



The Rising Dawn

New York State Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

September 2022

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Visit CDANYS.org and CatholicDaughters.org for more news and information about the Catholic Daughters of the Americas®. Join us on Facebook at Catholic Daughters New York State and watch our YouTube Channel, just go to youtube.com and search NYS Catholic Daughters.

Not Too Humble To Be Proud

Theresa Duran, State Regent

My Dear Sisters,

How can I begin to express the immense pride that I felt for my big sister, **Mary Impellizeri**, as she was nominated, elected, and installed as National Director at our National Convention in Puerto Rico.

As a member of the 2022-2024 National Board, Mary will be busy dedicating herself to the work of the organization we both love so much. We are lucky, our Mom, 60+ year member, shared her love of CDA with us as children and proudly asked us to join when we became adults.

Mary has been a member of our court, **Ct. Stella Maris #822, Freeport**, since 1978. She served four offices on the local level, was a DD, and a Diocesan Chairman before she decided to run for the NY State Board. She worked with some giants along the way: **Marion McCormack, Kathleen Egan, Rayola McLaughlin, Penny Martin**...and many more inspirational NY leaders who have gone on to their eternal reward.

In 2000, Mary was elected to the NY State Board and served us with faith, energy, strength and inspiration for nine years, culminating the time with a term as State Regent.

Still, Mary's CDA trek was not over. In 2008 she was hired by then **National Regent Claudia Bosch** to assist the great **Peggy O'Brien, Executive Director**, at National Headquarters; she rose to the



position of Executive Director when Peggy retired. During this time Mary was privileged to work with not only Claudia, but **Libby Ramirez, Helene Shepard** and many others on the National level.

Still, when Mary left that position in 2017, she hoped the journey was not over. As thus, now it continues, as an elected member of our national leadership.

I know that Mary has the spirit and determination (and we all know she has the knowledge of CDA) to help make this National Board **The Best Board Ever!**

Mary has long been an inspiration to me: as a sister, as a daughter, as a wife, as a mother, as a friend, as a coach, as a girl scout leader, as a CDA member...and I know that she will continue to make us all proud on her CDA National adventure.

I am proud to be a Catholic Daughter, I am proud to be your State Regent, and I am proud to be the baby sister of an amazing woman: **National Director Mary Impellizeri**.

In Unity & Charity,

SAVE THE DATE: May 4-6, 2023
NY State Convention
in Saratoga Springs
Details to follow



In My Humble Opinion

REV. RALPH SOMMER, STATE CHAPLAIN

I once knew a woman who baked excellent cakes. When I would praise and thank her each time she brought a cake she would say, “Well I didn’t think this one came out so well. It’s really not my best.” Sounds humble, right? But because I reassured her on each occasion that she had done an excellent job, she got praised twice! And setting that up to

happen each time isn’t exactly humility.

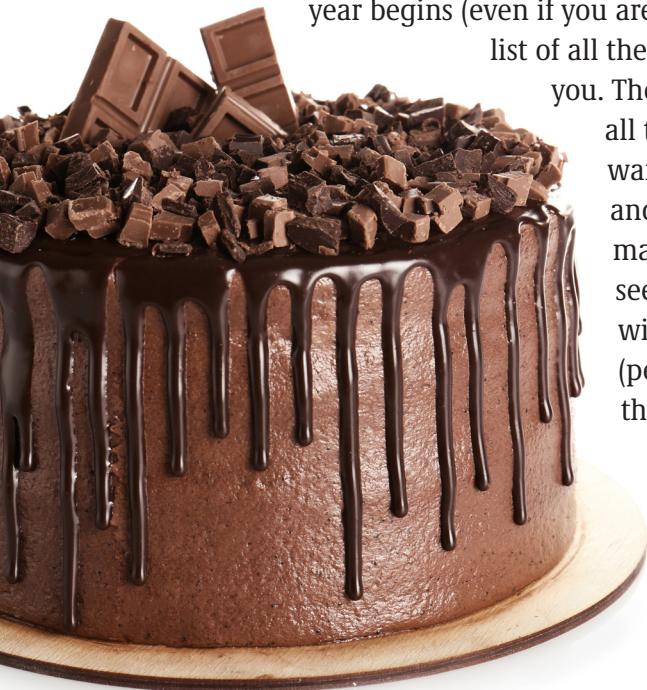
Imagine if that’s what happened when we praised God. If we said, “God, thank you for that beautiful sunset!” Would God say, “Well actually that wasn’t one of my better ones.” No. God would just rejoice together with us at both the beauty of the sunset and the satisfaction that we appreciated it.

We’re urged to be humble before God and with each other. But exactly what is humility about? I’d like to suggest that it is simply recognizing the truth about ourselves. If I tried to pass myself off as a skilled basketball player (ok you can stop laughing now), that would NOT be humble since the only successful shots I take are flu shots. But it would be equally wrong if we didn’t rejoice in the things we are good at. We can simply say, “Thank you” when we are complimented and rejoice together in what is good about us.

It’s not against humility to take pride in our good qualities, especially because true humility also helps us recognize where our gifts come from. When people compliment me on something I sometimes say, “Thank you. I got that from my mom and dad.” or “Thank you, but that’s God’s doing.” When we recognize what goodness comes from others, humility leads us to go back and thank THEM. When we recognize the gifts that come from God, we realize that God gave them to us for a reason – and that reason is to share them with others. True humility and true gratitude is best expressed in sharing with others and in service of others.

Why not try this exercise in humility as a new school year begins (even if you aren’t going to school): make a list of all the things that are good about you. Then spend time thanking God for all that and ask how God would want you to share these qualities and talents with others. Then make a list of the good things you see in the others you live or work with and take some time (perhaps in a text) to compliment them on those things.

Now THOSE are a couple of ways to walk humbly with our God. And if you bake me a cake I promise to tell you the truth about it.



We are sorry to announce that our planned Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Wisconsin has been postponed.

However, we are excited to announce that National Regent Emily Guilherme has announced a

12 Day Pilgrimage to Portugal & Spain in October 2023.

**For more information visit:
www.lpjp.org
or call LeAnn Brand
at 678-878-3053**

As noted on the front cover, The 58th New York State Biennial Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs during the first week of May 2023.

Convention is a time of discussion, work, education, and friendship. It is where delegates from every court get to voice their opinion, make decisions, discuss the future of CDA in NY and propose issues to be submitted to National. The agenda still needs to be finalized, but we will most likely begin the formal program with Mass on the morning of May 4th. However, we will have Workshops on Wednesday, May 3rd.

There is plenty of time to start saving today for this important event. Please do so.



The theme chosen by new National Regent Emily Guilherme to guide the Catholic Daughters during the next two years comes from the Gospel of Matthew 17:20: "Faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains."

Let us never forget that we have the power to do amazing things and to enact change through the faith we have in The Father, The Son, & The Holy Spirit.

Let us use that power to move mountains in doing great things for Our God, Our Church and Our Courts!

Announcing Your New 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**

National Directors

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

National Regent Emily Guilherme has asked **Reverend Shenan Boquet**, President of Human Life International, to serve as National Chaplain

Let us offer prayers of thanksgiving for their willingness to commit themselves to our great organization.

I ask all NYS CDA members vow to support them in their words and actions.

In addition, the following were elected to the **2024 Nominating Committee**

Primavera Johnson, Chairman

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Brenda Spizzo | Cindy Vincent |
| Dr. Heather Rave | Irene Duda |
| Maria Santos-Silva | Rita Carlson |
| Rosie Duran | Terrie Vacek |



Happy Fall to all of my New York Catholic Daughters of the Americas!

EMILY GUILHERME, NATIONAL REGENT

Dear Catholic Daughters of New York,

It feels like just last week I was singing, laughing, and dancing alongside so many of you in Puerto Rico, and I am still so thrilled that so many attended our National Convention, en force. We shared many wonderful and beautiful memories and I look forward to all of the updates from your incomparable State Regent.

As we launch into our Fall season, I am confident that all of our New York state courts will begin to invite and recruit new Catholic Daughters. The Catholic Daughters in New York are consistently serving their communities with new and bright ideas, and I look forward to reading and hopefully participating in some of those service events.

It is my hope that your great state of New York will continue to be an example and beacon to our other

state courts as Catholic Daughters with initiative and ingenuity. I am proud of the New York State Courts and I know you will continue to make me proud as we get down to business to transform our communities through Christian charity and kindness.

I also want to say how much I enjoyed attending your **Pray & Play Retreat** in August – **State Regent Theresa**, the **State Officers Connie, Judy, Tina** and **Past National Regent Helene** did such a tremendous job. (Sorry that Patti was ill and had to miss it!)

I ask for your continued prayers as I begin my journey as National Regent. I pray that I will continue to live out the vocation all of us have received: to be holy as Jesus Christ is holy, and to serve and love with abandon. Please remember, that with the faith of a mustard seed, we can move mountains. Let's conquer our mountains together.

In Unity & Charity, Emily

Let's Get Growing!

(Almost) Mandatory Local Officer & District Deputy Workshop

September 17th
St. Joseph's Parish Center
39 N Carll Ave,
Babylon, NY 11702

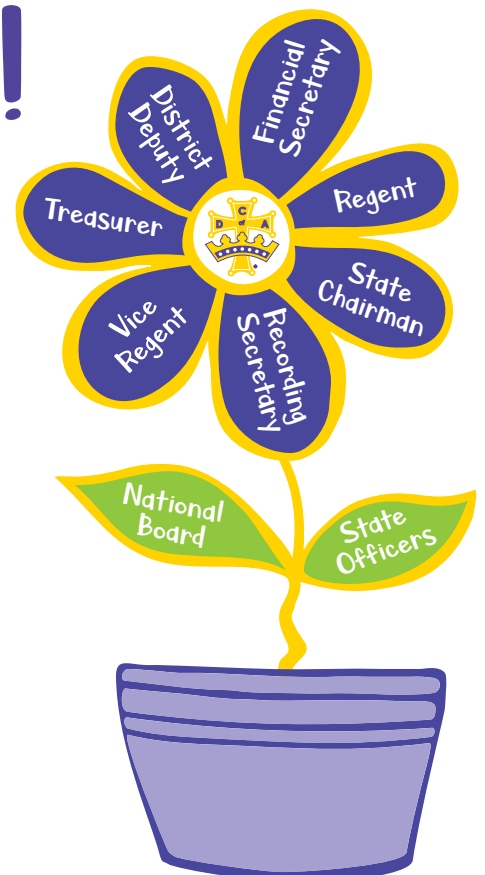
September 18th
Vincent Pallotti Center
98 Harriman Heights Rd.,
Monroe, NY 10950

**All Local Officers need to attend,
regardless of whether you are new to the position or not.**

Workshops will run from 10am-4pm.

Complimentary continental breakfast will be available beginning at 9am.

Please bring a bag lunch, drinks will be provided.



If we can make it there, we'll make it anywhere!

New York State was proud to be recognized in various ways at our National Convention in Puerto Rico!

The State was recognized in the following areas of the Circle of Love Program:

Education: Back 2 Basics video series

Spiritual Enhancement: Pray & Play Weekends

Leadership: Facebook Live Prayer Warriors

Family: The Thank You Project

Quality of Life: Ladies of Martha & Mary

In addition, **Ct. Pere LeMoynes #833, Fulton**, was cited under the Quality of Life spoke for their **School Break Lunches Program**.

We received an award for instituting two new courts during the last term: **Ct. St. Raymond #2773, Bronx**, and

Ct. Infant Savior #2780, Pine Bush; while **Ct. St. Bridget #265, Ilion**, was awarded 2nd place in the category of gaining the most members with 20 members added.

We earned two **1903 Society Perpetual Memberships** thanks to the generosity **Alice Ryan of Ct. Margaret Mary #768** and members of all courts across the state.

In the Education Contests **Jack Lyke**, sponsored by **Ct. Queen of Angels #869, Hicksville**, won third place.

Serena Yanitelli from **Ct. Joan of Arc #604, Haverstraw**, was the recipient of one of the three **Father Leonard Bachmann Graduate Scholarships** and **Julia Hann** from **JCDA Ct. Ave Maria #832, Kings Park**, won the National JCDA Scholarship.



Newly elected National Director Mary Impellizeri and NY State Regent Theresa Duran after the Mass of Installation



The State Board was proud to attend the National Convention representing all members of NY State

The NY Delegation poses together after the Appreciation Banquet



NY State's National Success

CONNIE BREINDEL, FIRST VICE STATE REGENT

I was honored to represent NY State at the National Convention that was held recently in Puerto Rico. It was the first convention that I attended as a state officer and was thrilled to hear NY State mentioned so often. We were recognized for all the good things we accomplished the last two years, even during the pandemic. Now don't get me wrong, NY State is usually mentioned a few times, but it seemed that whoever was presenting awards mentioned us. In fact, New York was recognized for five out of the six "spokes" of the Circle of Love that were awarded. From all the state court entries, only the top 3 receive recognition.

Our **Pray & Play** weekend retreats are now award winning! It was the submission for Spiritual Enhancement. I know that those that have attended feel that they have gotten so much out of them, but honestly, so do those of us that work them. If you have not had an opportunity to attend, I suggest that you make every effort to do so.

Our **Thank You Project** was recognized for Family. The past two years NY has sent almost 6,000 cards to the military. We are continuing the project this year so start working on it. Our Quality of Life submission was **The Ladies of Martha and Mary**. The state encourages each court to have a designated group of ladies that act as a sunshine club of sorts – sending cards, saying prayers, calling and visiting the members that are ill, homebound, or just need cheering up. Does your court have this? I would hope so! If not, start one soon.

COVID 19 was the reason behind the submission for Education called

Back to Basics – our series of videos designed to give local courts ideas on how to proceed during the early days of the pandemic.

The Leadership submission was called **Facebook Live**. In the beginning **Theresa Duran** was on daily at 2pm with a prayer service; **Lu Koch**, our **State Chair of Spiritual Enhancement**, then went on and did the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 11. **Past National Regent Helene Shepard** began posting a prayer and theme for each day at 6am. This has evolved to 8pm weeknights with a prayer service, chaplet, or the rosary led by a NY State Catholic Daughter that continues today. Have you ever thought about leading? I know we are always looking for help. Reach out if you want more information or to volunteer.

We had enough donations to receive two plaques from the **1903 Society**. We wouldn't have been able to do this without the help of the local courts.

New York came in 3rd place in the **Membership Contest** by establishing 2 new courts; we received a check for \$200 for this.

Court St. Bridget #265, Ilion, won 2nd place in the Local Court part of the contest and received \$150 for increasing their membership by 20.

Court Pere LeMoyné #833, Fulton, was recognized in the Quality of Life spoke by collecting food to be distributed to children at school so they would have food to eat during school breaks.

Court Queen of Angels #869, Hicksville, sponsored **Jack Lyke**, 3rd place winner in the Music category of the National Education Contest.



Julia Hain of the **JCDA Court in Kings Park** was the winner of the 2022 JCDA Scholarship; she will be attending SUNY at Stony Brook.

One of the three Father Leonard Bachmann Graduate Scholarships was awarded to **Serena Yanitelli** of **Ct Joan of Arc #604, Stony Point**. Serena was also the chairperson for our **Catholic Daughters Cares** collection for Ukraine.

Helene Shepard was a recipient of a **St. Faustina Award** for her help in establishing the 2 new courts. She also volunteered to be a DD for one.

I would be remiss if I didn't also mention that **PSR Mary Impellizzeri** was elected as a **National Director** and **IPSR Heather Rave** was elected to the **2024 National Nominating Committee**. I know both would represent the state wonderfully and wish them all the best in these roles.

NY State was very successful at the National Convention because each and every one of you and I couldn't have been prouder!

Autumn is on the Horizon

MARY WESTERMANN, OSF,
STATE EDUCATION CHAIRMAN



As I write this, it is 84 degrees on a beautiful August day, but the signs of autumn are already beginning to appear – my local farm stand has mums and early apples, ads on television are all about back to school, Disney World is beginning its Halloween celebration, pre-season football is under way and Dunkin Donuts will be rolling out its fall beverage line next week.

For my article this quarter, I thought I would do something a little different, so I have created a Halloween trivia quiz below for all of you to try (answers are provided, too) and perhaps share with your Courts at one of your autumn meetings.

I would like to once again thank all of the Courts who sent in **Education Contest** entries and/or their Circle of Love education reports this year. We were proud to have had some National winners. Stay tuned for the 2023 Education Contest themes. Please feel free to contact me at mewoll@aol.com or 845-297-5250 if you have any education questions. If I don't have an immediate answer for you, I will be sure to get you one.

May you and your Courts continue to follow our Lord's call to give of yourself and serve. God bless you. Continue to stay well and safe.

HALLOWEEN TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Halloween originated from which religion?

A. Judaism B. Christianity C. Islam

2. Why was Halloween originally celebrated?

A. To mark the beginning of pumpkin season
B. To celebrate saints
C. To drive away the evil spirits such as witches or ghosts

3. Which veggies were used to make Jack O'Lanterns before pumpkins? A. Onions B. Potatoes C. Turnips

4. The roots of Halloween can be traced back to an ancient festival in which UK region?

A. Scotland B. Wales C. England

5. Why do people wear masks and costumes on Halloween?

A. To confuse evil spirits who are looking for humans
B. to make them stand out in the festival
C. To hide themselves from other people

6. Which of these is the traditional cake the Irish often bake on Halloween?

A. Cranachan B. Bara brith C. Barmbrack

7. In which city does the biggest Halloween parade in the world take place with more than 50,000 participants and 2 million spectators?

A. New York City B. Los Angeles C. London

8. Which of the following terms refers to the fear of Halloween? A. Samhainophobia
B. Black pumpkin syndrome C. Agoraphobia

9. When did the tradition of trick or treating first appear in the United Kingdom?

A. 14th century B. 16th century C. 18th century

10. In medieval times, groups of European children knocked on their neighbors' doors to ask for what in exchange for praying for the souls of the dead?

A. Coins B. Food C. Flowers

11. According to an old tradition, what happens when you peel an apple and throw the peel over the shoulder on Halloween?

A. It will bring a lot of luck the next day
B. It will show the name of your true love
C. It will drive away all evil spirits

12. On Halloween, the Sun appears to be in which constellation? A. Leo B. Cancer C. Libra

AROUND THE STATE

Scholarship Awarded

Ct. Lily of the Mohawk #1451, Champlain, recently presented **Sadie Dumas**, a senior at Northeastern Clinton Central School (NCCS), with a scholarship of \$500 to go towards college expenses. She will be attending SUNY Cobleskill and studying equine management and dietary nutrition. She loves working with horses. Her parents attended the presentation.

The court presents a scholarship each year to a senior at NCCS. It is based on community service and chosen by a committee and then presented to the Court for approval. They are proud to be able to assist deserving students in any way they can.



Circle Of Love Wheel

Janet Altman (left) is Circle of Love Chairman for **Court Sts. Kateri & Andre #2663, Morrisonville**. Janet has inspired many with her projects for each spoke of the Circle of Love. **Tracy Nelson** (right), who successfully chairs the court's biggest fund raiser: **The Pie Raffle**, created a way to display their accomplishments under each spoke by building this Circle of Love Wheel.

Each spoke has a roll out scroll that lists the ways the court participates in that spoke. Needless to say, it catches the attention of all who attend the court's meetings and events.



BBQ Chicken Dinner

Ct. St Michael #1173 , Penn Yan served up over 200 meals at Oak Hill bulk food store's weekend BBQ in Penn Yan. They provide the venue and prepare all the food. Local organizations sign up for a Saturday to work.

Members serve the food for take out and sit down diners and do the clean up. They are then given a percentage of the funds taken in. This is one of the court's biggest money makers. Profits are donated to several charities in town including the local Catholic elementary school.

Pictured, left to right, are: **Sally Acomb, Barbara Jensen, Joanne Donovan** and **Regent Deborah Thurling**.

Please submit stories and photos by Nov 1st for our December issue. Submit to tduran@optonline.net to share your story with the state! Let us know about successful fundraisers, impactful events and community involvement.

Our First Prayer

LUCILLE KOCH, STATE CHAIRMAN OF SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT

It was the very first prayer that I learned; and, I learned it from watching my mom and my grandmother.

I'm sure that it was the very first prayer that you learned too and you pray it everyday; perhaps even several times a day. What prayer you ask? **The Sign Of The Cross.** You may give me an inquisitive look and remark, "That's not so much a prayer as what you do before you start to pray." Well actually, it's both.

I direct you to the following website to read more about the sign of the cross prayer as I'm sure you will enjoy it and learn some new things:
<https://www.catholicicing.com/sign-of-the-cross/>

After reading this article I'd like you to reflect on the many different times and circumstances when you pray the sign of the cross.

From my childhood I remember my mother always making the sign of the cross as we passed by churches on our bus rides to Jamaica and Flushing. I have my Holy Water font at the front door and make the sign of the cross as I leave the house for the day's first trip out. I make the sign of the cross before I start to drive ("O Lady of the Highway be with me on my journey, for all your ways are beautiful and all your paths are peace") to remind me that the trinity is with me, as is Mary.

After Communion, when I genuflect, before meals, for no reason at all...these are times when I pray the sign of the cross. Think about the many times you do the same and share your thoughts with me. Really, I'm not just saying that, send them to me: lu@kochny.com

And now, a word from our sponsor...

A new year of CDA begins for many of us after a relaxing summer break. As you prepare your calendars and fundraisers and religious activities don't forget the **Circle of Love: Spiritual Enhancement** spoke.

Brainstorm ideas/projects among your officers. Set a goal to complete an activity to fulfill this spoke (and the others) involving as many of your members as possible. I am looking forward to reading about the fruits of your labors.

I pray for you and yours, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

A Victory for LIFE

EILEEN PETERSON, STATE CHAIRMAN OF LEGISLATION

Roe v. Wade Nullification

June 24, 2022, we rejoiced on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, that Roe v. Wade was overturned by the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. There is no constitutional right to abortion and this Supreme Court decision returns the ability to protect the unborn back to you through your elected representatives.

For 49 years we who are a part of the Catholic Daughters of Americas have prayed, fasted, witnessed with love, and supported crisis pregnancy centers. We rejoice and thank GOD that Roe v. Wade is overturned!

Just like slavery, this horrific Supreme Court decision denied the humanity in the womb of the child. Sixty-three million babies have been aborted and the pain for those who have been involved is heartbreaking.

May all Americans unite in Respect for God's Creation and know anyone in a crisis pregnancy will be helped financially, emotionally and spiritually. Goodness has triumphed over evil!

Proposed Equality Amendment

Here in New York State we must vote and know where our candidates stand on our faith based issues. The most important legislation to act upon is the proposed **Equality Amendment** to the New York State Constitution. This legislation enshrines the right to an abortion and Governor Kathy Hochul celebrated the passage. This would add ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare (abortion) and autonomy to existing protections that currently cover discrimination based on race, color, religion or creed.

In a special session this dangerous legislation passed July 1, 2022 and would have to pass again in a new legislative session and then be put on the ballot for voters to decide.

Religious entities such as hospitals, charities and schools would be required to abandon their beliefs about the defense of human life, marriage and sexuality.

The tax exempt status of the Catholic Church and other Christian faith groups would no longer exist because our views would be considered discriminatory. It is critically important for us to oppose this legislation!



DIANE MEORE,
STATE CHAIRMAN FOR THE 1903 SOCIETY

I hope you've all had a nice summer, taking the time to rest and rejuvenate.

As a homeowner, there is a constant and ready supply of projects that need our attention. We section off the seasons with home improvement projects: what can wait until winter when we're bundled up indoors, what needs to be done in spring or fall before the

weather turns too warm, and perhaps a project or two for the summer. And then those projects need to be planned for what we can do ourselves or what we need to leave for the professionals. Usually those bigger jobs also include saving up money so that we don't have to dip into the household account.

The 1903 Society was created so that the "big projects" that keep our National Headquarters safe and beautiful can be funded without dipping into the capital fund. Our National office is a beautiful old brownstone on the Upper West Side of NYC, and like any other home, it needs to be repaired and updated from time to time. As a CDA member, all of us share in home ownership of our headquarters.

The NYS Court undertook a pledge to donate \$1903 each year for ten years. We have paid off nine years of our pledge. We have received half of the money to finish the last pledge. I ask that you prayerfully consider making a donation to help us pay off the remainder so the State Court can move on to some new and exciting projects. Please make all checks payable to Catholic Daughters of the Americas and mail to: Diane Meore, NYS 1903 Chairman, 143 Toleman Road, Washingtonville, NY 10992

2023 NYS CDA Scholarships

JOANNE LEONARDI, STATE CHAIRMAN OF SCHOLARSHIPS

"School bells are ringing loud and clear; vacation's over, school is here." —Winifred C. Marshal

As we begin a new school year, it occurs to me.... I am retired! September no longer means what it used to. As a Catholic Daughter and the State Chairman of Scholarships, it does mean that it is time to let everyone know about the free money that is available to the College aged children of our members. Let's get the word out to our local Courts, for the High School Seniors to get ready for another application!

The 2022 Catholic Daughters of the Americas New York State Court will award three \$1,000 scholarships to graduating Seniors of the Class of 2023. This scholarship is open to any daughter, son, or dependent of a New York State CDA member that has been accepted to a 4-year college or University. Scholarship winners will be awarded according to their essay and service.

Please spread the word to all members, who have children eligible to apply. I will let you know when the application is available.

Family Fun

MARY LYNN BORST,
STATE CHAIRMAN OF FAMILY

I hope that you and your families had a beautiful summer 2022! Perhaps you were able to get away on a family vacation. Maybe you had a "stay-cation" and were able to enjoy local activities right here in New York! Perhaps you went to the National Convention or a Pray & Play retreat! Whatever you did, I hope that you are rested, renewed and ready for a new CDA year!

It's never too early for your Court to think about what project you will plan and carry out to fulfill the Family Spoke of the Circle of Love. If your Court doesn't already have an idea, why don't you think of something and suggest it? Gather a few women to be on a committee and carry it out! Some suggestions are: Family Rosary • Pajama Night with Favorite Author • Picnic in the Parking Lot • Trick or Treating in the Parking Lot • Supporting Religious Education Families • Adoration for Teens • supporting a program for unwed mothers • collecting school supplies for needy familiesjust to name a few!

I received 29 reports for the 2021-2022 year – let's increase that number this year! You don't need to have a large court to make a big impression. Choose something that is feasible for your group and go make a difference! God bless you all!

Gifts of the Holy Spirit Provided to Me Through the Unity & Charity of the National Convention Choir

TINA BIGELOW, SECOND VICE STATE REGENT



In July 2021, when I attended the State and Territorial Officers Conference at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, I was asked if I was going to go the National Convention in Puerto Rico in July 2022. My first reaction was ***no way*** – that is Hurricane Season and it is to far away from home. This negative reaction was very short-lived as the week of education, motivation, and inspiration filled my heart with **I Can Do Anything** through Christ.

Since then, trips taken around the state for Pray and Play Retreats, Officer Trainings, Memorial Masses, Court Institutions and Anniversaries have been eagerly anticipated and very much enjoyed rather than dreaded and labored.

When I received my first Convention Packet, I immediately registered to sing in the Convention Choir thinking that this would be an easy and enjoyable way to participate in the convention activities. However, when I received an email from **Puerto Rico State Treasurer Primavera Johnson**, the Choir Chairwomen, attaching the music for all of the Masses, I started to doubt whether I would be able to participate.

After I printed almost a whole ream of paper, I became overwhelmed with the amount of music I had to put in a notebook, and then when I started to look at each piece, realized that some of these songs were all in Spanish, some songs were half in Spanish, half in English, while others were all in English.

My perception of participating in the choir looked more like a pile of work rather than a pile of easy music to sing, so I set it aside for a couple of weeks before I

attempted to accept the challenge set before me. With prayer and a disciplined mind set, I pushed that doubt and slothfulness to the side so that I could give it my strength and let God take over through my weakness.

When I arrived to our first choir practice in San Juan, it was a surprise to find that there were only a couple of ladies who could sing the Spanish parts, so a crash language course was given. Needless to say, this very short choir practice was labored with wrong notes and poor pronunciation – not only were we learning how to sing in Spanish, we were learning songs we have never heard or sung before.

The poor Choir Director **Kristen Stewart** (a distant cousin of St. Kateri), almost in tears of fear and anxiety, asked each one of us to pray with her there and then again before we went to sleep, asking the Holy Spirit to unite our voices with beautiful sounds of music.

We decided to arrive early the next time to pray and realized after the practice that our success totally relied upon the works of the Holy Spirit.

As the Mass begins, so does the music, followed by the voices, and suddenly I realize we are singing and enunciating each note and word flawlessly. It was at the moment that I realized I have received a gift from the Holy Spirit, a gift that I have often wondered how it would feel, and now that it is received, there are no words to describe how it fulfilled my heart and soul.

This experience is just one more seed that has sprouted up through my spiritual journey with Catholic Daughters and a testament to we **Can Do Anything** through Christ our Lord.

I WILL SING THE *Lord's Praise*
FOR HE HAS BEEN GOOD TO ME. PSALM 13:6

Calling All Girls

KATHY KNOTT STATE CHAIRMAN OF YOUTH/JCDA

You are cordially invited to share in the sisterhood of Mary, Mother of God and Patron for us all. Junior and Senior Court members all share in the inheritance of being **Daughters of a King**. Our Christian DNA identifies us as **closely related** in all we do and say and think. Our core morality was formed by our Creator, offering us life, opportunity for happiness and joyful accomplishments along the way.

We are reminded of the value of the “feminine genius” throughout history. The marvelous gifts of wit, passion, spirit, and foresight are not limited to the mature woman. Our teen girls are such a joy to behold. Their open mindedness is so refreshing! The girls also seem to team up well—2 heads being better than one—as they embark

on their chosen projects. The girls serving in Youth Groups and JCDA have a great advantage in knowing the bonds of friendship among women at such a young age.

WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN AT ALL AGES

Set your calendars to include activities to remind our young women to think of themselves as **Daughters of a King**. Practice ways and means with them to carry themselves with poise, promise and the message of the Lord. You and I are blessed to see their lives blossom and unfold in marvelous ways. We need only to keep refurbishing and encouraging the next generation with our openness and experiences of Christian Womanhood.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! We Have a New National Charity

ANNA LUCIA, STATE CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL PROJECTS



At the National Convention in Puerto Rico, it was announced that **Smile Train** would be removed, and **Human Life International**, will take its place as one of our five National Charities. This change happened, in part, due to in response to the

Pro-Life Resolution from **Court Mother Admirable #592, Dannemora!** So Regents and Treasurers, please revamp your lists. It's very easy to Google **Human Life International (HLI)** but I will give you a quick overview of their global mission:

- **Train local leaders:** make a lasting impact on communities around the world through doctors, teachers, etc.
- **Help families choose life:** save lives by providing counseling, healthcare, and other resources to expecting mothers in crisis.
- **Go beyond abortion:** bring all of Christ's teaching on life and family to the world, including chastity, marriage, end-of-life issues, and more. This builds a truly pro-life culture.

The programs HLI provides include: Pro-Life

Conferences, Seminarian & Priest Training, Pro-Life Resources, Natural Family Planning, Pregnancy Care Centers, and Pro-Life Activism.

Their works are accomplished by donations and their missionaries tell the stories of the impact the donations make in the lives of others.

Knowing that we are concerned for a more PRO-LIFE world from conception to natural death, this group works to change a world at war with our pro-life values, to change pre-born children being thrown away, and to change a world where contraception, divorce, euthanasia, are tearing families apart.

Remember: Mail your **ONE National Project /Charity check** made out to *Catholic Daughters of the Americas*, and with two signatures, and a list of how you want funds distributed to:

Anna Lucia
PO Box 713
Dannemora NY 12929

I am taking a guess, donations should probably be in by MID MARCH, if you want them included for STATE convention. So plan accordingly, please!

Enjoy the fall weather. I personally hope it lasts til Dec 24TH! Thank you for all you do for CDA.

To Plant A Garden Is To Believe In Tomorrow Members —Audrey Hepburn

HELENE SHEPARD, STATE CHAIRMAN OF LEADERSHIP



The job of a leader is to bring out greatness in others. We ask ourselves just how can this be done? We know that leadership skills can be learned and then practiced. So, let's get started.

In preparation for summer planting, we tilled the soil, and all summer plants were beautifully growing. However, we know there are many weeds that were also growing in our garden. We want to get rid of them. Therefore, it is pruning time once again.

When we prune, we remove the damaged and dead parts of the plants. This can be done at any time of the year but especially when all the plants have flowered. In our courts we need to do the very same thing. Let's begin pruning.

We need to get rid of the dead wood and energize our members. We need to weed out those negative attitudes of apathy, disorganization, poor communication, indifference, and most of all the devil.

To avoid stagnation each one of these negative attitudes can be replaced by a positive attitude. We need to add empathy, caring, communication, organization, and most of all prayer.

Adding these qualities to your leadership style which should be a combination of an authoritative and delegative leader will allow room for new growth and development and will protect your membership by not allowing stagnation.

Remember, an authoritative leader knows her mission, is confident in working toward it, and empowers the court members to take charge just as you do. She uses vision to develop strategy and encourages court members to use their strengths and emerge as leaders themselves.

A delegative leader focuses on delegating initiative to team members. This can be a successful strategy if team members are competent. You need to know your members.

If we take the time to weed out and prune the killers in our courts, you will see courts with the good qualities and attitudes flourishing with integrity, delegation communication, self-awareness, gratitude, empathy, and most of all spirituality.

So put on your gardening gloves and use the tools that you know to accomplish your goal of developing a beautiful garden in our CDA Courts.

I will close with the words from, A.A. Milne, "Weeds are flowers too, once you get to know them."

**Sunday, October 16th
is CDA Sunday**

**Does your court have anything
special planned?**

Share your event and your photos on our Facebook page at Catholic Daughters NY State and submit for publication here by forwarding to me and to SHARE magazine by forwarding the information to **National Public relations Director Tom Panas** at **cdashare@aol.com**



Mission Statement of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

The purposes of the organization are to participate in the religious, charitable and educational Apostolates of the Church. Catholic Daughters of the Americas engages in creative and spiritual programs which provide its members with the opportunity to develop their God-given talents in meaningful ways that positively influence the welfare of the Church and all people throughout the world.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives 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.

PRAY AND PLAY RETREAT WEEKENDS



Bishop Terry LaValley stopped by to visit us while we were at Wadham's Hall in Ogdensburg



We were honored to have National Regent Emily Guilherme and Second Vice National Regent Connie Dronette join us in Huntington for our retreat

The first two retreats were absolutely wonderful! There is still time for you to attend the third weekend: Sept 23-25 at Christ The King Retreat House, Syracuse.

See cdanys.org for details

The Power of Saying Yes

JUDY STERLING, STATE TREASURER

This summer has been a busy one for all of us State Officers, traveling around the state for various functions, Pray & Play weekends, Local Officers training, the 150th Anniversary of the Ogdensburg Diocese, and attending the National Convention in Puerto Rico.

This was my very first National Convention, and the experience was joyful, overwhelming, beautiful, exciting, educational, rewarding...I can go on with more, but I think you all get the idea!

A lot of old friends were there, and so many new friends were made, I hated to leave. The Masses, ceremonies, singing, and prayers were the most powerful of all – I was brought to tears a few times.

One of our National Officers made a powerful point that really touched me. She said in part “We never know what power we might have in the future of people by saying yes!”

It made me wonder: *What if all these ladies had said no? Where would we be as Catholic Daughters of the Americas?* I, for one, am glad they did say YES!

We must keep moving forward with excitement and encouragement and get more women involved in saying YES! We have touched many people in our lives either local, State, National and world wide because we said YES! I pray every night for all of us Catholic Daughters, that we continue to do our work in Unity and Charity, continue our growth in members, and more of us say “YES” to hopefully change the future of someone!

Thank you to all the new and returning court officers that said YES and have attended our workshops. The workshops have been informative, fun, and I enjoy seeing all you ladies! I think of these gatherings as my family reunion! I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Memorial Masses, officers training, and I hope more of you will come to our last Pray & Play weekend September 23-25 in Syracuse at Christ the King Retreat Center – you will be happy you did! God Bless you all, stay safe and healthy.

Robert's Rules

CHARILLA S. CONNER,
STATE CHAIRMAN OF PROTOCOL

My dearest CDA sisters, I hope your summer has been just lovely and wonderful.

I've always been mildly curious about who wrote **Robert's Rules of Order**. Who comes up with this stuff? The answer was supplied by **The American Legion Magazine, July 2022**. You can check out the longer version if you have the need and curiosity.

Henry Martyn Robert was born in South Carolina on May 2, 1837. He was a graduate of West Point and served in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia Harbor and was later stationed in New Bedford, Maine then San Francisco. It was in New Bedford, as he was trying to lead a meeting he discovered the importance of protocol and procedures. The meeting was chaos. He started collecting information about the importance of how the Chair needs to direct a meeting. "Robert began to seriously research and study parliamentary law – the basic rules of order that originated in England."

He wrote the first, short version in 1874, expanded it in 1875 and the publication has gone on to have several updates and revisions. He passed in 1923 in Hornell, NY.

Since our Order was founded in 1903, we were privileged to have been able to use this resource from our earliest days.

It is a wonderful resource for any meeting or protocol need. I have my own copy. I enjoy referring to it as needed. And so, as Paul Harvey used to say "...and that's the rest of the story"

A Wonderful Time In Puerto Rico

PATTI DRIVANOS, STATE SECRETARY

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God" —Ephesians 2:8

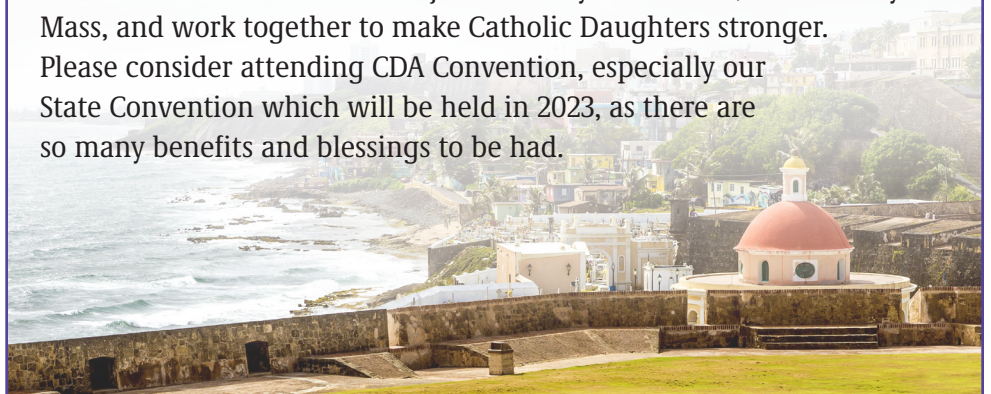
I had the opportunity to be attend the **59th Biennial National Catholic Daughter Convention** in San Juan, Puerto Rico. While I had considered attending three previous National Conventions (Montana, Pittsburgh, and Dallas), the 59th was my first experience and received a special ribbon to attach to my delegate badge.

I flew in San Juan on Sunday and after checking in, made my way to the pool and met with CDA sisters from New Mexico, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and New York. I had many tour options on how to spend my free time on Monday and Tuesday morning. After lunch, we made our choices on which CDA workshops we wanted to attend. There were two sessions so each of your State Officers was able to attend two workshops covering spiritual enhancement, leadership, family, membership, JDCA/youth, planning better meetings and working together. The information presented in these workshops was fun and inspirational. On Tuesday evening we were treated to a lovely free concert which combined the history, music, and dance of Puerto Rico.

Wednesday brought the opening Mass of the Convention and then we got down to work. Convention delegates are seated by State and the way the tables were setup we were by sisters from Louisiana, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Puerto Rico. I think the most difficult truth which hit me was when the Convention credentials report was read by NYS Regent Theresa Duran: that 2,361 delegates were eligible to attend and only 390 delegates were actually present.

Convention covers the nomination and election of National Officers, National Directors, and the 2024 Nominating Committee. We learned the winners of various awards and Circle of Love projects. New York was very well represented! We had inspirational speakers including our new **National Chaplain Fr. Shenan Boquet** who also is the President of **Human Life International**, our new pro-life National Charity. We had reports, presentations and reviews, lively discussion, and votes on the proposed Bylaw changes.

It was a wonderful time to join with my CDA sisters, attend daily Mass, and work together to make Catholic Daughters stronger. Please consider attending CDA Convention, especially our State Convention which will be held in 2023, as there are so many benefits and blessings to be had.



NYS Catholic Daughters of the Americas

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



The New York State Board is continuing
the process of working towards sponsoring our third
Habitat for Humanity Home in New York!

This is a ***long term goal*** as we must raise half of the funds needed
before we can apply to National for partnership.

The cost of a new home build in New York can range from \$75,000-\$400,000.

We hope to raise the funds necessary within the next 3-5 years.

The decision has been made to use some of the profits from our
Touchstone Jewelry Sale towards the seed money for this project.
That means that every item you purchase from the enclosed catalog
will not only return 50% profit to the State, but
it will help give a home to a family.

Please visit the sale site, share the link

<http://www.touchstonecrystal.com/60FEPDGU>

with family and friends and help make this year's sale a success.



We were honored to attend the Mass & Celebration in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ogdensburg



Get Those Newsletters Rolling Again!

SYLVIA MURDOLO, STATE CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

In many ways, September brings a new beginning. For many Courts, it is the start of a new CDA year and with it, we start turning out Court Newsletters again.

As I wrote in the June issue of the **Rising Dawn**, my Court was seriously looking at some of the suggestions we got from the independent judges.

For August's newsletter, I started using a larger 12 point font instead of 9 point. Members were pleased with the use of colors though I think the colors were a little too intense. New graphics completed this month's revision.

As regent of my local court, I got a great question from one of the members: why are we changing? Isn't the local Court Newsletter for internal use?

I answered with a lot of excitement. *The newsletter is definitely not for internal use only*: it is a great public relations tool. It should reflect it's membership, Court programs, news and goals. Our newsletters are an opportunity to show off why we love being Catholic

Daughters. In addition, the feedback from the judges is a gift that when carefully followed will produce far better results. I'm grateful for that feedback! I needed that feedback! Please feel free to reach out to me to discuss any feedback your newsletter received. I want all CDA newsletters to improve.

I would be honored to be added to your email list as you distribute your Court newsletter. Please add my email as **encourager0307@gmail.com**. I love hearing from any Catholic Daughters so don't hesitate.

Just a gentle reminder from the last issue, make sure all newsletters are sent by regular mail to your members who don't receive email. Approximately one-third of my beloved Court members do not have access to a computer or email. I would be failing in my obligation if I didn't do snail mail.

Unfortunately, no one from New York won awards in the National Contest. Let's make it our goal to improve our newsletters so as to change that in the future!

What does it look like out there?

CHRISTINA R. PACKWOOD, STATE CHAIRMAN OF QUALITY OF LIFE

Well – the sun is shining, summer is still here! People are finishing up vacations to the seashores, islands, other countries, National Parks and of course Disney World. They are swimming, boating, mountain climbing, surfing – wherever there is a pool, a river, a lake, ocean or hills and mountains, so grab your bike, kayak, water skis, wind surfer etc. **Oh summer, we love you so!**

But wait, what about reality? High gas prices, high food prices, working or not working, rent, sky high mortgage payments, no room in the ER or...oh yes: COVID still on the rampage. The local, national and world news is horrific, Ukraine is still at a state of war, Russia, China, Iran, all want more control, and don't let us forget to keep an eye on Taiwan. Trade wars are flaring up, drugs are all over the country and of course children are starving, the elderly need more care as do the unwanted babies. **How do we as Catholic Daughters look at this sobering point of view?**

Catholic Daughters have two major assets: **prayer** and **each other**. We pray daily for peace, unborn babies and their mothers, our elderly, our parish, our priest and seminarians, our families and, yes, for the conversion of Russia, for people with unbelief in God. We have some of the longest daily prayer lists going!

We are not the leaders of countries, states or churches but we do have the patience to take a step back and realize, **we are the prayer warriors**, who pray for all. We talk to God about everything and we are the ones who make things happen to improve people's lives. Every day when 3pm chimes on my cell phone (and yours I hope) we say "Jesus I Trust in You." Even if we don't make time for a Divine Mercy Chaplet. God knows where our prayers are to be placed and for whom.

Each year, we look back into what our courts have done

for others and it is good! So, keep praying and doing and improving the lives around you because you are never alone. When you read your **Rising Dawn** or **Share** magazine, look to see how many acts of kindness have been put forth and smile because you are a part of this great act. Be kind to all and yourself too and always Trust in Jesus.

Enjoy the end of summer and the fall that is so close, keep praying for this world we love to be in, for its countries, its peoples, our courts and your neighbors, your families, and pray for yourself to be always kind.

Please enjoy and share this beautiful message of St. Teresa of Calcutta.

ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you.
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight. Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous.
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will forget tomorrow.
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. Give the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.

*O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.
Remind us to take time to rest. Remind us of the wonder of your creation.
Remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life. —www.xavier.edu*

THANK YOU Project

Our Statewide Family project is **The Thank You Project**. The purpose of the project is to collect thank you cards that will be mailed to active service personnel (not Veterans) in all branches of the armed forces throughout the year. We are asking every court to participate in this event.

Tips to remember when writing your letters: Be positive, upbeat and thankful for their service; Share a little info about yourself like hobbies, pets, etc; Talk about things going on around home like the weather, sports, etc.; A great way to start your letter is "Dear Service Member" or "Dear Friend"

Some things NOT to do when writing your letters: Kids' drawings

are great but do not use glitter or any other crafting materials (googly eyes, puffy stickers, pipe cleaners, etc.); Do not discuss inappropriate things; Avoid politics or political statements; Avoid lengthy religious discussions but saying you are praying for them is great; Avoid making holiday-specific cards, as the troops will be sent letters throughout the year; No items, trinkets or monetary donations for the troops will be accepted – please do not include any in your letters.

Do NOT include envelopes when writing cards – it will only slow down the sorting! Bundle letters in groups (typically in groups of 25, 50, 100 or 250 is best for large amounts). Please add a note to the top of your letters noting how many are in each bundle.

Place the letters/cards in a manila envelope or small box and send them to: **Ct. St. Pius X #1690, The Thank You Project, 35 Abbey Lane, Levittown, NY 11756** before December 1, 2022.

State Chairman for Family Mary Lynn Borst and member **Sandy Leonard** will make sure the letters get into the hands of the right group to be sent to our active military men and women in a secure and timely manner.

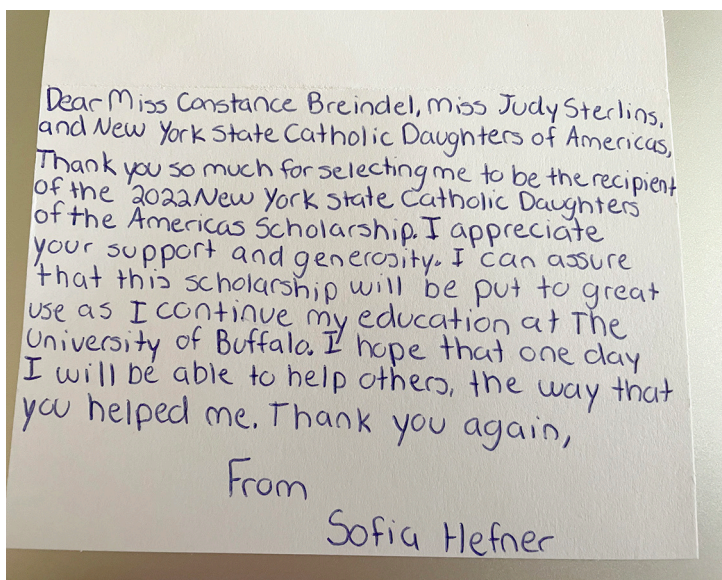
While we are happy to receive thank you cards from the members of your court, but this could be so much more. The event could be opened to Religious Education classes, scouts, your parish, even the community at large! What a great way to publicize CDA and your court while supporting our troops. You could serve coffee/juice/bagels. Or have a bake sale at the same time. Be sure to have your court banner prominently displayed and your members there to help adorned in their purple CDA shirts.

This is a great opportunity to publicize your court while showing your patriotism and support for our military. Just make sure the emphasis is on **The Thank You Project** and the letters/cards that are being written.

Speaking of Thank Yous...

We received a lovely thank you card from Sofia Hefner, winner of one of our NY State College Scholarships.

Good luck Sofia!



Regents: Please Tell All Members About The Rising Dawn

There is no reason that every member does not receive **The Rising Dawn**. The State Newsletter is not only for Local Court Regents, it contains important information that all members should be aware of.

An electronic version of **The Rising Dawn** can be sent right to any email inbox. Please send the request to Editor **Theresa Duran** at tduran@optonline.net and you will be added to the email version subscription.

An electronic version is also posted on the New York State website at cdanys.org.

To receive additional printed subscriptions to **The Rising Dawn**, please send \$10 (checks made payable to *Catholic Daughters of the Americas*) to Theresa at 31 Triangle Pl., Freeport, NY 11520



Touchstone

CRYSTAL

Jewelry Fundraiser October 1-31st

We are excited to continue our **Building For The Future** fundraising efforts towards our next **Habitat for Humanity** build with jewelry sale through **Touchstone Crystal**.

Denise Hamel, our Independent Consultant with Touchstone Crystal says "It's been a blessing in my life and I love to show it off! Touchstone has something for everyone! I am proud to represent The Swarovski brand because of its legacy in quality and beauty."

Touchstone Crystal is owned and operated by Swarovski. Swarovski has been around since 1926 and the sparkles of their crystals cover the top of the tree at Rockefeller Plaza, the stage of the Oscars, JLO's entire concert wardrobe and their Ice Bracelets were featured in Oprah's Favorite Things at Christmas.

Backed by Swarovski's strong 125+ year heritage and quality reputation, Touchstone Crystal brings the magic of Swarovski Crystal directly to women's doorsteps. They are the affordable line of jewelry among the many divisions of the Swarovski brand.

As with our past jewelry sales, this is completely online. Please encourage your members to view the collection at and place an order. The link for our sale page is <http://www.touchstonecrystal.com/60FEPDGU>

The sale begins on October 1st and will conclude on October 31st. All merchandise will be shipped directly to the purchaser as soon as the order is processed.

New York State CDA will receive 50% profit from this sale. If even just 1/2 of the members in our state place an order for \$50, we could make a profit nearing \$50,000!

Please consider supporting this worthwhile effort. All gifts will be shipped in time for Christmas, but think ahead and order for upcoming birthdays, Confirmations and graduations!

Important Dates

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Sep 5 | Labor Day |
| Sep 8 | Birthday of The Blessed Mother |
| Sep 17 | Local Officer & District Deputy Workshop, St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Babylon, NY |
| Sep 18 | Local Officer & District Deputy Workshop, Vincent Pallotti Center, Monroe, NY |
| Sep 23-25 | Pray & Play: Christ The King Retreat House, Syracuse |
| Sep 30 | Birthday of State Secretary Patti Drivanos |
| Oct 1-31 | Touchstone Jewelry Sale |
| Oct 1 | Ogdensburg Memorial Mass |
| Oct 8 | 100th Anniversary Celebrations for Ct. Margaret Mary #768 |
| Oct 22 | Rockville Centre Memorial Mass |
| Nov 5 | Archdiocese Memorial Mass |
| Nov 1 | All Saints Day |
| Nov 2 | Deadline for December Rising Dawn All Souls Day |
| Nov 11 | Veterans Day |
| Nov 24 | Thanksgiving |
| Dec 1 | Deadline for Thank You Project |



The Wisconsin State Court is selling CDA Earrings.

I am sure many NY members would love to own a pair for just \$35. Please support their efforts, just remember, they cannot be worn with robes!

Contact: WisconsinCDA@aol.com