is more delightful and encouraging to a parent, teacher, or pastor than to witness the fruit of their parenting, teaching, or ministry, as shown in the lives of those whom they love, form, and serve. I pray the CDA members who helped nurture the Gospel in my heart, as well as those who continue to support my priestly vocation, receive the blessings of God for being a blessing to me.

May I in turn be a blessing to others.

Your brother in Christ,
Father Shenan J. Boquet
National Chaplain

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Catholic Daughters of the Americas



Summer 2022
Volume 52 | Number 3

National Chaplain

Father Shenan J. Boquet

National Regent

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Susan Moné, Arizona

First Vice National Regent

Essie Walker, North Carolina

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About the Cover

New National Board members were voted upon for the coming two-year term: 2022- 2024. On the front cover are the five National Officers with our National Chaplain and the nine National Directors. Please wish them and the entire National Board well and pray for them during the next two years. There will be joys and challenges and we are grateful for their leadership.

www.catholicdaughters.org

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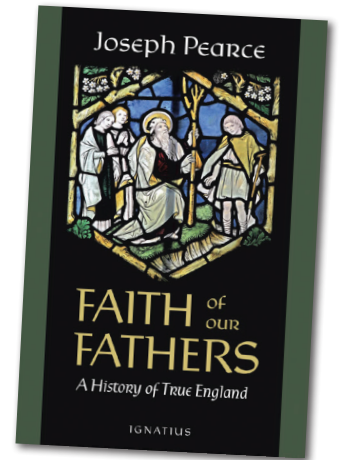
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Submission of materials for publication in Share: All articles, stories and items must be submitted electronically via email to Tom Panas at the following email address: cdashare@aol.com. They should be submitted in a Word document attached to your 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 materials for publication are: Spring issue - February 15; Summer issue - May 15; Fall issue - September 1; Winter issue - December 1. 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 60,000 members in 1250 courts in the United States, Mexico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

National Regent's Message

National Regent Emily Guilherme



Emily Guilherme
National Regent

MY DEAR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS,

I am both humbled and honored by the reception and love I received at our 2022 Convention in Puerto Rico. Being installed as your National Regent, alongside my fellow officers and directors in San Juan will be, I am sure, one of the highlights of my life. I am blessed to have Father Shenan Boquet as our National Chaplain.

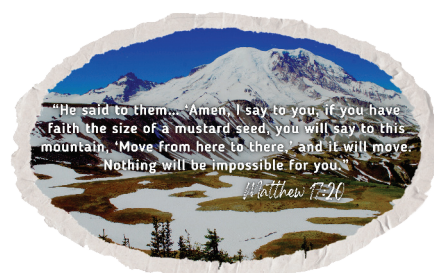
From my first meeting of Catholic Daughters in Court St. Joseph in Corona, California, thirty short years ago, I never would have guessed that it was God setting a flame in my heart. It was the love, camaraderie, and joy in the Lord that has kept me going in my faith journey and in particular, my journey with the Catholic Daughters. I am grateful to all the Catholic Daughters who have impacted my life over those thirty years, especially those who have mentored me: you have made an incredible impression in my life.

One of my favorite parables that Jesus speaks of is in Matthew 17:20 - the parable of the mustard seed; sometimes we are faced by seemingly insurmountable obstacles in our lives and faith. But Jesus reminds us that if we have faith the size of a mustard seed, we can and we WILL move mountains. Sometimes it's just that tiny seed of faith that has seen me through some of the most difficult moments: losing my parents, brothers, friends, mentors... at those times I have grasped tightly to that mustard seed of faith and been amazed at the fruit that springs forth. It is that mustard seed that has allowed me to keep

walking with the Lord, and I believe that mustard seed's name is grace: the grace of God. It is only by His grace that I am able to offer up and surrender those things that I cannot fix, the things I cannot force, into His gentle, loving, and pierced hands. His grace is above me, below me, beside me, and inside me.

I know that membership is paramount in our organization and that the past two and a half years have been marred with struggles in several of our courts, but our organization of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas is an authentic and vital ministry that we must help thrive. Imagine what your life would be like without CDA. Now imagine all the young women and ladies who sit in Mass alongside us each Sunday but are not part of this organization, the faith, love, and laughter that we can share should be a priority for all of our courts. The blessings that accompany membership in this organization are something that the women in our parish pews should be welcomed into. I encourage all of you, dear sisters: make this a mission in your courts and in your individual lives – share who we are and what we do by word and by deed. That young woman you invite could one day become National Regent surrounded by her best friends.

I will never be able to adequately describe the gratitude I feel for all of the women who have crossed my path and helped me in my journey. Please pray for me and the board that everything we do for next two-years is for the glory of God and CDA.



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A Convention of

Firsts!



Susan Moné
National Regent-Elect

What excitement was in the air as close to 650 attendees arrived over several days to the Sheraton Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico for the 59th Biennial Catholic Daughters National Convention. The convention of 2022 will go down in history as a convention of several firsts. Catholic Daughters of the Americas is 101 years old in Puerto Rico, and this is the first National Convention to be held there. The ladies of Puerto Rico were so thrilled to be hosting the convention, especially their Catholic Daughter matriarch, Manuela Duarte da Silveira, a Past National Director and 2020 CDA Woman of the Year. It had been Manuela's dream for many years to host the National Convention, and she saw her dream come true.

Having the convention in Puerto Rico is the first time the National Convention has been held outside the continental USA and in a predominately Spanish speaking location, another first. The Catholic Daughters of Puerto Rico were so gracious and welcoming to everyone as soon as we each arrived in this beautiful, island territory of the USA. If we weren't already excited to be there, the enthusiasm of the Puerto Rican ladies was so contagious.

To add to the excitement, we all felt the excitement of being at a National Convention for the first time in four years. A first for sure was to be compelled to cancel our previous National Convention due to a world Covid pandemic.

Everyone talked about how much they missed seeing their CDA friends from around the country, the chance to make new friends and the sharing as sisters as we prayed together, played together, heard reports of what collectively all of us together have done to make a difference and to approve resolutions and bylaws for the good of the Order as we move forward.

Although going four years without a convention isn't a first, it's certainly something that has only happened once before, over 100 years ago. Having been instituted in 1903, the ladies gathered in 1904 and 1905 and then didn't meet again until 1909. After 1909, a convention was held

every two years until 1945 when they made the change from uneven years to even years and so there was a 3-year hiatus. And so, our break from 2018 to 2022 is a rarity that we don't want to see happen again.

A wonderful first that we had at this 59th Biennial Convention was the number of first timers attending the convention. When first timers were asked to stand, it was awesome to see such a large number and especially the younger members who give us hope as we continue to serve the Lord in the years ahead.

I remember my first time attending the National Convention and how I was influenced by it. I came home realizing who we are as Catholic Daughters and felt such pride to be a member. We aren't just a group of ladies at a parish who do small things to make a little difference, nor looking in our home state and what we as a state are doing to make a bigger difference but we are part of a much bigger group who make a big difference in many lives. At the convention we heard that collectively over the past two years we have given \$146,000 to our charities and projects and heard what courts are doing all over the country and the world. We all need to take great pride in saying, "I am a Catholic Daughter of the Americas!"

With so many first-timers present, I started asking some about their experience. The following are some of their comments. Many of these were repeated by several people... "I enjoyed the workshops and wish I could have attended more of them."

"By-laws were a real experience to be a part of making guidelines for our organization and gave a better understanding of their importance. I will be buying a copy for myself." "By-laws were an eye opener."

"I loved the opportunity to make a difference by donating blood, super idea."

"The speakers were very inspirational, and I enjoyed the lunch time mini presentations learning more about our charities and projects."

"Hearing the difference that we are making for those in most need makes me walk with a little skip in my step. And



Susan Moné is seen presenting a Workshop on "Salt of the Earth," which she gave with Irene Gramza.

I can bring that information back home to my members to affirm that what we do is critical in our world and will help us keep giving from the heart."

"I was so moved at the beautiful, themed liturgies at the Memorial Mass and the Patriotic Mass. And the crowning and overwhelming icing on the cake was the showing of our pride as hundreds of robed officers processed in (for 10 minutes!) for the Installation Mass of our newly elected National Board. All the colors of the different robes and the beautiful dignity and honor it added to the ceremony. It made the Installation so special that I want to be more attuned to our ceremonies in my court."

"It was beyond words to express the feeling of being at Mass with hundreds of CDA members praising our Lord and was incredible beyond any anticipation or expectation. The celebrants and their witness to the good works of the Catholic Daughters confirmed that we do work in Unity and Charity. And what a blessing to have 16 court chaplains and several Deacon chaplains attend the convention in support of their courts and states."

Many more such comments repeated similar sentiments of the first-time convention attendees who I'm sure will be back again and who were going home to encourage their courts to continue the great works and plan on being in

New Orleans in two years to experience the same.

We unfortunately experienced another sad first. We had 3 attendees take ill and be hospitalized. One member suffered a heart attack but thankfully after 2 procedures was able to return home with her family to continue to grow stronger. God bless you Karen, and we pray for your complete return to good health. Another member was diagnosed with pneumonia and became critically ill and sadly went home to her heavenly reward in Puerto Rico with her family at her side, and we pray for Joanna and for her family. After seeing her dream come to fruition, participating in the opening ceremony, enjoying singing and dancing with her husband of 62 years, Jose, at the state night party, the Puerto Rican matriarch, Manuela Duarte da Silveira suffered a massive stroke and went home to the arms of the Lord she served on July 27th. We pray for Manuela and her family. We praise God for the blessings of these faithful ladies who served the Lord as Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

As the convention ended with a lovely banquet, everyone offered many thank yous and gratitude to the National Board for the past 2 years of their leadership and congratulations to the newly elected National Board as they take office to carry on the mission of the Catholic Daughters in Unity and Charity. See you in 2024 in New Orleans! 🌟

Spirit Filled Time

in Puerto Rico

I was in the seventh grade when I first heard the song, “The Spirit is A- Movin’” by Carey Landry. I remember singing it in the church youth choir. We were a group of six, three boys playing their guitars, and three girls singing our hearts out. Looking back, we had some very patient parishioners.

The 2022 National Convention in Puerto Rico reminds me of that song. The Spirit was a movin’ all over the halls and the convention rooms. The National Board arrived a little early to start setting up and we couldn’t help but feel the spirit blowing. We were blessed with daily masses said by Monsignor Peña, Father Siby, and Father Boquet. We prayed for the success of the convention, all our sisters traveling, and those who would be with us in spirit.

The CDA members of Puerto Rico, under the direction of Monsignor Peña, set up an amazing adoration chapel. It was a peaceful room for quiet time to sit in the presence of Jesus. Each morning began with adoration, a rosary, and benediction. Many CDA sisters prayed each morning for successful meetings for the day. The chapel was opened daily for personal prayer. There were members praying for the convention during all meetings.

The Convention began on Wednesday with an Opening Mass attended by almost everyone. It was our first time hearing the beautiful Convention Choir which was made up of CDA members from many states and territories. The Most Reverend Roberto González Nieves, Archbishop of San Juan, welcomed the Catholic Daughters to the beautiful island. As Catholics, receiving the Eucharist was a wonderful way to begin our time together. It was such a blessing to see so many of our friends that we hadn’t seen in four years!

On Thursday morning, we were informed that two CDA sisters from Pennsylvania had been taken to the hospital. We prayed for both of them as soon as it was announced and throughout the convention.

The Memorial Mass was celebrated on Thursday. Prayers were offered for deceased national and state chaplains, national officers and national directors, state officers, deceased members of the Catholic Daughters and for all the faithful and family members who passed away during the past two-year term. It was special for me to remember my mom, a CDA member, who had passed away during this time. I am sure everyone was thinking about some special



Connie Dronette
Second Vice National Regent

CDA member who made a difference in their lives.

More concerning news was given as the meetings began on Friday. Sherry Nilles announced that Manuela, Past National Director, and mother of National Director Ivone da Silveira, had suffered a massive stroke. Father Boquet led us in saying three Hail Mary’s for her and our Pennsylvania sisters.

The God and Country Mass was celebrated later that Friday morning. It was so amazing to see the sea of red, white, and blue as we gathered for Mass. Flags from all Branches of the Armed Forces were carried down the aisle as their meanings and symbols were shared. The Convention Choir led all in singing patriotic songs. It was a moving celebration of our Country and those who protect us.

As we continued to finish the business of The Order Friday afternoon, convention attendees were updated on our three CDA sisters in the hospital. It did not look promising for Manuela and one of our Pennsylvania sisters. We prayed for the will of God and comfort for the families.

On Saturday, our last liturgy was celebrated, the Installation Mass. It is always so amazing to see officers of all levels process into the Mass with their robes. Everyone wore her robe proudly as they processed into the gathering space. Father Siby was our main celebrant, and Father Shenan Boquet was installed as our new National Chaplain. Father Boquet then proceeded to install the new 2022-2024 National Officers. The Past National Regents helped in making it a special time for the new officers. Primavera Johnson, Puerto Rico State Officer, sang Ava Maria after Communion. It was stunning. Many thanks to the Convention Choir for making all of our liturgies lovely.

As we said goodbye with our three ill CDA sisters on our minds, we promised to continue to pray for them. One of our Pennsylvania sisters had to stay in the hospital a few days after the convention and then made it home safely. Sadly, our other Pennsylvania sister died in the hospital, surrounded by her family. Manuela passed away the week after the convention held in Puerto Rico, a lifelong dream of hers. We continue to pray for their souls.

During all parts of the convention, we were praying for all of our CDA sisters present and at home. Those sisters who couldn’t attend were praying for us, a communion of believers. What a beautiful thing to think about! ✨

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59TH BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 20-24, 2022 | SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Catholic Daughters *Together Again - At Last!*



By Tom Panas
National Public Relations Director
Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Titles in this article are what they were at the time of Convention.

After a four-year convention hiatus due to the pandemic, the 59th Biennial National Convention was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 20-24. All attending received a warm welcome, thanks to the diligent efforts of Convention Chairman Emily Guilherme, the hard-working local and state courts of Puerto Rico, and a large cast of helpers and contributors. As convention-goers arrived, Yolanda da Silveira and Silvia J. Vazquez-Rios were kind to drive them from the airport to their hotels.

This “in person” aspect of the convention was important after so much pandemic isolation. National Regent and Master of Ceremonies Sherry Nilles pointed out, “As women, we need the personal touch and the intense and meaningful communication that comes from individual contact. Being here together provides this valuable interaction for us.”

Pleasant tours, informative workshops, and a wonderful performance of Puerto Rican music and dancing were held in the days leading up to Convention which formally began on the morning of Wednesday, July 20. After Opening Mass was celebrated by His Excellency Most Rev. Roberto Octavio González Nieves, O.F.M., Archbishop of San Juan, Puerto Rico, attendees moved to the meeting room where the main business was conducted over the next four days.



The CDA Banner was ever-present throughout Convention, carried in and out by the diligent banner bearers.



The Flag was the point of attention during the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of convention, brought in by the flag bearers.



A view from the rear, as National Regent Sherry Nilles presides at this meeting.

The business meeting began with a solemn and splendid procession down the aisle to the dais. Retired Marine Master Sergeant and Second Vice National Regent Essie Walker led the Salute to the Flag and First Vice National Regent Susan Moné led the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner. The state regents then processed individually down the aisle proudly waving their state flags.

Yvette Manard thought the state flags were an excellent part of the ceremony, adding, "However, I think we need slightly larger flags for the procession." Yvette, who is Regent of Court Compton #942, Compton, California, had a positive Convention experience, "I truly enjoyed Puerto

Rico and the hospitality of the Puerto Rican CDA courts and people. This was my third convention."

Special guest Puerto Rico Mayor Miguel Romero-Luno addressed the gathering, saying, "We salute and congratulate the Catholic Daughters of the Americas on such a long-standing record of helping others in the service of the Lord."

State Convention Chairman Wilma Cedeño-Raspaldo spoke next, saying, "Let's work together, pray together and have fun together! We are so proud to have all of you here in Puerto Rico. I praise these ladies and hope to make these days unforgettable."



Delegates were seated during the business meetings according to their states.



California was well-represented at Convention and here they pause for a group photo.

Sherry Nilles asked “newbie” first time convention-goers to stand and there was a surprisingly large number. As they stood, they were met with rousing applause.

Education, newsletters, website and scholarship awards were announced. Winners can be viewed on the CDA Website.

Guest speakers Tom Gordon of Catholic Extension and John Martin of Human Life International spoke during the business session and gave informative and interesting Luncheon Presentations. Newly appointed National Chaplain Father Shenan J. Boquet led the gathering in prayer, urging everyone to be sensitive to others. “We are made in Your image and likeness, Lord, and thus we are made for community... for The Other.”

The Nominating Committee report was given in English and Spanish and then each of the National Director candidates spoke for two minutes to describe their qualifications for the position. Campaigning continued in lively fashion that evening during Candidates’ Night when nominees were able to mingle and convey personally to

members why they believed they were right for the job.

Three resolutions were introduced and all passed. In the evening, prayers and memorials were respectfully offered for deceased past officers at the National Directors Dessert Reception.

On Thursday morning the skies were cloudy and rain threatened, but the weather did not dampen the spirits of the many Catholic Daughters showing up at 6:00 AM to participate in the Walk/Run for Love.

After the exhilaration of the run, the critical task of voting began, so the Business Session started with delegates only. Outside in the Exhibit area Martha, Thelma, and Arlene from headquarters sold items in the convention store area, and the Exhibitors were available at their booths.

Keynote Speaker Gloria Purvis gave an exhilarating speech that inspired the audience and brought a rousing standing ovation. Gloria’s talk was followed by the Memorial Mass in which the clergy in white entered the



Encouraging JCDA Membership was the topic of Ivone da Silveira and Carolyn Malik's workshop.



Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, right, stands at the SOAR! Exhibit with Kristen.



At the past National Directors Club Dessert Reception, deceased officers were honored. In the photo Past National Director Debbie Lettus presents while National Director Duchess Collins and President of the National Directors Club 2020-2022 looks on behind a table of pictures of the deceased.



A wonderful Puerto Rico Fun Night featured dancing, delicious food, music and entertainment on Friday night as the Convention wound down.

Miramar Ballroom in a beautiful procession. Readings were in Spanish and English.

After Mass, Claire Ruff of the Hosea Initiative spoke of the importance of the Pro-Life effort even after the Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision. Tessie O'Dea of Cross Catholic Outreach's Box of Joy explained how boxes of practical items and holiday presents were sent to children in need across the world, explaining that "Many of these children have never received a Christmas present."

When Sister Kathleen Lunsmann of SOAR! said "SOAR! has been exhibiting for many years, but this is my first time at a Catholic Daughter Convention," she was met with a round of applause. "We were founded in 1986, and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas have been with us every step of the way."

Sherry presented her with a check for \$5000 and said, "we will be at your annual banquet in October and will have another donation for you then." (The annual New York SOAR! Banquet will be held Wednesday, October 5, 2022)

First Vice National Regent and National 1903 Society Chairman Susan Moné explained that when a person or organization donates \$1903, they automatically receive membership into the 1903 Society, their name is inscribed on a plaque to be displayed at Headquarters, and they receive a certificate. The recent 1903 donors were announced, and they walked to the front of the dais where Susan and Sherry presented them with their plaques.

National Bylaws Chairman Carolyn Malik began the Bylaws/Amendments session by thanking fellow committee members Susan Moné, Barbara Ward, and Irene Gramza. A spirited discussion of bylaws and amendments ensued which continued into the next day. The meeting ended, and many prepared for the evening's State Dinners which all enjoyed.

Father Boquet began Friday morning by leading the gathering in three Hail Mary's for individuals who were ill, including Ivone da Silveira's Mom Manúela who suffered a stroke the night before even though she had been in great



One of the hotel meeting rooms served handily for the celebration of all Masses without at all reducing the spirituality and sacredness of the occasion.



Chief Celebrant and Homilist Father Willy leads the procession into Mass.

spirits at the Convention and seemed to be in good health.

Lina Nelson from NCOSE (the National Council on Sexual Exploitation) began her presentation by saying, “Right now in hotel rooms individuals are viewing porn. In the casino, pimps are looking for men. You are helping us to change this situation.” When she finished Sherry presented her with a check to NCOSE for \$10,000.

Everyone then moved to the Miramar Ballroom for the God and Country Mass where they began by singing “My Country ‘Tis of Thee,” and Connie Dronette explained the meaning and symbolism of armed forces flags that were carried down the aisle by the flag bearers.

During a moving homily, Pastor Monsignor Willy (Wilfredo) Peña known as Father Willy, spoke passionately,

“I would say with much respect that we need to regain in the church a burning heart for our Lord. We are in a very difficult period in the history of the world and, therefore, in the church. We are in the midst of a crisis. Our hearts must surely and purely burn for the Lord.”

Returning to the business session, Christine Schicker from EWTN showed a beautiful and professionally produced video about the forming of EWTN by Mother Angelica many years ago after which Sherry presented a check for \$2000 to Christine for EWTN. Father Jim Phalen from Holy Cross Family Ministries spoke eloquently about the wonderful work of Holy Cross Family Ministries.

The room then became quiet and there was an air of suspense as the results of the election were announced:



Rosie, Adelina and Yolanda from Texas met those running for office on Candidates Night.



Office Manager Martha Hamboussi, left, and Bookkeeper Arlene Flores, center, take a breather from managing the CDA Store and are joined by Texas's Theresa Beltran.



The National Board

National Officers

National Regent Emily Guilherme
 National Regent-Elect Susan Moné
 First Vice National Regent Essie Walker
 Second Vice National Regent Connie Dronette
 National Secretary-Treasurer Ivone da Silveira

Emily Guilherme spoke passionately, “I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart that this young girl from Portugal is now National Regent of this wonderful organization. I am so humbled. I want you to know that I am here to serve, not be served, and I want everything I do to glorify God.”

And with typical humility and humor, Emily added, “I ask

you to please pray for me for the next two years. I’m going to need it!”

National Directors

Brenda Anderson
 Nancy Bambenek
 Michele Bowman
 Duchess Collins
 Yvette Griego
 Mary Impellizeri
 Darlene Moritz
 Barbara Ward
 Brenda West



Members of the 2022-2024 Nominating Committee and Alternates.

Members of the 2022-2024 Nominating Committee:

Primavera Johnson, Chairman
Irene Duda
Rosie Duran
Dr. Heather Rave
Maria Santos-Silva
Terrie Vacek
Cindy Vincent

Alternates:

Brenda Spizzo -- first alternate
Rita Carlson -- second alternate

National Chaplain:

Reverend Shenan J. Bouquet

Dawn Fortenberry announced awards for states instituting new courts and local courts adding new members and was joined by Sherry to present certificates to a representative from each winner in front of the dais. Dawn also announced St. Faustina awards and said, "Remember to always shine the light for all to see because you never know who will see the light." All award winners can be found on the CDA website.

National Office Manager Martha Hamboussi showed slides with the office headquarters staff members and pictures of several items in the CDA Website store. Past National Director Arline Rich made a motion to add a section on Territorial Courts into the Tools of the Trade section, which passed unanimously.

Father Siby reported on the clergy luncheon, saying that discussion took place about the shortage of priests, and the importance of praying for priests and vocations and



Watching the State Regents process holding their state flags was rousing and fun.



Catholic Daughters danced in their chairs as well as on the dance floor during Fun Night.



Sherry Nilles and husband Lee share a relaxed, informal moment at Puerto Rico Fun Night.



Louisiana presented a fun skit with characters in costumes to announce that they will host the 2024 Convention in New Orleans.

supporting seminarians.

Louisiana State Officers and friends then presented a raucous skit with music, costumes, role play, and dancing to announce with style and fun that the 2024 Biennial National Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana. It was a fun invitation to the 2024 convention.

Tom Panas gave the National Public Relations Chairman report, Connie Dronette announced Spirituality awards, Essie Walker presented on Leadership, Emily Guilherme presented Quality of Life, and Tess Cersovski on National Projects and Charities.

Robust dialogue on Bylaws and Amendments continued, including a motion to raise dues.

On Friday evening, a festive "Puerto Rico Fun Night"

was held with delicious dinner, fun music, dancing and performances, enjoyed by all.

Late Friday afternoon the Convention came to a close, and at the end the colors, flag, and banner were retired from the Meeting room in dignified procession by the guard and bearers.

Saturday afternoon the beautiful and majestic Installation Mass took place. Each newly elected National Officer and National Director processed respectfully with poise and self-possession to the altar where a white candle and red roses ceremony took place and the new National Board members were individually installed by National Chaplain Fr. Shenan Boquet.

Each new officer signed a pledge under their officer position, which read in part:

“We the elected Officers, pledge our fidelity and service to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, to our Country, to our Church and to our God. We have a clear understanding of the responsibilities we assume. We will demonstrate initiative, courage, objectivity and determination. We accept the responsibility and challenge to affect the Catholic Daughters of the Americas across our Nation and to be a powerful, active force performing God’s work in every Court in our Nation.”

Each National Officer and Director received a pin indicating their office attached to a ribbon and placed around their neck by one of the Past National Regents since the pins cannot be worn on the robe itself. (Special thanks to Rita Carlson for a clear explanation of these Installation details.)

At the end of the Mass, the National Board turned and faced the audience and were greeted with strong and welcoming applause and good wishes for a satisfying and productive two years ahead.

Throughout, the ushers and monitors stood guard at the doors and maintained a warm, pleasant and welcoming



At the Installation Mass, National Regent Emily Guilherme signs the Pledge while Past National Regents Shirley Seyfried, Helene Shepard and Joanne Tomassi, and the Blessed Mother, look on watchfully.



First Vice National Regent Essie Walker faces the gathering after being installed.



Past National Director Joanne Tomassi, right, places the ribbon holding the pin on National Regent Emily Guilherme.



National Chaplain Father Shenan J. Boquet installs the officers while past National Clergy Consultant Father Siby stands in the background and other clergy look on.

Special thanks to Puerto Rico for A Warm and Welcoming Convention



Irma and Sol Maria welcomed all into the Convention Hall with pleasant greetings.



Puerto Rico Catholic Daughters had a way of making all attendees feel welcome and at ease.



Puerto Rico Smiles were always welcoming and present.



"Ungung Heroes" -- the Ushers and Monitors watched over the proceedings, "guarded the gates" and welcomed all into the meeting room.



A basket of gift bags was part of the graciousness.

presence guided by advisor National Director Irene Gramza, PR Chairman Luz Teresa Martinez and members of Court Santa Rosa de Lima; and under National Director Darlene Moritz, PR Chairman Sol M. Machado and members of various Puerto Rico courts. The room set up was overseen by National Director Carolyn Malik with PR Chairman Rosita Motta and members of Court Borinquen.

Many attendees took specific takeaways from the Convention to bring back to their courts. The energy informing their newfound knowledge and mission was expressed by Father Willy in his powerful homily. "You are almost finished with this Convention, I ask you to do everything to help the church, we must ignite this burning love for the church."

"I pray that you will leave this wonderful convention and take this beautiful passion and burn yourself with love for Christ and the church." 🙏

SUMMARY OF Clergy Luncheon



Father Jim Caldwell
Oklahoma State Chaplain

Two important points from the Clergy meeting stand out with regard to vocations. First, we all have to do more to encourage vocations within our local churches. This happens when we as priests, and as ladies of the CDA, simply encourage a young man or woman to think about the possibility of God calling him or her to the vocation of priesthood, or sisterhood. This happens when any of us ask the young man or woman this question “Have you ever had thoughts about being a priest or a nun?” Many times, if we simply ask the question, a seed is planted to help foster a desire to explore the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

The second point deals more directly with local courts. Here the encouragement is that local courts support vocations in their diocese by contacting the Vocation director and asking him for a name, or names of seminarians who are currently studying in the seminary. Once you have a name or names, write a letter, or send a card to them, particularly during the holidays, but also at any time of the year, encouraging them with kind words, supporting them with money or gift cards, and then follow them throughout their studies. We call it “adopt” a seminarian. Other ideas include hosting them at one of the local court meetings, especially if the young man or woman is from your parish, makes it even more exciting to follow them throughout their studies. Every invitation helps the seminarian or sister to know personally people who are praying for them. Encourage the State Court to support the local bishops by contributing to the Seminarian Burse each year to help offset cost of education. Raising funds for scholarships as well whether at local or state levels is also a wonderful way to recruit younger priests into the role of chaplain for the court.

Lastly, we focused our attention on the family, seeing the gift of family as an integral part of fostering vocations. The chaplains thought that if there are families who are rooted in faith, practicing and living the faith, that special



The dignity of the clergy processing into the meeting room where the Masses were celebrated was a high point.

attention should be noted to encourage families to foster and plant the seed of vocation. This is where it all starts, and the parish, council, community can help to plant the seed of vocation in every young child's mind.

My personal thought is that all of us must shoulder responsibility to foster vocations through our prayers and by planting seeds of opportunity in young people's minds. I believe that the more we encourage vocations to the priesthood or religious life, and support them in many ways, especially through our generosity, the greater the chance all of us can have a role in increasing shepherds who will faithfully guide us through our faith journey. It is asking the question, being filled with enthusiasm for the faith and listening to the Holy Spirit that keeps the Church and its vocations alive and well.

Fr. Jim Caldwell
State Chaplain, Oklahoma 🙏

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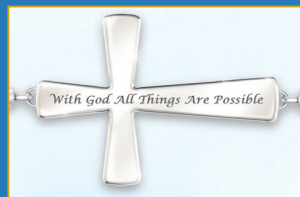
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LEADERSHIP

Sowing Leadership Skills Together at the 59th Biennial National Convention

Presenters: Essie Walker, First Vice National Regent
Theressa Cersovski, Past National Director



Essie Walker
First Vice National Regent
National Leadership Chairman

There was a flow of excitement as the 59th Biennial National Convention was approaching. Since writing articles for the last two years, new and fresh ideas were in the making. On every journey there is an end. The end of my leadership journey led to preparing a PowerPoint for the Leadership Workshop to be presented to leaders, potential leaders and members at the 59th Biennial National Convention. The first thing was to plant the seed as to what members could expect to hear at the workshop. After jotting down several topics, the one that really stood out was “Sowing Leadership Skills Together.” An explanation was shared with members in the Quarterly as to what they could expect, when attending the Leadership workshop. “We look forward to coming together to share our CDA leadership thoughts, suggestions and experiences to include our successes and failures. In today’s society effective leadership is very important to those we serve and lead. What better place to come together as a unit to talk about and discuss our leadership journey or potential leadership in Catholic Daughters.

The day finally arrived for the Leadership Workshop which was held July 19, 2022. One could feel the excitement and anticipation as members entered the room. What better way to start a workshop than to have those in attendance join in a song. What song did we sing? “If you are happy and you know it”; forwards and then reversed. The song enabled us to start out on a high note. After an opening and welcome,

the first question was asked, what is your definition of Leadership? With much participation, members did not hesitate to share their definition of leadership.

During the workshop, members eagerly shared their thoughts, experiences and personal leadership skills with the group. Topics discussed were centered on several topics.

- Honesty and Integrity... Valued communication is centered on honesty and integrity.
- Building Self Confidence... Never doubt your abilities.
- Conquering Fears...Facing fears will lead to you reaching your goals. Set small reachable goals.
- Having Faith...The size of a mustard seed. It’s good to step out in on faith.
- Self-Commitment and Passion...When in doubt, just say I Can and I Will
- Being Adaptable...Be willing to continue to learn new things. Remember, you can learn from anyone. Remember as leaders, we do not know everything.
- Maintaining Proper Work/Life Balance...Take time to recharge your mental and physical being.
- Never Give Up...Mistakes will be made. Brush yourself off and try again.
- Inspiring Others...Never allow suggestions to become orders.
- Being a Good Follower...In order to be a good leader, make sure you know how to be a good follower.
- Leading By Example...Know that you as leaders are



Past National Regents, left to right, Shirley Seyfried, Anne Nelson, Joanne Tomassi, Claudia Bosch, Libby Ramirez, Helene Shepard, Olga Samaniego and Immediate Past National Regent Sherry Nilles

being watched. The real reason is to see if what you say and do are the same. Be consistent, resolve problems quickly, be supportive, avoid being on the defensive, treat members the way you wish to be treated and most important; do not let hurt feelings fester.

- **Setting Goals...**Make sure goals are clear, precise and measurable.
- **Barriers to Communication...**Language, delivery of the message and attitude of the listener.
- **How to Overcome Barriers...**Know the material, audience and yourself. Project your voice.
- **Effective Listening Skills...**Eyes on the speaker, maintaining eye contact, no side bars or using the cell phone. Think about what is being said.
- **Accountability...** As leaders, we should hold ourselves accountable for failures as well as successes.
- **Diversity...**Each member is unique in their own way. Think about the personalities, age group and cultures.
- **Leading with Transparency...**Transparency can make an impact on results that will benefit members and our CDA organization. Transparency will build a foundation for trust and loyalty. It requires leaders to be honest and open with members.
- **Emotional Intelligence...**Understand that emotions can drive ones behavior which can impact another. Take a moment to recall when your emotions were under attack. Was it through a setback or failure, managing time, dealing with challenging relationships, meeting

a deadline or just giving and receiving feedback? It is important that leaders manage their emotions.

- **Territorial Courts...**State Courts reach out and partner with territorial courts in your area.
- **Being Kind...**When communicating with each other remember to think, speak and act with kindness. Remember our motto...UNITY AND CHARITY.

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

“Communication is very important to each and every individual. Be open-minded and a good listener – consider different perspectives. Encourage new ideas and suggestions - every suggestion or opinion counts. Be compassionate, understanding and available. Support each other during stressful times, working, praying together all for our common cause. Happy celebrations are important. Good leadership is essential to an organization’s success.”

Audrey Spenard, State Regent New Jersey

“Leadership is a skill that can be learned by identifying the characteristics of successful leaders, by understanding various types of leadership and by studying the personal attributes cultivated by successful leaders.” - *National Regent Sherry Nilles*

“If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then you are an excellent leader.” *Dolly Parton*

Think about the seeds you have sown or plan to sow within our CDA organization. 🌻

What every Catholic Daughter should know:

The Compelling Conversion of America's Abortion King



By Clare Ruff

“You need to present this at the National Convention!” Sherry Nilles said to me after a prolife leaders’ Mass in Washington, D. C. A phone conversation later she underscored, “I guarantee 99% of [Catholic Daughters] have never heard this.”

A Catholic Daughter myself from Court #1183 in La Crosse, WI, I also serve as Catholic Liaison for a national prolife organization called the Hosea Initiative. I was delighted to spotlight the work of Hosea Initiative on the Convention 2022 stage and now SHARE that information with those who could not come to Puerto Rico.

Hosea Initiative came to birth on December 1, 2009, exactly eleven years before the Supreme Court heard the *Dobbs v. Jackson* oral arguments, when Hosea’s founder, Terry Beatley, sat down to interview a terminally ill man. He was Dr. Bernard N. Nathanson who had built the abortion industry in the United States from its infancy, personally oversaw 75,000 abortions, and was dubbed “America’s Abortion King.”

Most people studied the history of Adolf Hitler, responsible for exterminating 6.1 million Jews, and Joseph Stalin who wiped out greater than 20 million in the Bolshevik revolution of 1917. But few learned about Bernard Nathanson who fathered the industry which has killed 64 million unborn babies in the past 50 years. If his face and name are unfamiliar, you are not alone. 95% of those asked in Hosea Initiative polls have never heard of him.

Read on, and we will change that.

Nathanson was born July 31, 1926, in New York City (NYC). He followed in his father’s footsteps practicing medicine and building a successful OB/GYN practice in NYC in the 1960s. In July 1967, Dr. Nathanson was approached by Lawrence Lader who wanted to discuss his newly released best seller, *ABORTION*, and conceptualized his “abortion revolution.” Lader dreamed of an empire which would topple the

Catholic Church’s teaching on human sexuality, marriage and family. Driven more to undercut moral authority than to help poor women, he needed a medical expert for the radical movement. Nathanson was his man. Together, the two co-founded the first political pro-abortion activist group in the United States called N.A.R.A.L. [National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws] which united a growing nationwide campaign. Their lobbying efforts paved the way for the 1973 *Roe v Wade* decision. NARAL also hired a public relations firm for \$7500 to devise the marketable jingles you have heard for decades: “Abortion is Women’s Healthcare,” and “My Body, My Choice.”

CHOICE was an evil campaign, but a brilliant strategy. NARAL needed the public to see the human child no longer as a GIFT from God, but as a CHOICE which resonated perfectly with American’s intoxication with freedom even as it echoed the first temptation in Eden, “You will be like God knowing good and evil.” [Gn 3:5]

As in Eden, God would shake the abortion movement with his MERCY. Only months after the *Roe v Wade* decision, Dr. Nathanson witnessed a demonstration of new medical technology. Suddenly, a television-like screen revealed a baby girl in utero wiggling her toes and sucking her thumb. “Real-time ultrasound was the bomb. It made everything come alive,” he told Terry, and it rocked Nathanson’s abortion convictions to the core.

Dr. Nathanson wrote later that for the first time he saw a SECOND patient – the mother’s child. Like St. Paul, scales of spiritual blindness fell from his eyes as a vision of the holocaust flashed before him. He thought about how the Nazis took away the personhood of the Jewish people to justify the slaughter of the millions, only now he, Bernard Nathanson, was the perpetrator. At that moment, the Jewish atheist Bernard Nathanson pivoted from his position and stopped performing abortions. On January 22, 1975, he



resigned from NARAL, and in 1979, he declared there was NO rationale for abortion. He was unequivocally prolife.

Dr. Nathanson published three books: *Aborting America*, *The Abortion Papers*, and his autobiography, *The Hand of God*. These texts affirm what he shared with Terry Beatley during their interview that cold December afternoon.

Dr. Nathanson admitted to Terry how he lied about facts, fabricated polling statistics, deceived courts, legislators, and the American public to push the abortion on-demand agenda. “We lied about what we knew to be true,” he said, “that abortion kills a living human being.”

At the end of the interview, Terry saw Dr. Nathanson’s energy waning, and prompted by compassion asked if he had a message for the people. He thought and said, “Yes, yes, I do. Teach the strategy of how I deceived America, and tell them the Co-founder of NARAL says, ‘Love one another. Abortion is not love. STOP THE KILLING! The world needs more love. I’m all about love now.’”

Terry shook Dr. Nathanson’s hand and promised she would bring his message to the people. That was the genesis of Hosea Initiative which dedicates its prolife

energy to teaching the life and legacy of America’s Abortion King and brings a message of hope and healing to a world broken by abortion. You can find more information about Hosea’s presentations, publications, and conferences via this website: www.hosea4you.org.

Dr. Nathanson worked tirelessly in the prolife movement before he was led to Christ by a Catholic priest. Accepting the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus Christ, Dr. Nathanson was baptized December 8, 1996, by John Cardinal O’Connor. Imagine the joy in the catacombs of St. Patrick’s Cathedral that day! Imagine the joy in heaven! He died a holy death February 21, 2011.

Dr. Nathanson’s conversion is ultimately God’s love story of Divine Mercy which embraces even the most egregious sinner who repents. It is also a powerful tool for enlightening hearts hardened by abortion propaganda, because despite a person’s political persuasion, no one can argue with the witness of Dr. Nathanson’s own true story.

As Catholic Daughters and the laywomen leaders of the Church, let us bring this life-affirming message to our courts and parishes. ✠

2022 CDA Woman of the Year: Geri Christ Landry



Connie Dronette
Second Vice National Regent

Geri Landry was one of the first Catholic Daughters that I met outside of my Court when I first joined twenty years ago. I knew she was a very special lady that very day. I remember thinking that she was the epitome of a true southern lady. Her example helped me in becoming a dedicated and passionate Catholic Daughter.

Geri was nominated by her two daughters, Stephanie Landry Cochran and Joan Landry Kaspar. They fondly wrote, “The mission of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas is “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.” Its two-fold purpose is “Spirituality and Service.” Our mother is a shining example of what Catholic Daughters of the Americas stands for. She has devoted her life to the spirit of Jesus Christ while promoting the rights and dignity for those with special needs. She is a part of that generation which recognizes and embraces the principles of commitment and what it truly means to be committed to following in the steps and service of Jesus Christ. We proudly nominate her as she is the epitome of Christ-filled spirituality and service!”

The fourth of seven children, Geri grew up in Mowata, Louisiana, a small farming community in the heart of Cajun Country. She attended St. Lawrence Catholic Church, which her father helped build. She was raised in a very devout Catholic family, and her devotion to her faith was instilled by her mother, who joined the Catholic Daughters in their parish. Saturdays in the Christ family focused on getting prepared to attend Sunday Mass – whether it was polishing their shoes or ironing their clothes and laying them out for the next day, the respect and importance of Sundays in the Catholic Church was recognized and embraced. Geri’s daughters shared the story of how back at that time, women were expected to wear hats to church. The family only had 3 hats for the women in the family but there were more than 3 of them in the home. The family members would attend church at different Mass times so that every girl had a hat

available to wear when she attended Mass.

Living in the small community of Mowata helped shape Geri’s love for church and community. When she was fourteen years old, she and her family moved to Lake Charles, LA. They continued to live their Catholic faith attending Immaculate Conception Cathedral. Her rich tradition and commitment to the Catholic faith continued throughout her high school and college years. She attended McNeese State University where she received a degree in Education and met her husband of 68 years, Lester Landry. As a young wife, she became active in their church parish and joined Ct. Our Lady of Fatima #1506. She was active in the Court, forming many friendships that lasted a lifetime. She later joined Court Our Lady of the Lake #695, where she has been an active member for over 50 years. She is well known and respected in her church parish and Court.

Throughout her entire life, she touched children in need, beginning when she and her husband adopted their two daughters through Catholic Charities. She instilled in Joan and Stephanie a strong Catholic faith, as did her mother with her, and today they are both members of Our Lady of the Lake Court #695.

She spent her career teaching children by answering a call to help the less fortunate children of society. She taught regular and special education classes, devoting her time to providing individuals with disabilities with a meaningful, quality education. Not only did she see this as a duty as a teacher but she soon discovered that she felt compelled to be a voice to fight for their self-worth and dignity as well.

After retiring, she became a volunteer advocate helping parents obtain services for their children with special needs. She attended hundreds of IEP (Individualized Education Program) meetings where she used her extensive knowledge and educational background to defend the rights of children with special needs. Her devotion and commitment to advancing the human dignity and rights for children with special needs was also driven by news that her oldest sister, Dr. Ruth Christ Sullivan, gave birth

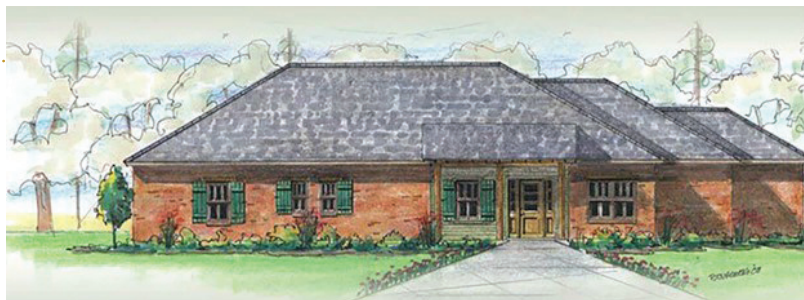
to a boy that would later be diagnosed autistic. In the 1960's, "autism" was a fairly new and

misunderstood diagnosis. She saw firsthand the difficulty of raising a child labeled "autistic" and the lack of services available to them at that time. Taking a lead from her older sister who was the first President of the Autism Society of America, Geri set out to pursue and promote a lifelong career aimed at establishing and improving the lives of autistic children in Lake Charles, and throughout the State of LA.

Geri was instrumental in the creation of the Autism Society of Louisiana, and founded the Autism Society of Southwest LA in the 1970's. These organizations sprung out of the Autism Society of America, which is a national organization aimed at increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by those with autism and their families. For many years, she served on both local and state boards volunteering endless hours of her time talking with parents and professionals and traveling to various board meetings and such throughout the state. By doing so, she helped push to the forefront an awareness of autism and to provide needed support, services and opportunities to individuals with autism and their families. Back in the early 1990's, she could be found working at an office in her home publishing a newsletter referring experts to testify in school mediations and informing parents and families of the latest therapies available to them. For many years after her retirement as a special education teacher and Program Facilitator, she ran a toll-free number from her home office for autism information and was often the first resource parents turned to after learning that their child had been diagnosed with autism.

As the children she serviced over the years grew up, she recognized the challenge that most families and parents of children diagnosed with autism face about how to provide for their children once they reach adulthood and beyond. Recognizing the limited services available to adults with autism, she shifted her attention to building an organization that provides homes for adults with autism.

She is a founding member of the Board of Directors for Autism Services of Southwest Louisiana – a nonprofit organization whose mission is to build a culture that



The Landry House, one of the six homes for autistic adults.

embraces adults on the autism spectrum, includes them in every facet of local daily life

and provides them with opportunities to make meaningful contributions to our local and regional community. Under her leadership, Autism Services has opened four adult homes since it was founded in 2003 with a fifth home in the works. All of these homes are 100% owned by Autism Services – loan-free. Adult residents are provided with twenty-four-hour care and have assigned personal care attendants. In order to create a successful and lasting program, she had the foresight to also create Direct Care, Inc. which, as a partner to Autism Services, provides the necessary services to run the adult homes and also provides a variety of services to individuals with other special needs. Whether it is collecting and recycling Mardi Gras beads for re-sale, coordinating and participating in autism awareness walks or more recently, charitable golf tournaments, she is a tireless champion and volunteer of individuals with special needs.

Everything she has done in her lifetime stems from her strong Catholic faith and commitment to service. She has been a proud member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas for over 60 years. In those many years, she has served the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in many capacities including serving as local Regent four times - twice for each local court. She has not only organized, but also volunteered her time to help support Catholic Daughters of the Americas' events and fundraisers. Any time something is asked of our members, she is always there to offer a helping hand to provide sweets and treats for the Catholic Daughters' church bake sales, praying countless rosaries for our seminarians, collecting Christmas gifts for those in need, or standing guard at the funerals of fellow Church and Catholic Daughters members and more.

Geri is a loving wife, having been married to her husband Lester for 68 years, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend to many and an inspiration to all. At 91 years of age, she continues to live her Catholic faith every day. As one of her CDA sisters, I am grateful for her friendship.

A big thank you goes to Joan and Stephanie for nominating their mother and for sharing the story of her life. 🌸

Mass of Thanksgiving For National Regent

After a week of business meetings held by the National Board, a Mass of Thanksgiving was held in honor of National Regent Emily Guilherme on Friday, September 8 in Ontario, California, in her honor, followed by an Appreciation Banquet. National, state and local court officers from across the country joined friends and family to offer their support. Emily addressed the gathering passionately and at times tearfully about her journey from a “young girl from Portugal” to becoming National Regent and she thanked the many people who helped and guided her along the way. National Regent-Elect Susan Moné spoke and presented her with gifts from the National Board including a beautiful symbol of the Mustard Seed which will be Emily’s theme. Susan spoke of how proud the board was and pledged their support.



The National Board came from across the country for meetings and to support Emily. In the photo Board members can be seen with National Chaplain Father Shenan J. Boquet outside of the hotel.



The Appreciation Banquet began with individual processions into the hall. National Director Yvette Griego can be seen about to enter, while National Directors Mary Impellizeri, Darlene Mortiz and Barbara West await their turn while name and title look on.



Brittaney Andrews, Dalia Cervantes and Deanna Andrews provided a warm welcome to all and helped them find their assigned seats (not seen in picture: Reservation Chairman, Eileen Bagwell).



When the dancing began the Emcee asked officers past and present to surround Emily in a show of dancing support.



Fr. Emmanuel Ukaegbu-Onuoha with Emily.



Father Gerardo Mendoza stands after the Mass with Emily.



Name was among the many friends and family who came to support Emily.



Dear Pilgrims,

I am blessed and excited to announce this once in a lifetime pilgrimage. Our National Chaplain, Fr. Shenan J. Boquet, and I invite you to save the dates of October 23 thru November 3, 2023.

This all-inclusive pilgrimage has been designed expressly for our Catholic Daughters of the Americas and your friends and family. This journey will bring you to sites across Portugal and Spain, immersing you in our faith and their culture. We will visit sacred sites where Our Lady has appeared, such as the miraculous city of Fatima, where the three children, Jacinta, Lucia, and Francisco encountered Our Lady, and the sun danced for hundreds of thousands as a sign of Mary's appearance. We will also travel to the thriving city of Santiago de Compostela, where the body of St. James lies entombed, and take part in the Pilgrim's Mass at the Cathedral of Santiago, with the flying Botafumeiro to lift our prayers and intentions to the Lord. All the stops along the way are sure to boost our faith and bring us into communion with each other. As a Portuguese American, I can personally attest to the beauty of the region and know firsthand, the hospitality and charm these countries will present to us. I invite you to be excited, start planning, and begin praying for this incredible pilgrimage. I pray we may continue to grow in faith and in love with the Lord in Spain and Portugal.

Blessings, Emily Guilherme
National CDA Regent

P.O. Box 2015 Lawrenceville, Ga. 30046
T-Free 1 833 910 1545 gasales@LPJP.ORG
Enrollment online at www.lpjp.org



Your Pilgrimage Features

- + Roundtrip air transportation from departure city to Lisbon
- + Four Star Hotels
- + Land transportation via deluxe private motor coach
- + Taxes, Fuel Surcharges and Tips
- + Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- + Entrance fees to all sites on itinerary
- + Daily Masses
- + Professional Christian English-speaking guide
- + The Itinerary is subject to change including the hotels.
- + Tips included except for lunches.
- + City Tax included

Please Read This Important Information

Deposit - \$400 (Payable on booking)
Second Payment due - June 1, 2023 50%
Full balance due - August 1, 2023

Each tour member must hold a U.S. passport valid up to 6 months after the scheduled return. The passport must be valid until May 3, 2024. Application forms are available at your local passport Office or U.S. Postal Service. Any required visas will be processed for US citizens only. Non-US citizens are solely responsible for obtaining any required visas.

Rates based on Double-occupancy, the airline tax and fuel surcharge and currency exchange rate(s) at the date of quotation to your host. Subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure.



DAY 1 U.S.A. / LISBON

Today: Depart for JFK or LAX with complimentary meals and beverages served onboard your international flight.

DAY 2 LISBON

Arrival in Lisbon, meeting with your guide and driver. Our pilgrimage begins with a visit of the city: Placa dos Rossios, Placa dos restauradores. We will continue to the Cathedral of Lisbon to celebrate Mass. The Cathedral's construction dates from the twelfth century and is predominantly Romanesque in style. Its official name is Santa Maria Maior.

Surprisingly, it has survived several natural disasters, like the great earthquake of 1755, which left part of the religious edifice in ruins. The Cathedral's Gothic cloister is similar in style to the Jerónimos Monastery, although a little smaller. Inside the cloister, you'll see several Roman, Arabic and Medieval remains, which have been excavated a few years. Our next stop is in the Church of Nossa Senhora de Conceicao Velha. We enjoy time for lunch. Afterward, we visit the quarter of Alfama and the Castle of St Jorge. São Jorge Castle (Castelo de São Jorge) is one of Lisbon's most emblematic landmarks. The silhouette of the Castle stands out both by day and when illuminated at night, located on the summit of São Jorge hill, the highest in Lisbon. The Castle reached its maximum splendor during the thirteenth century and lasted until the sixteenth century when it was occupied by both the Kings of Portugal and the Bishop. Dinner and overnight in Lisbon.

DAY 3 LISBON

We enjoy breakfast in hotel. We start our day in Lisbon visiting the Monastery Dos Jeronimos and the Belem tower. The Jerónimos Monastery, also called Hieronymites Monastery, is along with the Tower of Belém, one of the most visited sites in Lisbon. UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Site in 1983. This landmark is called Mosteiro dos Jerónimos in Portuguese. The religious building was designed by the Portuguese architect Diogo de Boitaca to commemorate the return of Vasco da Gama from India. The construction began on 6 January 1501 and wasn't completed until the seventeenth century. The building is predominantly Manueline style (Portuguese late Gothic). We will continue visit with the Church of St. Anthony where we celebrate Mass. Santo António (better known as Saint Anthony of Padua), revered as a matchmaker, protector of young brides, and patron of the lost and found, was actually born in Lisbon, on the site of this church. Work began in 1757, and the façade blends the Baroque style with Neoclassical Ionic columns. Inside, the altar features an image of the saint with Christ in his arms, the sacristy is faced with 18th-century tiles, and there is a modern tile panel commemorating the visit of St. Pope John Paul II to the church in 1982. At the end of our visit, we transfer to Fatima. We will attend the torchlight procession and rosary. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

DAY 4 FATIMA

We visit Os Valinhos. Valinhos is an emblematic place for the Fatima apparitions because it was there that the Angel appeared in 1916. In Valinhos, you will find the Way of the Cross on the path which the shepherds took, the Hungarian Calvary and the Loka do Cabeço. We will make the Via Crucis, the penitential liturgy and celebrate Holy Mass. We continue with a visit to the house of the three shepherds in Adjustrel. We return to Fatima, for lunch and free time for personal prayer, rosary and torchlight procession, Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

DAY 5 FATIMA

We travel to Santarem for the day. Visit of the Castle of Santarem and the Convent of St. Francis. Founded in the 13th century by King Sancho II, the Convent of St. Francis is one of the most important Mendicant Gothic constructions in Portugal. The Convent became particularly relevant in the 15th century after King John II made the oath of allegiance there. Visit and celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Stephen or the Miracle Church. In this church, the Relic of the Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem is conserved. The Eucharistic Miracle of Santarém, together with that of Lanciano, is considered among the most important Eucharistic miracles. Numerous studies and canonical analyses were carried out on the relics. The Host changed into bleeding Flesh and Blood flowed out of the Blessed Sacrament. We return to Fatima for lunch. In the afternoon, we visit of the Museum of the Shrine of Fatima which collects thousands of objects connected with the appearance of The Virgin. Among the collection nestled in the crown of the Virgin is the bullet which hit St. Pope John Paul II during the assassination attempt of May 13, 1981 in St Peter's Square. Visit of the Basilica of the Blessed Trinity. Free time for individual prayer and torchlight procession and rosary. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

DAY 6 BATHALHA/ALCOBACA/NAZARE

Breakfast and Holy Mass. We transfer to Bathala where a decisive event for the consolidation of the Portuguese nation took place on 14 August 1385: D. João, Mestre de Avis and future king of Portugal defeated the Spanish armies in the battle of Aljubarrota. The victory put an end to a dynastic crisis which had dragged on since 1383, the year of the death of King D. Fernando, whose only daughter was married to the King of Castile, pretender to the throne of Portugal. Fr. João dedicated the Bathala Monastery to the Virgin Mary, whom he had invoked to intercede with God for victory to give it to the Dominican Order, of which his confessor belonged. Thus, was born a work whose construction would last for almost two centuries and which, once completed, turned out to be one of the most fascinating Gothic monuments of the Iberian Peninsula. The architectural value and historical significance of the building led UNESCO to declare it a World Heritage Site in 1983. We will visit of the



Bathala Monastery and continue to Alcobaha. After lunch, we visit the Alcobaça Monastery defined as one of the most beautiful and majestic Cistercian monasteries in the world, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built in the Gothic style, the Alcobaça Monastery leaves pilgrims speechless for the immense vastness of its dimensions combined with the total simplicity and nakedness of the interior, a very particular and unusual choice for Gothic architecture. Its very high naves loom over the visitor like an austere and sober forest of columns, a magnificent glance. At the end of the visit, we transfer to Nazarè, a seaside town famous for its spectacular waves. Dinner and overnight in Nazare.

DAY7 COIMBRA/OPORTO

After breakfast, we departure for Coimbra on the banks of the River Mondego. Coimbra is famous for its university, the oldest in Portugal and one of the oldest in Europe, which over time has shaped its image to become “the city of students”. We begin our visit at the university founded in the XIIIth Century which UNESCO placed on its list of World Heritage sites, in a classification that also includes Rua da Sofia and the upper part of the city. We will visit the Carmel Monastery of St. Theresa. Among the many religious who lived in the Carmel of Saint Theresa, Sister Lúcia, seer of Fátima, stands out. Sister Lucia lived in the convent from 1948 to 2005 (the year she died) having professed in 1949. After the death of Sister Lúcia, the Carmel of Saint Theresa created the Sister Lúcia’s Memorial, where you can see a replica of her cell, as well as some of her personal belongings, photographs, her manual work and other elements that help us understand her life. We will celebrate Holy Mass. Then, we will continue to Oporto. Upon arrival, we visit the city. S. Bento Station, with its atrium lined with tiles, is an ideal starting point for the visit. The Cathedral, offers the first view of the river, the cascading houses and the opposite bank which are not to be missed. From there you descend by steps and mediaeval streets to Ribeira, with its café terraces and picturesque corners. Dinner and overnight in Oporto.



DAY8 OPORTO/PONTEVEDRA

After breakfast, we continue our visit of Porto and transfer to the border between Portugal and Spain. We visit of the Medieval city of Valença do Minho. Valença do Minho is a fortified village, strategically located above the Miño River, close to the Spanish border, which constitutes one of the greenest and most fertile lands of this region of northern Portugal. This peculiar divided city constituted the first defense line against attacks from the neighboring country. We will continue our trip to Pontevedra stopping in Tui. The border town of Tui (Castilian: Tuy) draws Portuguese and Spanish day trippers with its lively bar scene, tightly packed medieval center and magnificent cathedral. It’s well worth strolling round the Old Town and down to the Paseo Fluvial, a riverside path that heads 1km down the Miño. The highlight of the old town is the fortress-like Cathedral de Santa Maria. Begun in the 12th century, it reflects a stoic Romanesque style in most of its construction, though the ornate main portal is considered to be the earliest work of Gothic sculpture on the Iberian Peninsula. We will visit the Cathedral and transfer to Pontevedra We will celebrate Mass at the Church of the Pilgrim’s Virgin. Dinner and overnight in Pontevedra.

DAY9 PONTEVEDRA/SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

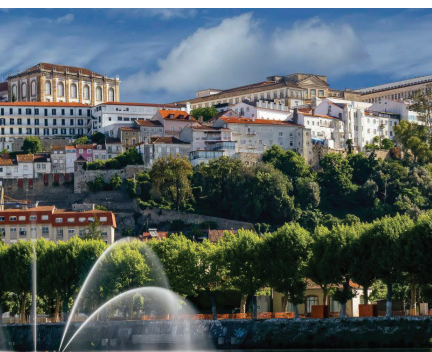
After breakfast, we will departure for Santiago de Compostela. Upon arrival at the City of Santiago and its fantastic square: Plaza de l’Obradoiro, de la Quintana e de la Imaculada, we celebrate Cathedral and Holy Mass of the Pilgrim with the Botafumeiro. After lunch, we visit the Baroque Monastery of San Martin Pinario. Dinner and overnight in Santiago.

DAY10 SANTIAGO/FINISTERRE/SANTIAGO

Full day excursion to Cabo Finisterre and the coast also known as the “End of the World. We celebrate Mass and visit the Sanctuary of the Virgen de la Barca in Muxia where the body of St. James arrived from the Holy Land. Enjoy seafood for lunch and return to Santiago with a stop in the fisherman town of Carnota and Muros. Dinner and overnight in Santiago.

DAY11 SANTIAGO/BRAGA

Breakfast in our hotel. Free time in Santiago for personal prayer at the Sepulcher of St James. In the late morning departure to Portugal. Arrival in Braga and time for Lunch. In the afternoon visit of Bom Jesus do Monte. As a re-evocation of the New Jerusalem, Sacred Mountains offered pilgrims an opportunity to visit the Holy Places by conjuring up, on a smaller scale, the buildings in which Christ’s Passion took place. The design of the Sanctuary of Bom Jesus, with its Baroque nature emphasised by the zigzag form of its stairways, influenced many other sites in Portugal (like Lamego) and colonial Brazil, like the Sanctuary of Congonhas. As the pilgrims climbed the stairs, (by tradition encouraged to do so on their knees) they encountered a theological programme that contrasted the senses of the material world with the virtues of the spirit, at the same time as they experienced the scenes of the Passion of Christ. The culmination of the effort was the temple of God, the church on the top of the hill. The presence of several fountains along the stairways give the idea of purification of the faithful. Holy Mass and time for personal devotion. Accomodation in our hotel, dinner and overnight.



DAY12 BRAGA/LISBON/USA

Visit of Braga and departure to Lisbon for the return flight.



Wilma E Cedeño-Raspaldo
Puerto Rico State Regent

National Convention



At the Shrine of the Blessed Mother in the business meeting room, members of Court Fernando #1961, Carolina, Puerto Rico, left to right, Sarita Rodrigue, Maritza Rivera, Myrna Noa, Virginia González and Wilma Cedeño.

The National Convention in Puerto Rico was a dream come true. We were excited to show our Caribbean origin to all our CDA sisters. It was a team effort; all the Catholic daughters of Puerto Rico gave their best to make this convention memorable. I feel very proud of the membership of Puerto Rico and very happy to have received so many CDA sisters on our Isla del Encanto. Seeing them happy and enjoying their stay was wonderful.

La convención nacional en Puerto Rico fue un sueño hecho realidad. Nos hacía ilusión mostrarle a nuestras hermanas hijas católicas nuestro origen caribeño. Fue un trabajo en equipo, todas las hijas católicas de Puerto Rico dieron lo mejor de sí para que esta convención fuera memorable. Me siento muy orgullosa de la membresía de Puerto Rico y muy contenta de haber recibido a tantas hermanas HCA en nuestra Isla del Encanto. Verlas contentas y disfrutando su estancia fue maravilloso. 🙏

Blessings to all our sisters from CDA

By Nymia Rivas

GOD always keeps his eyes on us. After 101 years, Puerto Rico's CDA courts had the gift of being the host of a National Convention. From the very first moment that we submitted the request, we prayed to our Lord that His will be done, and He granted our prayer. Every memory of those days

that we shared together: the energy, sisterhood, joy and love, will always remain in my heart. Thanks to all those hands and prayers that made a dream become a reality. Blessed be His mother and patron of Puerto Rico, Saint Virgin Mother of Divine Providence. 🙏

My Reflection on the recent 59th National Convention

By Altagracia Michelén
Puerto Rico State Secretary

A great privilege, so I begin this reflection, is my feeling from the very moment I learned that this convention would be done in Puerto Rico. It was a great, a great privilege to be a part of it as a Catholic Daughter of the Americas and as an integral part of the host team.

It was a multidimensional experience, because it touched my spirit, my mind, and my body. It was my first convention of this category, due to its content, the large number of participants and the statutes of this organization. I was an intrinsic part of many details of the process, before, during and after, which allowed me to interact very closely with many of the participants.

The whole process became a continuous learning experience. I had the opportunity to develop healthy and exemplary friendships that inspired me to continue this path, to carry the message of God's love, with joy and pride of being a Catholic Daughter of the Americas.

I will always be grateful for these new friends who walked this path before me, lovingly resisting the attacks inherent in it. They inspired me to pray for them and invited me to learn from them.

I end by saying thank you, thank you, infinite thanks to each one of you.

God bless us and strengthen us in our slogan of "Unity and Charity".

Mi Reflexión sobre la recién pasada Convención Nacional 59th de las Hijas Católicas de las Américas (20

al 24 de julio 2022)

Un gran privilegio, así Inicio esta reflexión, es mi sentir desde el momento mismo en que supe que esta convención tendría su sede en Puerto Rico. Fue un gran, un gran privilegio ser parte de ella como Hija Católica de las Américas y como parte integral del equipo anfitrión.

Fue una experiencia multidimensional, porque tocó mi espíritu, mi mente y mi cuerpo. Fue mi primera convención de esta categoría, por su contenido, por el gran número de participantes y por los estatutos de esta organización. Fui parte intrínseca de muchos detalles del proceso, antes, durante y después, lo que me permitió interactuar muy de cerca con muchas de las participantes.

Todo el proceso se convirtió en un continuo aprendizaje. Tuve la oportunidad de desarrollar amistades sanas y ejemplares que me inspiraron continuar en este caminar, para llevar el mensaje de amor de Dios, con alegría y con orgullo de ser una Hija Católica de las Américas.

Agradeceré siempre por estas nuevas amigas que caminaron antes que yo este sendero, resistiendo con amor los embistes inherente a él. Me inspiraron a orar por ellas y me invitaron a aprender de ellas.

Termino diciendo gracias, gracias, gracias infinitas a todas y cada una de ustedes. Dios nos bendiga y fortalezca en nuestro lema de Unión y Caridad.

*Muy sinceramente
Altagracia Michelén 🙏*

Convention Walk/Run for Love

By Julie Juarbe

Puerto Rico First Vice Regent



There was a terrific turnout on Thursday morning at 6:00AM for the Walk and Run for Love.

I am extremely happy with the outcome of our 59th Biennial National Convention celebrated in Puerto Rico. So many joyful CDA sisters walking around the Sheraton Hotel and expressing their happiness at being on our beautiful island. I had the opportunity of being in charge of the Walk/Run for Love Tee shirts, and it was gratifying to see that the participation and donations to Charities and Projects was a total success. We had 140 registered and even under the drizzling rain, they walked the extra mile for love. This was my second National Convention and the most important one because I had the opportunity to be part of the preparation of a National Convention which turned out to be spectacular. Thank you for the wonderful experience.

Estoy muy contenta con el resultado tan espectacular de nuestra 59no Convención Nacional Bienal celebrada en Puerto Rico. Ver tantas hermanas HCA caminando por el Hotel Sheraton contentas de estar allí y de estar en nuestra hermosa isla. Tuve la oportunidad de estar a cargo de las camisetas del Walk/Run for Love y la participación en registro y donaciones para las distintas Caridades y Proyectos fue todo un éxito, aun con las lloviznas que cayeron caminaron la milla extra por amor. Esta fue mi 2da Convención Nacional y la más importante porque tuve la oportunidad de estar en la preparación de lo que resulto ser una Convención exitosa. Gracias por esta experiencia maravillosa. 🙏



Primavera Johnson Vazquez
Puerto Rico State Treasurer

Convention Reflections

I found the Convention to be a fun and very educational experience. I always knew that the efforts of a convention was something that took a lot of time to accomplish. I have come to have a great respect for those states that have had the opportunity to host a National Convention. It makes me realize that having a State convention is relatively easy compared to all the hard work that goes into a National Convention. I cannot wait for the next convention.

Encontre la convención como algo divertido y muy educativo. Siempre sabía que hacer una convención toma mucho tiempo lograr que salga todo bien. Con esta experiencia tengo simpatía y respeto por otros estados que han pasado por lo mismo. Me da con la conclusión de que tener una convención estatal es relativamente fácil comparado con una a nivel nacional. No puedo esperar para la próxima convención para poder disfrutar de esta experiencia de nuevo y realmente apreciar lo que el estado anfitrión tiene que lograr para que sea todo un éxito. 🇵🇷



Dr. Heather Rave, New York



Karen Jones, California



Past Secretary to National Regent Rita Carlson, Iowa



Secretary to National Regent Susan Killian



PUERTO RICO COURT CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

At the 100th anniversary of the founding of Court Santa Rosa de Lima #612, Bayamón, Puerto Rico, court members participated in a Mass and lunch and listened to an account of the service activities by Court Santa Rosato to those most in need. In the photo are court officers, left to right, Teresita Aponte, Lima Laureano, Luz T. Martínez, Lilibeth Román and Marigloria Loubriel y Elsita Pezquera.



SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY FOR COLORADO COURT

Court Sacred Heart #1606, Cortez, Colorado, held its 70th year Anniversary Mass during which Fr. Lorenzo Uribe, CR, invited all Catholic Daughters present to join him in the Sanctuary during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. A celebratory dinner followed served by the Knights of Columbus Council #4209. In the photo court members can be seen in the Sanctuary with Father Uribe.



HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED BY PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Court Our Lady of Victory, # 722, Northern Cambria, Pennsylvania, celebrated its 100th Anniversary on Sunday April 24. Merlann Molloy described the event. "We had a Divine Liturgy by our Court Chaplain Father Mark Groeger who also called all court members to the front for a special Blessing and a rose presentation to us. Everyone then proceeded to the Cambrian Hills Country Club for a program and dinner. Members celebrating anniversary years were presented pins and of course Ruth was the main participant -- celebrating her 75 years as a Catholic Daughter! The court presented her with a Lifetime membership and a plaque of recognition." The court also received a proclamation from Pennsylvania Representatives Frank Burns and Thomas R. Sankey.



TEXAS COURT CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY AND ANNUAL FAMILY DINNER

Court Annunciation #1962, La Grange, Texas, held its 56th Anniversary and Annual Family Dinner that included a reception of new members; recognition of the four living Charter Members; the presentation of six 50-year and eleven 25-year pins. Education Contest winners were announced and given certificates and prizes, twelve Memorial Scholarships of \$500.00 each were awarded to children of members, three scholarships of \$300.00 were given to outstanding JCDA members; and a \$500.00 donation presented to Sacred Heart School Library. The court was honored to have the five Texas State Officers and District 11 Deputy present. In the photo, new members, seated from left, Kathy Winkler, Maria Benitez Rodriguez, Elvira Alvarado, Sienna Davidson, Alessandra Solorzano, Brynn Mikulenska, Lesly Garcia and Elsa Gonzalez; standing from left, Regent Shirley Antosh, Rylee Hatfield, Kelly Mozisek, Laura Peschke, Veronica Linaje, Shelby Stavino, Kelli Tavarez, Robyn Ulrich, Jordan Zapalac, Sandy Machemehl, Caroline Lauber, Juana Gonzalez, Carmen Julieta Soto, Isela Gonzalez, Membership Chairman Stacy Ryza and Membership Committee member Beatrice Ortiz.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATED BY ARKANSAS COURT

Court Our Lady of Victory, #564, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, honored its 100th Anniversary on December 11, 2021, with a Mass celebrated by Court Chaplain Rev. Joseph P. Marconi, assisted by Deacon Noel F. (Bud) Bryant. A banquet and program followed in St. Joseph Church's Gallagher Hall. A commemorative plaque was presented to the court by Arkansas State Regent Connie Boutwell. Court members seen in the picture attending Mass include, first row, left to right, Judy Reese, Second Vice State Regent Carolyn Wethington; State Regent Connie Boutwell, Immediate Past State Regent Trudy Pascale, Court Regent and Past National Director Mary Ann Kizer, Tismina Toh. Second row, left to right, Elizabeth Rinchuso, Stephanie Frase, Emma LaFitte, Kathryn Brickey, Barbara Akins, Gretchen Zell, Deborah Yor, and Carolyn Ferguson. Back row, Deacon Noel F. Bryant and his wife, Gail Bryant, Rev. Joseph P. Marconi, and Wendy Ruggeri. During the banquet, Connie Boutwell and Trudy Pascale read the 100-year History of the Court. Scrapbooks were on display and music was provided by Richard and Kerry Ellen Campbell.



GUAM COURT CELEBRATES 24 YEARS

Court Maria Rainan Y Familia #2450, Tamuning, Guam, celebrated its 24th anniversary with a Mass attended by local officers, members and family at St. Anthony of Padua, co-patron, St. Victor Church. Court Chaplain Reverend Michael Crisostomo was the celebrant. A brunch and Christmas celebration, with prayers and singing, followed. For the homebound members who were unable to attend, a gift basket of sundries was delivered to their homes. Members in the photo, front row, left to right, Julie Ann Blaz, Annie Diego, Recording Secretary Celeste Lizama, Lorraine Rivera, Regent Dr. Karen Sablan, Carmen Kasperbauer, Rosanne Lastimoza, Mary Joy Moore, Vice Regent Dora Salazar, a family member, Financial Secretary Monica Blaz and Terry Moore. Second row, left to right, Virginia Leon Guerrero, Julie Garcia, Yvonne Toves, Court Chaplain Reverend Michael Crisostomo, Rose Cahill, two family members, Past Regent Louise Rivera and Teresa Sakazaki.



MASSACHUSETTS COURT CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

On Sunday, April 24th, members of Court Henry A. Sullivan #584, Danvers, Massachusetts, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the court's institution with a Mass held at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church followed by a luncheon. The day was filled with spirituality and a wonderful celebration of unity in sisterhood. Pictured, back row, Massachusetts State Secretary Jenn Pacheco and State Treasurer Alicia Baer. Middle row, District Deputy and Past State Regent Linda Coletti, Second Vice State Regent Carol Ghiloni and State Regent Patricia Adams. Front row, Banner Bearer Ann Skahan, Recording Secretary Judi Shooter, Vice Regent Pauline Butler, Regent Diane McGrane, Treasurer Beverly Gallant, Financial Secretary Sandra Lane and Flag Bearer Mary Ann Zuber. Not pictured: Court Chaplain Monsignor Murphy.



MARYLAND COURT CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Although most of the court's anniversary year was virtual, Court Mother Mary Lange, #2441, Baltimore, Maryland, was able to celebrate 25 years of service in person on December 5, 2021. Court members were able to commune as one body with Christ at the 9:00AM Mass at St. Veronica's Church in Baltimore when, dressed in white, members proudly processed in with their banner and participated in Mass. "At the end of Mass, I was able to stand and thank the parish for all their support over the past 25 years," Regent Sherea Merez said. "In return, Fr. Stephen, Pastor, thanked the Catholic Daughters for our continued support of St. Veronica's. The past 25 years have brought us so much joy, growth, and love. Thank you, Maryland CDA, for being a great example of unity and charity!"



FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Resurrection #2054, Bay City, Texas, celebrated its 50th Anniversary at Bay City's Historic El Zarape Mexican Restaurant. Court Resurrection hosted the delicious meal of Mexican Cuisine and beverages for members and spouses. Charter Members in attendance were Margaret Hicks, Mary Ann McKinney and Dorothy Stavena. Fifty-Year Pin recipients were Margaret Hicks, Mary Ann McKinney, Dorothy Stavena, and Dorothy Saha. Twenty-five-year pin recipients were Julie Estlinbaum, Camille Green, Alice Hagaman, Wilma McDonald and Robbie Scheel. Court Resurrection's special guest for the evening was Reverend Stephen Vacek's dear friend and colleague, Father Bob Penhallurick. In the photo, back row Regent Barbara Carnley, Recording Secretary Claire Kucera and Reverend Vacek; front row, Financial Secretary Margaret Hicks and Treasurer Karen Owens.



TEXAS COURT HELPS THE HUNGRY

Court Queen of Peace #2710, Wichita Falls, Texas, assisted Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish who partnered with Interfaith Outreach Services in a 40 Days of Lent collection of food and hygiene items to replenish their food pantry. During the 40 Days of Lent, 6500 pounds of food/hygiene items were collected. Pictured from left to right, Deann Duncan, recording secretary; Diane Luig, vice regent; Carol Ross, regent; and Donna Lindeman, treasurer.



ARIZONA COURT SUPPORTS SERVICE MEMBERS

Fourteen members of Court Our Lady of the Desert #2164, Mesa, Arizona, had the opportunity to join with the Marine Corps League, Saguaro Detachment 554, and participate in Project Marine Care. Court members packed twenty-four 17 lb. Care Boxes to be sent to our troops deployed in combat areas, including Poland and Germany. Combat area soldiers have limited or no access to a Post Exchange to buy necessities and comfort items that are not government issued to them. Care Boxes are packed and shipped monthly. Items packed have all been donated and are the soldier's "most requested" items; i.e., beef jerky/Slim Jims, snack and breakfast bars, nuts, pretzels; instant oatmeal; instant coffee/hot chocolate, small canned goods (self-opening cans), etc. Court members were also encouraged to include cards/letters of encouragement, holy cards, prayer cards, rosaries, etc., in the boxes. In addition to volunteering to pack Care Boxes, members bring the soldiers' "most requested" items to each court meeting and items are donated to Project Marine Care. Five of the 14 members who participated are pictured, left to right, Theresa Anderson, Pat Brown, Jeffery Metcalf (Marine Corps League), Catherine Gaffney, Linda Maguire and Alice McGrath.



MINNESOTA STATE COMPLETES HABITAT BUILD

"Congratulations!" That's the greeting Minnesota State Regent Mary Pufall, National Director Darlene Moritz, National Director Nancy Bambenek and Court St. Anne #1840, Medford, Minnesota members Betty Hager, Gail Heim, Lois Nelson and Cathy Nelson were able to express to the new homeowners of the completed Habitat for Humanity Quad home in Northfield, Minnesota. "What a pleasure it was for us to attend the dedication of these homes and to celebrate with others who have been working toward this goal for nearly nine months," Minnesota Second Vice State Regent and Regent, Court St. Anne #1840, Medford, Minnesota, Cathy Nelson said. "And what an accomplishment! Financial sponsorship for this build was sought by Court St. Anne from the Minnesota and National Catholic Daughters. A generous grant was approved by each. At the home dedication, State Regent Mary Pufall presented a \$10,000 check from the Minnesota Catholic Daughters and National Director Darlene Moritz presented a \$10,000 check to Habitat for Humanity from National Catholic Daughters on behalf of National Habitat for Humanity Director Dawn Fortenberry." In the photo are members of the Habitat for Humanity partner families at the dedication.



"DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD" BY CALIFORNIA COURT

Court St. Francis of Assisi #1652, Hanford, California, participates in the "Dress a Girl Around the World" campaign under the Hope 4 Women International organization. Regent Teresa Evangelo explains. "Our members meet once a month and sew dresses for the campaign. The dresses are sent to the organization and then handed out worldwide to girls in the US and many foreign countries. Our court has made over 150 dresses that have been given to young girls. As a new dress is given to a girl, she is told that God loves her and that someone who made the dress cares for her very much and this changes how the girls feel and gives them a sense of self-dignity. The dress gives the appearance that the girl is well cared for and discourages predators such as those for sex trafficking." Pictured are court members holding many of the dresses that have been made.



COLORADO COURT HELPS NATIVE AMERICANS

Court Our Lady of Peace #2728, Woodland Park, Colorado, adopted "One Nation Walking Together" (ONWT) as one of the court's Circle of Love projects in 2020 and donated 200 items of food and \$200. The ONWT program was created to help Native American families who are suffering from food insecurity and hunger daily. The goal is to help ensure that native people do not go to bed hungry. During this pandemic it has been especially difficult to deliver food supplies as transportation costs have skyrocketed. "At our December 2021 court meeting," Evelyn Irving said, "members collected coats and other warm clothing, as well as many bags of food, as can be seen in the picture. Our hope is that the people on the Native American Reservations ONWT serves will keep warm in winter."



HAITIAN FAMILIES HELPED BY MARYLAND COURT

Court St. Joseph #2300, Sykesville, Maryland, has for the past 17 years helped fund the building of houses in Haiti, which dramatically changes the lives of so many unfortunate Haitian families. The 11th house that the court has funded with the cost of \$3600 per home was built in honor of Jackie Antkowiak's legacy since she was the Spiritual Advisor for the court prior to her passing. With loving words describing her, Jim McDaniel, Coordinator of Operation Starfish, which builds the homes in Haiti, presented Jackie's son Jeff and his wife Virginia Antkowiak with a certificate for the dedication of the Haiti House. Pictured left to right, Jeff and Virginia Antkowiak, Snookie Judge (the court's liaison to Operation Starfish) and Jim McDaniel. Court St. Joseph has a piggy bank that the members feed each meeting and they are currently ready to build their 12th home.



IOWA COURT HELPS FIGHT DOMESTIC ABUSE

During the month of April Iowa Catholic Daughters request donations to support 'Domestic Abuse Prevention and Counseling.' Lifesaver candies are given out as a thank you for the donation. Pictured is Immediate Past State Regent Karen Kasparbauer, also a member of Court Our Lady of Fatima #1492, Manning, Iowa, presenting some of the court's donated monies to Tina Zanders, MS, LMSW, a therapist at the Carroll, Iowa, Catholic Charities.



TEXAS COURT RACES FOR CANCER CURE

Court St. Jude #2363, Laredo, Texas, joined other teams in support of the Webb County American Cancer Society Relay for Life. In addition to fund raising, the event raises awareness and provides a means of showing support for cancer survivors and commemorating loved ones that succumbed to the disease. Court team members in the photo, bottom, Claudia Rojas, left, and her daughter Alissa Rojas. Top row, left to right, Ivonne Gonzalez Martinez, Regent Zulema P. Ramirez and Zelestte Gonzalez (daughter of Ivonne Gonzalez Martinez).



UKRAINE RELIEF GIVEN BY VIRGINIA COURT

Court Kavanaugh #54, Alexandria, Virginia, would like to thank Basilica parishioners for their tremendous generosity and support of the court's collection for the Ukrainian relief effort. Past Virginia State Regent Elizabeth Scheuren said, "Thanks to your incredible generosity, we collected \$16,274 — truly amazing! All the funds collected will be sent to Caritas Internationalis, a consortium of Catholic aid organizations active on the ground in Ukraine and neighboring countries that provide food, shelter, hygiene and medical assistance to displaced people suffering from the ravages of the war. May God bless and reward you for your generosity. In the photo, left to right, court members Olga Veltman, Helen Lynch, Anna Maria Kaczmarek (Project Leader), Past Virginia State Regent Elizabeth Scheuren and Stefan Dechert (Son of Anna Maria) collecting donations outside the Basilica of Saint Mary.



"GOODIES" TO SEMINARIANS FROM TEXAS COURT

Members of Court Santa Angela #1736, San Angelo, Texas, gathered goodies to send to seminarians to help them during finals week. In the photo, bottom left to right, Vice Regent Priscilla Keating, Financial Secretary Martha Tafoya and Circle of Love Chairman Susan Roehrig-Quick. Top row, left to right, Margaret Courville, Pollie Lux, Linda Barajas, Charlotte Drone, Treasurer Jennifer Torres, Betty Brockmann and Celi Padilla.



MINNESOTA COURT HELPS THE HUNGRY

Dianne Rohde-Szarke, Regent of Court St. Rita #409, Perham, Minnesota, court members and Court Chaplain Deacon Richard Quistorff recently presented a check for \$400.00 to John Leikness, Executive Director of the Bridge Pantry. The money was raised by the members of the court to help support the Bridge Pantry's dedication to the health and wellbeing of the community. Diane can be seen in the photo presenting the check while court members look on.



WISCONSIN COURT SUPPORTS PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

Clarity Clinic of Platteville, Wisconsin, was happy to receive donations from Court St Rose #4, Cuba City, Wisconsin, for their 'Love for Life' project held during Valentine season. The court supervised and with the help of the parish family collected the Center's wish list of baby needs and office supplies. A child was heard to say as she was putting a bottle of baby lotion in the crib, "I like taking care of babies." Court members can be seen in the photo around a crib with gifts for the center.



NEW HAMPSHIRE COURT BRINGS EASTER JOY TO HOMELESS CHILDREN

Members of Court Pope John Paul II #2602, Penacook, New Hampshire, got together the week before Easter to assemble Easter “baskets” (sand pails) for all the children living at the Friends Emergency Housing in Concord, which provides temporary housing for homeless families. This year, members filled 14 baskets with chocolate Easter bunnies, sidewalk chalk, colored pencils or crayons, bubbles, puzzles and other age-appropriate fun items for Spring. The members enjoy this yearly activity knowing that it brings a lot of joy to the children who are living in a difficult situation. For Valentine’s Day this year, members put together Valentine bags, each holding a signed Valentine card, candy and stickers also for the children at the Friends Emergency Housing. Surrounding the filled baskets are, left to right, Linda Gallagher, secretary; Roberta Thompson; Diane Thompson, Mary Hughes; Gail Dragon; Claudette Flora, treasurer; Jean Boudreau; Vicki Starkweather and Ellen Maziarz, regent.



THOSE IN NEED CHEERED BY SOUTH DAKOTA COURT

Several members of Court Little Flower #1054, Highmore, South Dakota, put together spring cheer baskets for the elderly, sick, service members and shut-ins of the community. The baskets were personally delivered to their doors by court members. They were filled with a variety of treats, homemade cookies, juice donated by local Father Gorman Knights of Columbus Council and lots of love and cheer. “After two years of isolated pandemic conditions,” Colleen Harris said, “the baskets were cheerfully received and brightened many spirits and the days of those who received them.”



HOMELESS MOTHERS HELPED BY NEW YORK COURT

Members of Court Father John P. Mooney #1921, Mahopac, New York, collected blankets, towels and other items for Good Counsel Homes. This is an organization which provides supportive residential care for homeless new and expectant mothers and their children in the context of the Catholic social tradition. Their services include training in employment and parenting. Seated in the center of the photo is Margaret Scarfi who accepted the items on behalf of the agency. Court members in the photo are Carole Kraus, who recently celebrated 50 years as a member of CDA, Barbara Neary, Mary Christenson and Francoise Santalis.



TEXAS COURT SUPPORTS LIFE

Court Mary, Mother of Mercy #2143, Hillsboro, Texas, delivered items from their Annual Right to Life Baby Shower to Hill Regional Hospital. Pictured from left to right are administrators for the maternity ward at Hill Regional, Vice Regent Margaret Kennedy and court member Peggy Sogard.



MINNESOTA COURT BUSSES TABLES FOR CHARITY

Twelve volunteers from Court St. Joan of Arc #1291, Marshall, Minnesota, helped with a fundraiser at the Pizza Ranch restaurant. They bussed the tables for all the customers throughout that evening and were rewarded with 10% of the evening sales plus tips. Publicity Chairman Margie Dahl said, "We had a wonderful crowd come out for supper on a cold winter night. At the end of the night, we were presented with a check for \$336.54. Our plan for this fundraiser was to assist with our CDA Scholarship Program. We all were so pleased with the results and what a fun night was had!" In the photo holding an enlarged check sign, front row, Yvonne Girard, Mary Jo Eick, Mary Pat Middleton and Karol Kopitski. Back row, Paula Curry, Vicki Meulebroeck, Gin Windey and Mary Carstensen.



VIRGINIA COURT BRINGS EASTER CHEER TO HOMEBOUND

Members of Court of Redeemer's Angels #2456, Mechanic, Virginia, met at the Atlee Library with participants from the Hanover Adult Center's (HAC) Linking Lives Program to make 35 Easter baskets for the homebound parishioners of Redeemer. "From the generous donations collected from our court, each basket had enough goodies to put a smile on anyone's face!" Vice Regent Linda Gay said. "What was most rewarding for us was the enthusiasm of the Linking Lives helpers! They visit assisted living facilities, make new friends and share various interests with the residents and help with small projects at area churches, and some have jobs at local businesses. Thank you all for making this Easter Project a "Spring Gift" to Redeemer. May our dear Lord bless you always!!" Among those in the photo are court officers and members, left, Jackie Droujinsky, recording secretary; in sunglasses, Molly Maloney. Back row, right Regent Marilyn Alfaro; in blue jacket Linda Gay, vice regent.



PREGNANCY CARE CENTER HELPED BY TEXAS COURT

Members of Court St. Mary #2565, Brownwood, Texas, partnered with parishioners of St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church to host a baby shower at the church's parish hall for the Brownwood Pregnancy Care Center. A pack-n-play, highchair, hand-made quilts, burp cloths, and outfits, along with diapers, formula, and store-bought clothing was donated to the Pregnancy Care Center. The baby shower included food, games, prizes, and fun. Pregnancy Care Center Client Advocate and St. Mary Queen of Peace parishioner Karen Mosqueda gave an informative speech about the valuable services provided by the center. The Pregnancy Care Center is a blessing to many men and women in the community as it provides care and support at such a significant time in their lives. Court members and parishioners can be seen in the photo standing behind a large table with the many gifts from the baby shower.



HOMELSS MEN HELPED BY MINNESOTA COURT

Every spring, members of Court St. Mary #509, Moorhead, Minnesota, donate items for the Dorothy Day House, a men's homeless shelter in Moorhead. Brandy Pelzel explains. "This year our members donated about two carloads of supplies (one in March and one in April). Donations included food, personal care items, towels, blankets, socks, t-shirts, and more." Donated items are shown with four participating court members standing behind the table.



MARYLAND COURT SUPPORTS BIRTHRIGHT

Court Annapolis #326, Annapolis, Maryland, hosted a baby shower for Birthright of Annapolis. "It was a lovely affair," Regent Nancy Fulton said, "with court members bringing gifts to supply Birthright with Layette gifts they give to all new mothers when they give birth to their babies. All the items were so carefully and lovingly chosen to welcome these precious babies into the world and to encourage their mothers with their support." In the photo, left to right, Margaret Abel, Andrea Harrison, Financial Secretary Maurine Kostkowski, Nancy Fulton, Sue Skinner, Myra Moeller, Carol Josey, Vice Regent Jean Somers and Recording Secretary Wendy Fulton.



BABY CLOTHING DRIVE BY TEXAS COURT

Court St. Ann Mother of Mary #1649, La Vernia, Texas, recently held a Baby Clothing Drive to benefit the South Texas Pregnancy Care Center. "We invited our parishioners to participate and had a tag distribution after the Masses on one weekend," Publicity Chairman Bette Trainer said. "The number of items collected was outstanding. We had more than enough to supply the Pregnancy Center, so we were also able to bring items to the Seton Home in San Antonio." In the photo Adrienne Schoemaker, Janice McMahon, Regent Pam Javier and Rose Marie Kotara organize the items in preparation for delivery.



NORTH CAROLINA COURT SPONSORS BLANKET DRIVE

Court Infant of Prague #1643, Jacksonville, North Carolina, sponsored a blanket drive collection at Infant of Prague Catholic Church to benefit Onslow County homeless. A total of 112 twin sized blankets were donated to Onslow County Homeless Shelter and Philippians Place Homeless Shelter. Twin sized blankets were requested to fit cots, but our generous parishioners brought other sizes, which were donated to other organizations. We were able to supply Alzheimer's Related Care with 12 lap blankets and Onslow County Animal Shelter with 14 blankets. This is a start to an annual drive. Our court chaplain Reverend J. Victor Gournas blessed the blankets before they were delivered. North Carolina State Regent Bonnie Fox attended the blanket blessing as well.



TEXAS COURT DONATES TO LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENTS

Court Our Lady Queen of Peace #1374, El Campo, Texas, presented the local Police Department, Fire Department and EMS Department with charitable donations including two rolling desk chairs, office supplies and a rolling utility cart. Ten Catholic Daughters were present on the morning of the presentation along with members of the El Campo Police, Fire and EMS departments. Court members were also given a tour of the facility. In the photo, court members standing with service members behind some of the gifts given, left to right, LaDell Janda, Vice Regent Susie Priesmeyer, Rose Ann Mitchell, Jeraldine Socha, Margie Swoboda, Rose Marie Janak, Bettie Priesmeyer, Janet Holub, Regent/Deputy Regent Lori Kocurek and Cindy Riha. The court, which has 442 members, also donated to the Wharton County Sheriff's Department.



MAY CROWNING BY NEBRASKA COURT

Court St. Michael #697, O'Neill, Nebraska, held its May Crowning of Mary at its monthly meeting. The St. Mary's Elementary Second Grade New First Communicants attended the meeting to crown Mary and lead the rosary. They were assisted by their teacher Mrs. Melinda Podany and retired teacher Mrs. Nancy Berg, a forty-two-year member of CDA. "We are so blessed!" Linda Schneider said. The second-graders can be seen in the photo around the table with the statue of Mary in the middle.



TEXAS JUNIOR JOINS SENIOR COURT

National Director Carolyn Malik of Court St. Paul #1604, Shiner, Texas, was happy to pledge Samantha Siegel, a former JCDA President from the Shiner court as a senior court member. An added joy was that Carolyn pledged Samantha as a JCDA member and now pledged her as a senior member. Carolyn, left, is seen in the photo with Samantha at the ceremony.



NEW JUNIOR COURT IN ARKANSAS

JCDA Court Daughters of Grace was instituted on February 19, 2022, sponsored by Court Our Lady of the Holy Redeemer, #2574, El Dorado, Arkansas. In the photo, front row, are Arkansas Second Vice State Regent Carolyn Wethington, First Vice State Regent Judi Ostergaard, Heather Drummond, Michelle Ayala, Haley Simpson, Ashlyn Rogers, Alex Rudolph and Fr. Edward D'Almeida. Back row, Regent Laura Doyle, District Deputy Anita Lockwood, Janelle Drummond, Holly Drummond and Jocelyn Cabriaes. Not Pictured, Jasenia Mariela Alvarez. "We are the only JCDA court in Arkansas," said Arkansas First Vice State Regent and Arkansas JCDA State Chairman Judi Ostergaard, "but we look forward to expanding with more courts in the future."



IOWA COURT ANNOUNCES CONTEST WINNERS

Court St. Anthony #330, Council Bluffs, Iowa, announced its education contest winners from St. Albert School. Chairman Mariann Hilderbrand made presentations and Jen Brown made the announcements as emcee. St. Albert Director of Development Jonathon Quigley was present. The winners were Brooklyn Hughes, Tinley Flanagan, Patrick McGill, Maeve Ryan, Jahir Alvarado and Elise Wilson. Elise can be seen in the photo with her First Place Division II Photography entry. Photo by Regent Carol Hollenbeck.



CONTEST WINNERS AT CALIFORNIA COURT

Court Our Lady of the Miracle #1707, Novato, California, presented certificates and awards to winners in both Divisions of the Education Contest at Our Lady of Loretto School. Recipients can be seen proudly holding their certificates, supported by Recording Secretary Joan Sheehan standing on the left and Regent Holly Hass standing on the right.



PENNSYLVANIA COURT ANNOUNCES CONTEST WINNERS

Court St. Bernard #339, Indiana, Pennsylvania, held an awards ceremony to honor the local winners of the court's National Education Contest. Students from St. Bernard's Regional Catholic School and home school students competed in four categories using the themes of "With God All Things are Possible" or "Where is God in My Life When I am Struggling." Students were encouraged to use their skill, talent and imagination while conforming to the rules of the competition. In the photo, seated, left to right, Emily Ferguson, Sara Gornick, Bella Cribbs, Breanna Cribbs and Rachel Cribbs. Standing, left to right, Sullivan Waterhouse, Domenic Mains, Barbara Minor, Joseph Pittman, Jr. and Isaac Bennett.



JUNIORS MAKE ROOT BEER FLOATS

JCDA Court St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Las Vegas, Nevada, held a Root Beer Float event. Despite the extremely windy day, the young ladies had a record sale under their leader, Lourdes Caeg. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the local Ronald McDonald House, St. Jude's Ranch, Nevada Blind Children's Foundation and the MICAH program designed to assist students with special needs to realize their potential academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.



LADIES RETREAT HELD BY WISCONSIN COURT

Court La Crosse #1183, La Crosse, Wisconsin, hosted a Ladies Retreat for the Women of the La Crosse Diocese. Sandra Borreson explains, "We started our morning with Mass, Adoration and a Rosary devotion at the St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral here in La Crosse. A light breakfast was served with a presentation by Clare Ruff on Women of Virtue and Women of Courage focusing on Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity with time for group discussions. It was a beautiful morning for our women to start their Lenten journey." In the photo Clare Ruff presents as attendees listen attentively.



NEW YORK COURT SUPPORTS OUR TROOPS

Members of Court Patricia #195, Newburgh, New York, collected supplies to be mailed to our military personnel overseas. The items consisted of personal care products, sweets and treats, and other objects. Many of these are hard to come by for our military personnel and they look forward to receiving care packages from a program called "Support our Heroes" (www.Supportourheroes.today). According to their website, "Supporting our troops is a multidimensional process; one aspect that can sometimes be overlooked is giving support to military families who are making do while the service member is deployed or wounded. Care packages serve as friendly reminders to our service men and women that citizens recognize the sacrifices made by the entire military family."



SOUTH DAKOTA COURT SPONSORS BILLBOARDS

Members of Court St. Christina, #2336, Lennox, South Dakota, under the direction of court member Mrs. Patty Markley and her husband Earl have been working to place billboards across eastern South Dakota and beyond that contain the message "Immaculate Heart of Mary Pray for Us." The billboards began going up prior to the U.S. elections and will continue as long as contributions are available. Mr. Markley said, "People of all religions are saying this prayer every time they read the message on the billboard. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for Us!"



LOUISIANA COURT MEMBERS ON PILGRIMAGE

Ten members of St. Rose de Lima Court #1194, St. Amant, Louisiana, drove 60 miles to spend a Saturday exploring the St. Helena Catholic Church in Amite where more than 130 religious relics are displayed. For several hours they toured this unique church campus with its Garden of Gethsemane for meditation, St. Peter's Courtyard featuring statues of the apostles, another garden detailing the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist, a coffee shop named "The Perk-a-tory" and Mary's Pavilion outside an Adoration Chapel. They prayed the Rosary, attended Mass and spent a very spiritual day together. In the photo, left to right, Sandi Hack, Veronica Brown, Deborah Heath, Lynne Keller, Father Mark Beard, Rebecca Tambling, Estelle Babin, Melissa Madere, Laurie Gautreaux, Susan Haydel and National Director Dawn Fortenberry.



WASHINGTON COURT MARCHES FOR LIFE

Members of Court Caruana #906, Yakima, Washington, participated in the Annual Walk for Life on Yakima Avenue on Saturday, January 22, 2022. In the photo are Kathy Vernon, Marilyn Blanchard, Sandy Metz, Linda Gabel-Shepherd, Thereasa Trujillo and Elaine Perko.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS BY TEXAS COURT

Court St. Rose de Lima # 827, Mission, Texas, gathered to pray the Stations of the Cross during Lent at St. Paul's Catholic Church Prayer Garden. In the photo, left to right, Alicia Mendoza, Regent Lila Ledesma, Ana Salinas, Melba Olivarez, Alma Anzaldua, Graciela Ramos, Diana Cramer, Hope Contreras, Carmen Fernandez and Ethel Gonzalez.



IOWA COURT HELPS CARE FACILITY MEMBERS

Members from Court Sacred Heart #408, Spencer, Iowa, made hand lotion to deliver to those from their parish who are in care facilities. Students at Sacred Heart School made Valentines to go with each container of lotion. Pictured with their nicely wrapped gifts are, left to right, Sheila Currans, Mary O'Brien, Mary Reissner, Trudy Elbert, Macrina Tesch and Marilyn Bock.



NEW YORK COURT CELEBRATES MEMBERS

Court St. Joseph #975, Ronkonkoma, New York, was blessed to celebrate 26 members at a Pinning Award Ceremony. Regent Linda Savage presented anniversary pins and long-stemmed roses to members with service to the Catholic Daughters ranging from 10 to 45 years. A party followed attended by District Deputy Kathy Knott. In photo, seated, left to right, Sharon Marchany, Serafina Maraviglia, Lucretia Lucivero, Marie Avena, Karen Mulligan, Jane Ennis, Annette Vitalino, Curine Young, Marie DeFilippo, Catherine Gallagher and Ramona Kelly. Standing, left to right, Eileen McManus, Sherry Banz, Angela D'Aguanno, Madeline Udod, Rita Zwirblis, Emily Harris, Judy Moore, Financial Secretary Pat McQuaid, Maureen Harkins, Vice Regent Liz Curry, Regent Linda Savage, Treasurer Jackie Dale, Janet Kramer, Libby Tripi, Carol Ellis, Gerri Jansen, Barbara Cutrone, Fran Llanes, Marie Souffrant-Bleck, and District Deputy Kathy Knott. Absent members receiving award pins were Julia Rivellesse, Margaret Flood, Janet Lamm, Barbara Mikelson, Theresa Cronin, Rosemary McMenamin, MaryEllen Bergin, Diane Leupoldz and Wilmercia Fontaine. Missing from the photo was court member and photographer Brittney Biehner.



NORTH CAROLINA COURT "FLOCKS" FOR CHILDREN

Members of Court Wilmington #1036, Wilmington, North Carolina, held a "flocking" for Victory Junction Camp. Members stood outside St. Mary Basilica Shrine in Wilmington before and after each Mass. The grounds were decorated with flamingos dressed in their racing finery. Victory Junction is a camp that services children with medical and physical disabilities. The weekend after the flocking Court Wilmington was able to present a check for \$1,760 to Victory Junction at the North Carolina State Retreat which was held at the camp. In the photo, collecting donations outdoors, are court members Jo Anne Shadroui, Treasurer Margaret Holliday and Gini Mulligan.



NEW YORK COURT HOLDS FESTIVE "PAR-TEA"

Court Our Lady of the Lake #2585, Patterson, New York, held its first successful all-girl "Par-tea" at Sacred Heart Church in Patterson. Over 80 members from ten courts and their family members came wearing tea-party attire with fancy hats or fascinators. "Everyone said that they enjoyed the variety of teas, petit sandwiches and delicious desserts on the Victorian-garden tea tables," Tina Pennacchia said, "Our love and gratitude go to several of our sisters who joined us from other courts which included, Court Bernadine in Brewster, Court Fr. John P. Mooney of Mahopac, Court Madonna in Port Jervis, Court Nilan of Highland, Court Queen of Peace in Wappingers, Court Margaret Mary of Monroe, Court Joan of Arc in Haverstraw, Court of the Assumption in Maybrook, Court Fr. Raphael in Narrowsburg, and even a few sisters from Court #2686 Tuscaloosa, Alabama, showed up." Tina added, "We were honored with the presence of our Past National Regent and Past New York State Regent Helene Shepard and New York State Secretary Patti Drivanos, who were kind enough to speak on behalf of the Catholic Daughters."



PILGRIMAGE BY CALIFORNIA COURT

Court St. Joachim #2553, Madera, California, went on a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bakersfield. The shrine was built and is maintained by the Oblates of St. Joseph and includes a beautiful grotto for Our Lady of Guadalupe and a memorial garden centered around a statue of the Holy Spouses, Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Joseph, co-patrons of the unborn. Fr. Larry Toschi gave a moving talk on Our Lady and healing from the loss of a child. Pictured, top to bottom, left, Charlene Stanley, Lupe Cavazos, Linda Lamaack, Lovy Patchell, Corrine Machado, Jeanne Bryan and Lydia Perez. Top to bottom right, Fr Larry Toschi, Victoria Cazares-Pajarillo, Dee Tharp, Ana Garcia, Mariah Elizando, Shannon Harvey, Makayla Soria and Linda Parkhurst.



ARIZONA COURT HOLDS GARAGE SALE

Court Madonna #2067, Sun City, Arizona, recently held a garage sale to make money for their annual charities. "The project brought our members closer by working together and having a great time getting to know each other a little better," Vera Dietrich said. "It was a great day, and a huge success in that we were able to sell enough to meet our charity goal." In the photo court members are seen selling items at the sale.



BANK AWARDS CHECK TO CALIFORNIA COURT

Court Santa Maria #1079, Santa Maria, California, received a \$1,000 check from Community Bank of Santa Maria as a result of a project in which the bank pledged to donate \$20,000 to local non-profit organizations as part of their 20th Anniversary celebration. Recording Secretary Theresa M. Casey explains. "Our court received this generous donation thanks to one of our members, Phyllis Sabo, who took the time to fill out the application indicating all the things we do as a Catholic Christian Women's organization locally, statewide and nationally." In the photo, left to right, Phyllis Sabo, Janet Silveria, President/CEO of the Community Bank of Santa Maria, and Regent Yolanda Ramos.



WOMEN'S RETREAT BY CONNECTICUT COURT

Court Saint Matthew #2640, Norwalk, Connecticut, held a women's retreat with featured speaker Dr. Joan Kelly, Professor of Catholic Studies at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. The event was attended by 60 women who enjoyed Dr. Kelly's insight on the topic of Marian Devotion Through the Ages. The day also included time for meditation, prayer and reconciliation and concluded with Mass celebrated by Father Jeff Couture. In the photo, back row, Maureen Moccia, Syndi Buckley, Nancy Piro, Tina Hurtzel, Peggy Bonhage, Kathleen Gansert, Pam Kress, Margaret Sandstrom, Jean Smeriglio and Rosy Mastracchio. Front row, Anita Mancusi, Brenda Koroscil, Dr. Joan Kelly, DeeAnn Dorrico, Elena Nowack, Dorita Blanchard and Bea Krewicki. Kneeling: Karen Iaco.



FIRST RESPONDERS HONORED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Rev. Mr. Herbert Scholler #2085, New Braunfels, Texas, sponsored a First Responder Project designed to recognize their city's first responders and create an avenue for their Catholic school students to celebrate what these men and women do for their community. Dorothy Matschek explains. "The first step of the project was to present the guidelines to the students at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School and invite them to create a piece of artwork that would honor first responders. With that done, the court members selected the one piece of art that they felt was most appropriate. The artwork by fourth grade student June P. was then made into a card. Inside of the card was written 'We thank you and we are praying for you!' The court then had the cards printed for local first responder police and sheriff departments and fire stations." Dorothy added, "This project touched the hearts of all involved." June P.'s drawing is seen in the photo.



MINNESOTA COURT CROWNS MARY

Court Queen of Peace #1558, Slayton, Minnesota, observed Mary's month in May with a procession of court members into church and the placing of flowers in front of Mary. In the photo seen crowning Mary is Jada Jackels, daughter of Lon and Jody Jackels.



NEW TEXAS COURT INSTITUTED

Court Ladies of La Salette #2777, Lufkin, Texas, was instituted on February 12, 2022. In the photo are members of the newly instituted court with Texas State Officers, left to right, Texas State Secretary Virginia Olsovsky; First Vice State Regent Carolyn Ritchey; State Regent Rebecca Brown; Second Vice State Regent Terrie Vacek; and State Treasurer Dela Garza.



ARIZONA COURT IS FASHIONABLE

Court Our Lady of the Lake #2213, Lake Havasu City, Arizona, held its 10th annual Fashion Show. The theme was "Love Is in the Air!" In addition to the Fashion Show and luncheon, there were basket raffles, a silent auction and door prizes. Proceeds will go to scholarships for local students. In the photo are the models, from left to right, Dawn Moore, Gaby Fonseca, Mary Comella, Jo Ann Ferguson, Doreene Alexis, Charlotte VanNierop, Bonnie Thomas, Rosemary Shanahan and Bernie Barber.



HEALING RETREAT HELD BY TEXAS COURT

Court Our Lady of the Hills #2415, Round Rock, Texas, hosted a Women's Retreat of Healing of Growth and Prayer on April 9, 2022. Ladies from the church community and sister courts enjoyed the Retreat facilitated by Sr. Helen Raycraft, OP., titled "I am God's Beloved." The retreat was coordinated by Spiritual Enhancement co-chairs Linda Freeman and Sandra Larmeu. Referring to the large number of retreatants in the picture, Regent Lupe Kavanaugh said, "It had been too long since we had a retreat...but finally we did! And look at the response and all those beautiful smiles!"



IOWA STATE HOSTS NATIONAL REGENT DAY

Iowa State honored National Regent Sherry Nilles, who is from Iowa, on National Regent Day. In the photo, Iowa State Regent and Assistant to the National Regent Rita Carlson welcomes attendees. Seen at the table in the background are Sherry Nilles and Iowa Chaplain Monsignor Ed Girres.



HOUSE OF PRAYER BY FLORIDA COURT

Court St. John Vianney #1944, St. Pete Beach, Florida attended the Spirit FM Women's Morning of Renewal and Reflection prior to their May meeting. They gathered with approximately 150 women from across the Diocese of St. Petersburg to celebrate "behold" and "beheld" as presented by Msgr. Michael Muhr, Director of Ministry to Priests, and Mary Kennedy, with music by Francesca of Spirit FM Radio. The session was held at Our Lady of Divine Providence House of Prayer. Pictured in front of the statue of Our Lady of Divine Providence, back row, Recording Secretary Regina Joly, Treasurer Toni Hawkins, Past National Secretary Treasurer Rose Tomassi, Past National Regent Joanne Tomassi, front row, Regent Luisa Long, member Marjorie Hynish.



OREGON COURT HELPS CHILDREN

Court Klamath #1295, Klamath Falls, Oregon, honored longtime Sacred Heart parishioner Ken Morton before his retirement as director of Klamath-Lake CARES with a \$500 donation to the child abuse intervention, response and education clinic affiliated with Sky Lakes Medical Center. After expressing his appreciation, Ken introduced Bethany Holmes, daughter of court member and lifelong Sacred Heart parishioner Maureen and her husband Larry Jespersen. Larry described Safe Families for Children as a new faith-based program that helps families in crisis through difficult times with a network of trained volunteers who temporarily host children in their homes or provide guidance, childcare, transportation, resources, hope and encouragement. Churches can partner with their Christ-centered ministry in helping families one by one. Their website is www.heartswithamission.org/safefamilies. Court Klamath also elected new officers Regent Doreen League, Vice Regent Sara O'Connor Merck, Treasurer Carlye Woodman, Financial Secretary Anne Hartnett and Recording Secretary Lynne Butterworth. In the photo Bethany Holmes stands with Ken Morton.



DISCERNING WOMEN AIDED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Pope Pius XII #1805, Lubbock, Texas, provided a cheese enchilada dinner to young ladies and women discerning God's will for their life. Sister Olivia Rico, assistant for the Office of Vocations led the Dinner with prayer and personal vocation stories. Pictured from left to right are Regent Georgina Barrera Chaleen Battaglia, Suzy Salas, Sister Olivia, Vice Regent Soyla Castillo, District Deputy Eva Estrada, Treasurer Lupe Cervantes and Patricia Marrufo.



ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION BY MINNESOTA COURT

Court St. Margaret #1888, Eveleth, Minnesota, sponsored a St. Nicholas Day Celebration for families of Resurrection Parish, in Eveleth and St. Joseph's Parish in Gilbert. The celebration was held in Resurrection Church Hall after the 10:00 a.m. Mass and included a brunch, crafts for the children and a visit and treats from St. Nicholas. Four Confirmation students also helped with the event. The photo shows St. Nicholas with some of the children that attended the event.



MONTANA COURT HOLDS LUNCHEON

Court St. Katherine #239, Glendive, Montana, held their annual spring hot dish and salad luncheon. "After two years it was great to be able to hold our annual fund raiser for our court," Cindy Weiss said. "With the work of many hands it was a successful luncheon and enjoyed by all."



TRAVELING SHRINE BY NEBRASKA COURT

For many years Court Our Lady of Faith #2604, Omaha, Nebraska, had a traveling prayer bag, which contained spiritual resources including a statue of the Blessed Virgin, CDA rosary, CDA votive, prayer intention journal and Divine Mercy DVD. The bag was passed from member to member until the Court suspended the tradition in March 2020, due to the pandemic. The court's Spirituality Committee wanted to bring back the tradition of the traveling prayer bag and revitalize the contents. They commissioned a parish master wood crafter to handcraft a shrine for the Blessed Virgin. A new traveling case to protect the Shrine replaced the bag. Spiritual resources and an album of memorial cards of the court's beloved deceased members travel inside the case. The Court Chaplain blessed the new traveling shrine as the Court sent it out again, member to member, every two weeks, to spiritually enhance their personal prayer time and space.



ANGEL TREE SPONSORED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Immaculate Mary #2134, Angleton, Texas, sponsored an Angel Tree for the families of Most Holy Trinity parish in Angleton. Families were "adopted" and gifts were collected and handed out to the adopted families. Pictured from left to right are Linnet Orlik, Becky Brown, Gail Thomas, Denise Templet, Peggy Keillor and Carmela Tedrick.



CORPORATE MASS BY NEW MEXICO COURT

Charter members of the newly instituted Court San Antonio de Padua #2774, Fort Sumner, New Mexico, celebrated their First Corporate Mass on November 21, 2021. Prior to Mass a Rosary for Priests was led by court members. In the photo, left to right, Regent Angel Segura, Jazelle Segura, Financial Secretary Margarita Chavez, Vice Regent Elizabeth Torres, Reverend Sotero Sena, Recording Secretary Rosella Bogle, Treasurer Lucy Bassler, Miki Dimitroff, Lee Smith, and Debbie Lucero. Members not present were Ana Sanchez, Erma Rodriguez and Esther Segura.



MEMORIAL ALTAR CLOTHS BY TEXAS COURT

Memorial donations made to Court St. Monica #1262, Olfen, Texas, in honor of Tracy Grimes, a 33-year-old member, who passed away, were used to replace altar cloths at St. Boniface church. Due to the unusual sizes, fabric and lace were purchased and the cloths were made by Regent Jane Cook and First Vice Regent Vi Everett. Four altars and three side tables were newly dressed for Easter. Pictured behind the main altar with the new cloth are, left to right, District Deputy Linda Binns, Nancy Evans, Harriet Fischer, Florence Correa, Sharon Rohmfeld, Paulina Ruiz, Kathy Halfmann, Carolyn Evans, Regent Jane Cook, Vi Everett and Mary Lou Multer.



WEST VIRGINIA COURT CELEBRATES MEMBER BIRTHDAY

Court Joan of Arc #341, Fairmont, West Virginia, proudly recognized Mary Romino, who joined the Catholic Daughters in 1941 and is 102 years young, for her services and dedication to the court. Mary was a very active member and continues to support the court and stays interested in court activities. Mary served as Vice Regent, Cookbook Chairman and Pilgrimage Chairman for All Souls' Day. She was a great help with rummage sales, Christmas parties, fund raisers, rosary rallies and state meetings. Her hobbies are baking, cake decorating, ceramics, entertaining, sewing, golfing and bowling. She is an avid fan of West Virginia University sports and her children and grandchildren's athletic activities.



TEXAS CATHOLIC DAUGHTER CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mary Williams has been an active member of Court St. Matthew #2241, San Antonio, Texas, for more than 26 years. Mary, who celebrated her centennial birthday with family and friends, can be seen in the photo with the many flowers and cards she received for her blessed birthday.



ARIZONA COURT INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

Court Daughters of St. Anthony #2651, Casa Grande, Arizona, announced its installation of new court officers. The officers, installed by First Vice National Regent Susan Moné, are in the photo, left to right, Jordan Taillon, district deputy and past court regent; Susan Moné, first vice national regent; Irene Gramza, national director; Carolann Di Muzio, court regent; Connie Grijalva, financial secretary; Anita Copeland, treasurer; Lynn Wilson, first vice state regent; Lorrie Holland, state regent and Margaret Hennessy, district deputy. Not Pictured, June Nunnick, vice regent, and Bernadette Smith, recording secretary.



TEXAS COURT RECOGNIZES FIRST MASS

Members of Court Our Lady of The Bluebonnets #2268, Ennis, Texas, are seen in the picture with Rev. Mr. William Alex Fry on the morning of April 24th at a reception celebrating his first Mass at his home parish of St. John Nepomucene, assisting Reverend John Dick, Pastor. Alex was ordained to the Transitional Deaconate on April 23rd at St. Francis of Assisi, Frisco, Texas, by Bishop Edward Burns. "Catholic Daughters joined the Altar Society, Guadalupanas, Renovacion and the Knights of Columbus for a lovely reception in his honor," Treasurer Maureen Spaniel said. "Our court has followed Alex over the past eight years with pride, support, prayer, interest and encouragement." In the photo, left to right, Mary Nell Sladacek, Janet Graham, Maureen Spaniel, Lorraine Tenney, Cheri Pollard, District Deputy Mary Ann Trojacek, Kim Allen, Rev. Mr. William Alex Fry, Reverend John Dick, Evelyn Zmolik, Ann Gibson, Recording Secretary; Diane Sulak, Regent; Carol Rejcek, Veronica Trevino, Financial Secretary and many more not pictured. Maureen concluded, "We will continue to follow Alex's journey to the priesthood!"



TEXAS COURT HONORS CHARTER MEMBERS

During the celebration of its 30th anniversary, Court Of The Cross # 2374, Humble, Texas, honored three of its four charter members. Charter members Carol Bayer, Rita Goodrich and Jessie Barber can be seen in the photo with their plaques. The court's fourth charter member, Vickie Cortez, who currently resides in a nursing home, was presented her plaque and 30-year pin by Regent Brinder Fondal and Vice Regent Virginia Eckert. Congratulations to all!



NEW YORK MEMBER HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

Members of Court Nilan #985, Highland, New York, recognized Barbara Trapani for her 65 years of service. Barbara joined the Catholic Daughters in 1956 when she moved to Highland. She has many fond memories of being a member, but one of her favorite moments was on a CDA trip to Washington, DC and being a part of a special mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. She said it was amazing to see so many Catholic Daughters together. Barbara held every office in her court and some even a couple of times. Regent Joanne Vaccarino presented Barbara with her 65-year pin, a certificate of recognition, flowers and a CDA signature tote bag of treats. In the photo court well-wishers gather around Barbara.



COURT CHAPLAIN INSTALLED BY MONTANA COURT

Fr. Garrett Nelson was installed as the Court Chaplain of Court St. Mary #645, Livingston, Montana, on February 21, 2022, by Court Regent Diana McKinlay. "Each of the eight courts within our Diocese of Great Falls Billings has a Court Chaplain to serve as their spiritual advisor," Jo Ann Harper said. "Thank you, Fr. Garrett, for sharing your time and support of Catholic Daughters!"



OREGON COURT HONORS 70-YEAR MEMBER

Court Our Lady of Perpetual Adoration #2481, Gervais, Oregon, celebrated Rose Rush being a Catholic Daughter for 70 years! Rose joined at the age of 18 and has been a member ever since. For the celebration the court held had an official 70-year pinning and presented Rose with pink roses—one of her favorite flowers. Left to right are Bobbie Rodriguez, Marlene Tesch, Judy Brutka, Marianne Appeldoorn, Vice Regent Mary Grassman, Rose Rush (seated), Recording Secretary Marianne Branaman, Rose Dryden, Barbara Ferschweiler and Marge Pranger.



TEXAS COURT MEMBER GARDENS FOR CHARITY

When not caring for animals, Dr. Candace Novak, a semi-retired veterinarian and member of Court Our Lady Queen of the Lake #2364, Lake Jackson, Texas, uses her time and talent as a master gardener to raise money for St. Vincent de Paul at St. Michael the Archangel parish in Lake Jackson. On Saturdays, Dr. Novak has a space at the Peach Street Farmers Market with eleven varieties of tomato plants for customers to choose. To date she has made over \$300.00 to donate!

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS:

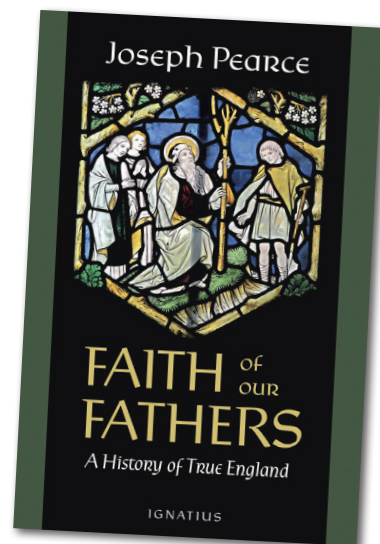
A History of True England

By Joseph Pearce

(Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA 2022)



Reviewed by
Peggy Eastman



Since I have traveled to England and seen historic religious sites, I was especially interested in this book. Joseph Pearce, a British author who has written a number of literary works, is editor of the Ignatius Critical Editions series. He has written biographies of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, G.K. Chesterton and others. He also wrote “Literary Converts” and “The Quest for Shakespeare.”

As Pearce details in this highly readable and well-written book, the history of the Catholic Church goes way back to the first Century AD, when Christian missionaries arrived on English soil. By the time the Romans left England in the fifth century, the Celtic population there was largely Catholic, due to an appealing and successful evangelization by gifted Christian missionaries. A legend states that St. Joseph of Arimathea arrived in England as a Christian missionary in 63 A.D. Kings who embraced the love of Christ as they ruled from the throne helped to cement England’s Catholic foundation; it was a country of faith.

I found this a book of hope, because it gives us a sweeping view of how the Church has endured strife and persecution in England over the centuries, and has only become stronger. In a TV interview with EWTN’s lead anchor, Raymond Arroyo, author Pearce noted that today a number of Anglican priests are converting to Catholicism, and there is a tidal return that began in the 19th century to the faith of the Church fathers in England.

As we know from England’s bloody history in the 16th century, King Henry VIII and his reckless desire for a son and heir turned England into a hellish country where monasteries were looted and burned, monks, priests and nuns were murdered and martyred and fear ruled the land. In a chapter called “The Tudor Terror,” Pearce describes this period of destruction and chaos. The severed head of Elizabeth Barton, known as the Holy Maid of Kent – who claimed to have had a vision of the place in hell reserved for King Henry if he divorced his wife Catherine and married Anne Boleyn – was placed on a spike on London Bridge to warn those who opposed the king. A year later the same fate

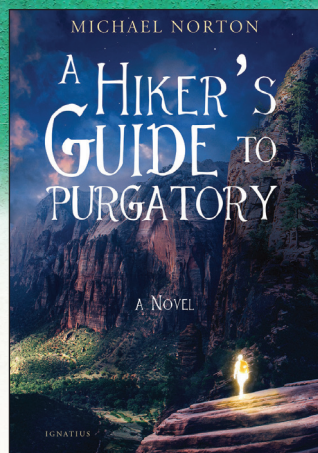
would befall the severed heads of faithful Catholics Bishop John Fisher and Lord Chancellor Thomas More, both of whom have been canonized.

Not only were monasteries destroyed, but King Henry’s plunderers also “turned their attention to the numerous shrines to the Blessed Virgin and the saints which had been a central part of English life for more than a thousand years,” as Pearce writes. One of these was the revered shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, a place of pilgrimage which I have visited. Despite fierce resistance, this shrine was desecrated, and its fate was captured in a poem known as “A Lament for Walsingham.” The ancient poem reads in part: “Weep, weep, O Walsingham,/ Whose days are nights,/ Blessings turned to blasphemies,/ Holy deeds to despites.” The desecrated shrine was restored.

As Pearce describes it, the English Reformation was a costly and violent one, ripping the Catholic heart from England. Henry VIII comes off as a corrupt and consummate villain, pillaging the property of the Church and private citizens who defied him and trampling their rights in his voracious quest for ultimate power. He required an oath of loyalty, which faithful Catholics felt they could not sign because of the voice of conscience. In a chapter called “A Land of Martyrs,” Pearce describes how missionary priests ministered in secret to England’s Catholics during years of persecution. One, Blessed Montford Scott, traveled around England for 14 years, dodging spies and keeping the faith alive. He was hanged, and beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987.

This book shows that tyrants can never extinguish the true word of God or the strength of the Church founded in His name. As Pearce writes, true England will always endure: “In paradise, St. Thomas More is not afflicted by the ‘malicious choice’ of Henry VIII, any more than Christ is afflicted by the malicious choice of Caiaphas. In paradise, True England as a ‘blessed land’ will be taken up into that Blessed Land where ‘all is as it is, and yet made free.’” Pearce notes that the malicious choice, as defined by J.R.R. Tolkien in his poem “Mythopoeia,” is evil. 🌟

STORIES THAT ENTERTAIN, ENGAGE, ENLIGHTEN



◆ A HIKER'S GUIDE TO PURGATORY — A Novel

After lying unconscious in a hospital, 77 yr. old attorney Dan Geary finds himself in the middle of a rolling, polychrome landscape, and realizes he is in the afterlife. With a hiking pack on his back, he starts walking toward the far-off mountains, but he finds there is no trail, no map, no signage, and feels in his bones: this is Purgatory.

Surprised by so much beauty and the feeling of deep hope, yet he starts recognizing his tangled, imperfect, often wasted life, and wonders if he will ever be ready to meet God. With confessional honesty and a sense of humor, author **Michael Norton** reimagines the purification of the afterlife as a tough journey, saturated with faith, hope, and love—and with overwhelming beauty.

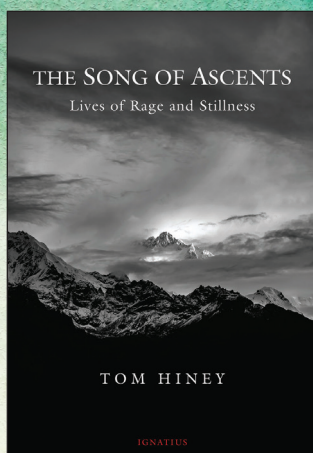
HGPP . . . Sewn Softcover, \$16.95

"A book of rare value, a you-are-there broadcast from the beyond. But be warned: this soul has lots to learn!"

—**David Pinault**, Author, *Providence Blue: A Fantasy Quest*

"There's nothing quite like this book! It's both a narrative 'page turner' that hooks us, and a theologically orthodox picture of Purgatory that's positive, even happy."

—**Peter Kreeft**, Author, *Heaven: The Heart's Deepest Longing*



◆ THE SONG OF ASCENTS Lives of Rage and Stillness

This book tells the powerful stories of lives laid bare by love, that spurred acclaimed English biographer **Tom Hiney** up the ragged mountain of his own conversion from atheism to Catholicism. This is a visceral study of faith in which the holiness of other people leads Hiney to learn that, amidst great challenges, anything is possible with God.

A medieval king awaiting a Viking invasion, a Jesuit evangelist at the court of Akbar, a composer in Communist Poland, a trapped Arctic whaling vessel, and more, become unlikely companions in Hiney's dramatic journey to Christ.

SOAP . . . Sewn Softcover, \$17.95

"A cogent and courageously written book, Storytelling and truth-seeking at its best!"

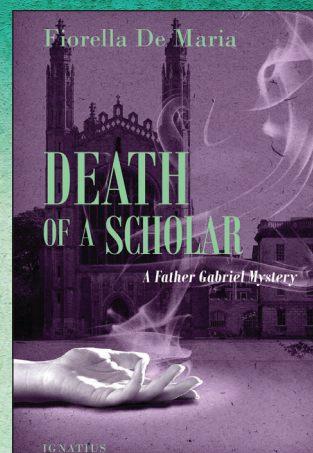
—**Joseph Pearce**, Author, *Literary Converts*

"Written with deep insights and the masterful pen of an accomplished biographer. A delightful and heart-pulsing read!"

—**Steve Ray**, Author, *Crossing the Tiber*

"Hiney, an absorbing and engaging writer, offers a deeply satisfying book that looks at different people in various times and places and sees the hand of God."

—**Sally Read**, Author, *Night's Bright Darkness: A Modern Conversion Story*



◆ DEATH OF A SCHOLAR A Father Gabriel Mystery

While spending a few days of relaxation at his old Cambridge College with Arthur Kingsley, his friend from student days and a respected scientist, Father Gabriel gets the shattering news that Kingsley's brilliant young protégé has been found dead in her laboratory, after what appears a tragic accident. But Gabriel's instincts tell him that her death was a little too perfectly staged to have been an accident, and he struggles to lay aside his personal loyalties and confront the possibility that there are dark secrets lurking behind her death.

This fourth book in the popular Father Gabriel series by **Fiorella De Maria** examines the moral minefield of the complicity of scientists in the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction.

DASP . . . Sewn Softcover, \$16.95

"Evocative of the golden age of detective fiction. This intriguing murder mystery entertains while exploring the legacy of war and the need for justice and reconciliation."

—**Rhonda Ortiz**, Author, *In Pieces*

"It's hard to believe that a story which is this much fun could be this good for the soul! So good that I've been using this novel as *lectio divina*. There's real theology here."

—**Fr. Augustine Wetta**, O.S.B., Author, *Humility Rules*



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