



# The Rising Dawn

New York State Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

June 2022

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Visit [CDANYS.org](http://CDANYS.org) and [CatholicDaughters.org](http://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](http://youtube.com) and search NYS Catholic Daughters.

## Our Labor Is Not In Vain

THERESA DURAN, STATE REGENT



My Dear Sisters,

The words of 1 Cor. 13:28 have been ringing through my head this week: *Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

These words describe my feelings towards the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and, most especially, the members of New York State.

I feel like we, your State Board, your State Chairmen, your DDs and many, many members have been laboring to keep CDA alive and many times, I have had my doubts and succumbed to the thought: *is this all in vain?*

In my heart of hearts, I know it is not because all we do, we do for Him. It is *through Him*, and *with Him* and *in Him* that we act in Unity & Charity, in service and spirituality. We do not dedicate ourselves to the work of this organization for our glory. We do not write articles, and prayer services, sort papers and correspond with National, worry about recruitment and retention of members for our sakes. No, we do it for Him!

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is simply the vehicle by which we glorify God and give the works of our hearts, hands, and spirits to His Church. CDA is not just a bunch of friends to hang out with one night a month; CDA is not just a club that gets together to raise money; CDA is not just a bunch of women

who pray the Rosary – we are so much more! We do so much more! We mean so much more!

So, seeing the decline in membership, witnessing courts that cannot secure officers, watching as courts just stop being...it is heartbreaking.

We are the Catholic Daughters of the Americas! We are women of strength; we are relevant in today's church; we are necessary in today's world; we are a special kind of sisterhood.

We are women from different places, different backgrounds, different economic circumstances, but as members of CDA, we are sisters...we are always there for one another, we care for one another, we share a special bond.

And so, even when we fret over the success of our next basket raffle, when we tire of baking cookies for the Bake Sale, when we struggle to find officers, when we worry about gaining new members, we don't give up, we persevere, we succeed – because we have one another.

We must be firm, we must remain steadfast, we must devote ourselves to the work of the Lord and hope, and pray, and know that our labors are not in vain!

When you and I and every other CDA member joined our amazing organization, we all took the following pledge:

*Continued on page 2*



# Time To Leave The Room?

REV. RALPH SOMMER, STATE CHAPLAIN

When we first meet the apostles after the Resurrection we find them locked in the

room out of fear. Jesus appears to them several times and yet they still lock themselves away. Other than a quick fishing expedition, where they can feel safe out on the sea by themselves, they don't budge. Well not until Pentecost. At that moment the loud rushing, flame popping, appearance of the Holy Spirit gets them moving past their place of fear.

All through the Easter Season we've been hearing in the readings from the Acts of Apostles that they finally caught the courage to get out of their place of safety and into the community to do the work of Jesus. In some ways those passages are "spoiler alerts" as the apostles still haven't moved much in the gospels we've been reading. But it's good to know what they're capable of even before they know it themselves.

Could this be our story too? For a time Covid has kept us quarantined in fear, and rightly so. I think back to when our local funeral home had to rent a refrigerated truck to keep bodies. My family and I couldn't have a funeral Mass for our dad at the time he died because churches were closed. People were washing groceries before bringing them into the house. If your loved one was in a nursing home or assisted living community, you couldn't visit. All this before masks, vaccines and boosters.

Even now some people are afraid of going out in public, and there have been spikes here and there in the number of infected folks, even among the vaccinated. At least the recovery rate is high and the healing is quick for most. There are no longer refrigerator trucks for our deceased loved ones. I thank God every day that God gave us the growing knowledge of how to use science and common sense to protect us. We are surviving this. I feel so much safer knowing that my family and I are vaccinated.

So have you had your Pentecost moment yet? Are you back to attending church in person yet? If you've been part of a ministry, are you ministering again? Or perhaps, have you discerned that it's time to be involved in a different ministry? The Holy Spirit has used this time to do a lot of inspiring. And just as the Spirit fostered a major change in the apostles, I believe the Spirit is around doing the same among us.

The Holy Spirit knows what we're capable of, even before we know it, and if we explore the gift of Wisdom that comes from the Spirit, we'll discover not only what we're capable of, but what God has meant for us to do. Let not age or disability dissuade us from whatever new chapter the Spirit wills for us. Let the experience of Pentecost alert us that a new beginning is close at hand and let us throw open the shutters of our souls to let in the spring and summer breezes on which the Spirit rides.

The outcome of that kind of trust will be beyond what we have imagined so far!

*Continued from front cover*

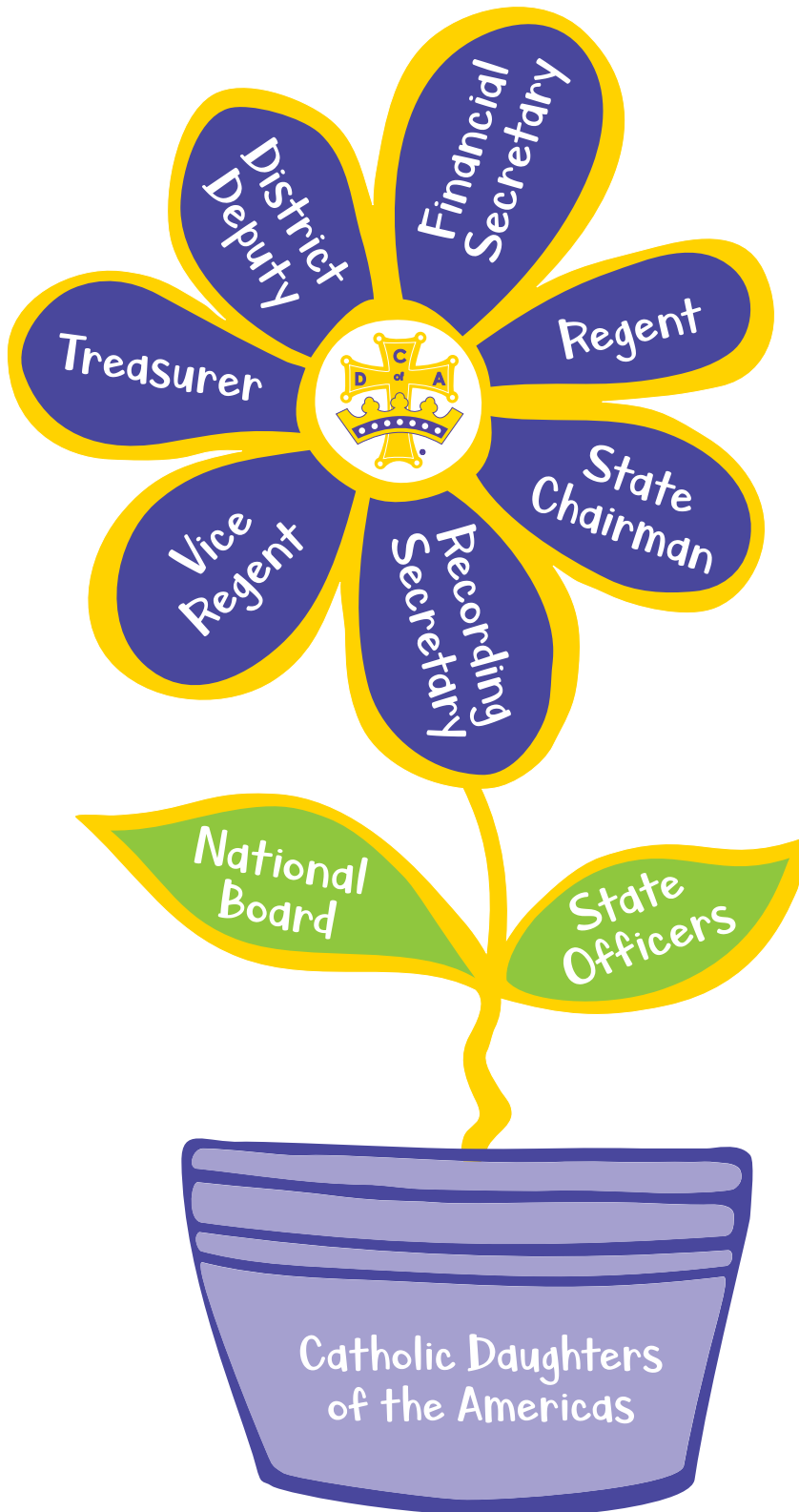
***I gladly accept membership in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and, through the presence of the Spirit in my life, dedicate myself to the work of this organization: to foster unity and charity, among all men and women, through the love of God.***

I ask you say these words aloud once again, to take them to heart, to pray upon the words of 1 Corinthians 13: 28 and recommit yourself and your court, to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, to our Catholic Church and to the service of the Lord.

In Unity & Charity,

NYS CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS  
**SEEK JUSTICE.**  
**LOVE MERCY.**  
**WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD.**  
MICAH 6:8

# Congratulations And Thank You To All New Local Court Officers!



The State Board wishes to extend a heart-felt congratulations to all those who said "yes" to the call and have stepped up to leadership roles in your Local Courts.

We will do our best to support you and to help your court succeed and thrive.

To that end, we are happy to announce

## Let's Get Growing!

### Local Officer & District Deputy Workshop

**July 30th**

**St. Joseph's Community Room  
3159 NY-9N, Greenfield Center, NY 12833**

*Please bring a bag lunch, drinks will be provided*

**August 13th**

**SMS Hall (Societa diMatuo Soccorso)  
95 Ovid St., Seneca Falls, NY**

*Lunch will be provided at a cost of \$10 per person*

**September 17th**

**St. Joseph's Parish Center  
39 N Carll Ave, Babylon, NY 11702**

*Please bring a bag lunch, drinks will be provided*

**September 18th**

**Vincent Pallotti Center  
98 Harriman Heights Rd., Monroe, NY 10950**

*Please bring a bag lunch, drinks will be provided*

*Workshops will run from 10am-4pm.*

*Complimentary continental breakfast  
will be available at all locations.*

*Additional details will be shared with Regents as soon as plans are finalized.*





**NATIONAL CONVENTION  
ATTENDEES ARE INVITED  
TO  
JOIN US FOR**

**New York  
night.  
in  
Puerto Rico!**

**Thursday, July 21st  
at  
Restaurante Antonio Condado  
\$40 per person**

Join with your fellow NYS CDA members for a time  
of sisterhood and celebration.

Please send checks made payable to  
*Catholic Daughters of the Americas*, with a note  
in the memo for *State Dinner*, to:  
Tina Bigelow, Second Vice State Regent  
9423 US Route 9  
Lewis, NY 12950



## **Spruce Up! Rebrand!**

**EMILY GUILHERME, NATIONAL REGENT-ELECT**

Dear Catholic Daughters  
of New York,

As many courts wind down for the summer and we rejoice over the dwindling number of COVID cases, I wanted to reach out to you, my dear sisters, about the opportunities this summer will bring.

Does your court feel a little stale? Time to rebrand! And why not? It's the perfect time for it! For many people, the events of the past two years have made them aware of the need for God.

Imagine how beneficial being invited into our churches and into the Catholic Daughters can be for women who need genuine sisterhood, fellowship and opportunities for spiritual growth and service!

We have an incredible opportunity to reach new ladies and families and I implore you to not let the end of COVID happen without seeing it as the recruiting and rebranding chance that it is: spruce up your court's letterhead, reintroduce your court to your area with a big event, and get the word out about the good you and your court are doing for your communities and for the world.

Over the next few months, I encourage you all to brainstorm and formulate exciting new ideas for recruitment drives, catechesis nights, fundraisers and more.

Next, don't forget to register for our National Convention in Puerto Rico from July 20 to July 23, 2022. It has been four long years since we last saw each other at the National Convention, and the need for fellowship is urgent! This is a great chance for all of us to exchange recruiting ideas, tour the island, and even participate in this year's Walk/Run for Love which benefits a myriad of projects, including Habitat for Humanity, Catholic Relief Services, Smile Train, and the Labouré Society (to name just a few).

There is still time to register for the Convention, but time is running out. I don't want any of you, my dear sisters, to miss this once-in-a-lifetime event and join me on the beach, toes in the sand, sipping on beverages with tiny umbrellas and making memories.

I can't wait to see you in July! Take care my sisters!

In Unity & Charity, Emily

# #BuffaloStrong

CONNIE BREINDEL, FIRST VICE STATE REGENT

As I take pen to paper to write the June article for **The Rising Dawn**, there is only really one thing on my mind and that is the recent mass shooting here in Buffalo. I can't stop thinking about it.

Now, I personally didn't know any of the victims nor was it in my neighborhood, but it did affect me. Because of who we are. We are the City of Good Neighbors. It is the motto for the city of Buffalo.

I don't live in the city but when I travel and people ask where I am from, I say Buffalo because people have heard of that. They have heard about our winter snowstorms (even though Syracuse does get more), 4 Superbowl losses and most recent overtime loss of the Buffalo Bills, Dyngus Day parades, and even our chicken wings. Now, we will unfortunately, be known for this too.

Can you imagine going to the supermarket to shop and never going home? Unfortunately for ten people, that is the case. They were victims because of the color of their skin. The alleged gunman decided to come here, to the predominately black area and kill as many as he could. He wasn't one of us; a Buffalonian, he was an outsider. Buffalonians live and breathe the city motto. It is in our blood. After this tragedy and the closure of the Tops Friendly Markets, buses have offered to transport people for free to other stores to do shopping, Uber and Lyft offered services,

GoFundMe requests established, food pantries providing assistance, corporations and businesses have stepped up to help with donations and hot meals, volunteers from all over have pitched in wherever needed. Even Sabres, Bills, and Bandits players have volunteered. We gather to help and show support and honor the lives that were taken. This tragedy won't change us, but it brought us back to our foundation. It reminded us of who we are and what we do. We are #BuffaloStrong #Buffalove #ChooseLove

## In Memory of:

**Roberta Drury, 32**

**Margus Morrison, 52**

**Andre Mackneil, 53**

**Aaron Salter, 55**

**Geraldine Talley, 62**

**Celestine Chaney, 65**

**Heyward Patterson, 67**

**Katherine Massey, 72**

**Pearl Young, 77**

**Ruth Whitfield, 86**

**PRAY**  
**AND PLAY**  
**RETREAT WEEKENDS**

**There is still room, please join us!**

**June 10-12**

**Wadhams Hall, Ogdensburg**

**Aug 5-7**

**Immaculate Conception Seminary,  
Huntington**

**Sept 23-25**

**Christ The King Retreat House, Syracuse**

**See [cdanys.org](http://cdanys.org) for details**

# Outstanding Court Education Projects

MARY WESTERMANN, OSF, STATE EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

**“Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another” —G. K. Chesterton**

Twenty-five (25) Courts submitted reports to me in this continued time of COVID-19 which were three (3) more Court reports than I received last year. All of the Court projects were outstanding in their own right and I and my committee were again awed by what the local courts are able to accomplish during these trying times. I was particularly impressed by how many Courts still award scholarships despite the ongoing challenges of fundraising. Once again, I thank all Courts who submitted reports for their avid participation. Here are the three most outstanding reports of the ones I received:

**1. Court Sts. Kateri and Andre #2663, Morrisonville,** offered a full year Bible study program via Messenger Chat. The Court utilized Father Mike Schmitz’s daily podcast offered through Ascension Press. The participants listened and followed along with their Bibles. They then discussed the week’s Bible readings for two hours. During the 52 weeks of study, the participants gained a deeper understanding of God’s plan for salvation. The program was so successful that the Court has decided to continue their study this year with a 24-week study of the Gospel of Saint Luke.

**2. Court Patricia #195, Newburgh,** collected school supplies to fulfill the needs of the families who utilize the Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry at St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish in Newburgh and who cannot afford to purchase needed school items. At Court Patricia’s August meeting, Court members brought in pencils, pens, crayons, glue, paper, rulers, protractors, calculators, notebooks and backpacks. To quote the report, “Court Patricia members were happy to be a part of making these children happy on their first day of school.”

**3. Court of the Assumption #690, Maybrook,** supports the Religious Education program of Holy Name of Mary/Assumption parish in Montgomery and Maybrook in a number of ways: as catechists, by providing a reception for children and their families after the children make their first Penance, donating the altar flowers for all First Communion Masses and providing a pizza party for all Confirmandi on the night of rehearsal. The Court feels all these activities serve as examples of the importance of sacramental life to the children of the parish.

## 2022 NYS CDA Scholarship Winners

JOANNE LEONARDI, STATE CHAIRMAN OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2022 New York State Court CDA college scholarship program was a success this year with many applications by some very talented and academically competitive students. Of the very qualified candidates, it is my great honor and pleasure to announce the 3 winners of the 2022 scholarship:

**Michael Turner**, sponsored by **Court Morning Star #899, Northport**. Michael graduates from St. Anthony’s High School in June and in September, he will be attending either Johns Hopkins University or the University of Michigan.

**Andrew Pizzardi**, sponsored by **Court St. Aidan #1577, Williston Park**. Daniel graduates from

Chaminade High School in June and in September, Andrew will be attending The Catholic University of America to study Physics.

**Sofia Hefner**, sponsored by **Court Our Mother of Good Counsel # 1311, Blasdell**. Sofia graduates from Frontier Central High School in June and in September, she will be attending the University of Buffalo to study Nursing.

Congratulations to our three Scholarship winners. On behalf of the entire NYS CDA, we would like to take this opportunity to commend you on your extraordinary achievements. We hope that the way ahead is even brighter with this scholarship being the foundation of your future success.

# Education Contest Winners

MARY WESTERMANN, OSF, STATE CHAIRMAN OF EDUCATION

This past year has been one of ongoing challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions which, thankfully, have been mostly lifted. In light of this, I was expecting to receive only as many entries as last year. However, I was pleasantly surprised to receive entries from fifteen (15) sponsoring Courts (five more Courts than in 2021).

## POETRY

### Division 1

1st Place **Russell Streeter**  
Court Cortland #919, Cortland

2nd Place **Joseph Torres**  
Court St. Aidan #1577, Williston Park

3rd Place **Sophia Patterson**  
Court Bishop Kellenberg #1756,  
No. Merrick

### Division 2

1st Place **Rebecca Syers**  
Court St. Aidan #1577, Williston Park

2nd Place **Erica Sickles**  
Morning Star #899, Northport

3rd Place **Krish Bogam**  
Court Cortland #919, Cortland

### Division 3

1st Place **Miranda Frisbee**  
Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419,  
Washingtonville

### Division 4

1st Place **Gina Ponessa**  
Court McLaughlin #422,  
Saratoga Springs

2nd Place **Katherine Balnis**  
Court Queen of Angels #869,  
Hicksville

3rd Place **Roseann Horgan**  
Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419,  
Washingtonville

## ESSAY

### Division 1

1st Place **Stephen Salhus**  
Court St. Aidan #1577, Williston Park

2nd Place **Christine Palumbo**  
Court Bishop Kellenberg #1756,  
No. Merrick

3rd Place **Julia Murawski**  
Court McLaughlin #422,  
Saratoga Springs

### Division 2

1st Place **Madelyn Goetz**  
Court Nativity of Our Lady #931,  
Brockport

2nd Place **Madeline Bennett**  
Court Anna Theresa #1074, St. James

3rd Place **Grace Gavigan**  
Court Joan of Arc #604, Haverstraw

## ART

### Division 1

1st Place **Alaysia Hackshaw**  
Court Queen of Angels #869,  
Hicksville

2nd Place **Mikaela Sleight**  
Court Nativity of Our Lady #931,  
Brockport

3rd Place **Theresa Kelly**  
Court Ave Maria #832, Kings Park

## COMPUTER ART

### Division 2

1st Place **Sienna Stewart**  
Court Bishop Kellenberg #1756,  
No. Merrick

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### Division 2

1st Place **Leilani Heredia**  
Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis

2nd Place **Mia Scannell**  
Court Queen of Angels #869,  
Hicksville

3rd Place **Bryce Gilroy**  
Court Bishop Kellenberg #1756,  
No. Merrick

I commend and thank each and every student and adult who entered the contest. I am pleased to announce the winners below and to thank all Courts which sponsored entries. All first-place winners were sent to Darlene Moritz, the National Chairperson for Education. We had five national winners in 2021 and, hopefully, will have even more this year!

*NOTE: Where there are no winners indicated in a category, there were no entries*

### Division 3

1st Place **Samantha Reeder**  
Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis

### Division 4

1st Place **Laura Horn**  
Court Margaret Mary #768, Monroe

2nd Place **Charilla S. Conner**  
Court Nativity of Our Lady #931,  
Brockport

3rd Place **Roseann Horgan**  
Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419,  
Washingtonville

### Division 2

1st Place **Owen Jorgensen**  
Court Ave Maria #832, Kings Park

2nd Place **Mel'Lahnee Blackwell**  
Court Queen of Angels #869,  
Hicksville

3rd Place **Colleen Eschenauer**  
Court Morning Star #899, Northport

### Division 3

1st Place **Elia Trujillo-Castillo**  
Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis

### Division 4

1st Place **Debby Brown**  
Court St. Rosalie #1783,  
Hampton Bays

2nd Place **Jasmine Choi**  
Court Ave Maria #832, Kings Park

3rd Place **Jennifer Lentini**  
Court Queen of Angels #869,  
Hicksville

## MUSIC

### Division 2

1st Place **Jack Lyke**  
Court Queen of Angels #869,  
Hicksville

**"SOMETIMES OUR LIGHT GOES OUT BUT IS BLOWN  
AGAIN INTO INSTANT FLAME BY AN ENCOUNTER  
WITH ANOTHER HUMAN BEING." – ALBERT SCHWEITZER**



# Wear That Robe With Pride!

Congratulations to the new and returning Court officers. Thank you so very much for taking on these very important jobs.

There are some very important protocols that you need to be aware of and follow to the best of your ability. Why? So we are all doing the same things, the same way as not only NYS but the National organization.

## How do I find out these procedures and protocols?

Funny you should ask. Start with your Past Officers, they are a fount of knowledge and an excellent resource. Your *Bylaws* are another source as are the *Tools of the Trade (TOTT)*. It's a great idea to have **TOTT** online so you can consult them any time a question comes up. Still not sure, ask your District Deputy, she too knows a great deal. The next

CHARILLA S. CONNER, STATE CHAIRMAN OF PROTOCOL

person would be your State Representative (that's the State Officer in charge of your diocese). The protocol is to start close and if necessary widen the circle. And please be assured there is no such thing as a stupid question.

One of the more important protocols has to do with your officer robe. When you wear it you not only represent your office but the Catholic Daughters. In respect to your robe, it **MUST** be 11 inches from the floor. Put on your white shoes, put on the robe and have someone hold a piece of paper from the floor to the hem. "Close enough" is not acceptable, it will show when you are in that group picture. You have time now to either fix it yourself or get it to a competent tailor. Always hand stitch as machine leave marks for the next person and make sure

no one ever cuts the hem. Check out all those pictures in Share magazine. All the hems are the same so the focus of the picture can be on the ladies and the event, not the zig-zag of the hem lines.

You are permitted to wear small earrings when robed, but nothing that goes beyond the earlobe. Again, you represent CDA. No pins on the outside of the robe, no purses or bags under the robe, no pants or dress hems hanging below the hemline. Your robe says it all.

Robes are only worn in ceremony or procession only, not walking to and from the car. Please, do not unzip your robe and let it flap in the breeze. It's again a disrespect to the office you represent as a CDA member. Carry it respectfully either in a garment bag or over your arm. A lovely custom from 1903 is to wear white under your robe. It does look lovely to see this wave of white as we go about our events.

## AROUND THE STATE

### Baby Shower For Life Center

Court Victory #595, Bay Shore, held their annual Baby Shower on March 8th in support of Life Center of Long Island. Gloria Schreiber CEO was the speaker.

She reported that 75 babies were saved during pandemic and hundreds of families were helped by Life Center.

She was overwhelmed with the number of the donations from the Court and the parishioners St. Patrick's Church. St. Patrick's Prayer Shawl Ministry and Quilter's Group donated more than 50 blankets.



Please submit stories and photos by August 8th for our September issue.

Submit to [tduran@optonline.net](mailto:tduran@optonline.net) to share your story with the state!

Let us know about successful fundraisers, impactful events and community involvement.



# Finding Opportunities To Pray This Summer

LUCILLE KOCH,  
STATE CHAIRMAN OF SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT

One morning I was walking my dog and talking with my sister on the phone. I was deep in conversation and not really paying attention to the world around me. At a lull in our conversation my sister said, "Lu, I love listening to the birds sing when we talk. They are so calming and their songs are so beautiful."

I had no idea they were even singing. I had ignored the sounds of nature and retreated into my own little world.

This summer let's vow to listen to the sounds around us for in the smallest whisper, we hear the Lord and in everything we do, we can find scripture. *Psalms 104:12: Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell, they sing among the branches.*

I know that you are devout women of prayer and I am often in awe of your deep faith and prayer life. I hope these ideas, if not already incorporated into your summer prayer time, will find a place in your warm weather activities.

If you can find an outdoor Mass in your area, try it. People are so much friendlier and relaxed as they gather in lawn chairs and on blankets for Mass. Look at the sky and feel the Lord enveloping you among the trees and the grass. *Mark 8:6-7: And He directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people and they set them before the crowd. And they had a few small fish and having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them.*

If you can get to the lake or the ocean this summer, it's a great place to experience the Lord. The sun, the waves, the water creatures, the smell, the feel of sand beneath your feet, all these remind us of the beauty of God's creation. *Psalms 139:9-10: If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.*

A walk in the park heightens the senses as well. The sounds all around are a reminder that God makes all things to work together. *Colossians 2:2-6: Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him.*

A favorite or a new vacation spot gives you time to breathe, relax and see the world and the Lord from a different perspective. Praying overlooking a new mountain range, or a valley or an ocean is an added dimension to prayer. *Mark 6:30-32: The apostles returned to Jesus and told him and taught. And he said to them, "come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to desolate place by themselves.*

Campgrounds give us time to appreciate the comforts of home and the comforts of loved ones. To be enveloped in the beauty of nature adds to the awe of the power of our God and His creation. *Exodus 24:17: Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain on the side of the people of Israel.*

A visit to the local botanical gardens and the time to experience and ponder the balance of insects and flowers is a wonderful time to pray. *Psalms 19:1: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.*

Barbecuing with family and friends and neighbors can develop a strong and lasting bond. Jesus loved to share a meal around the table with his family and friends. Be sure to thank Him for His many blessings. *Acts 2:46: And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they receive their food with glad and generous hearts.*

Hiking is good for the soul and the spirit, if you enjoy being out in nature. Seeing the world God created allows for time to pray for the blessing of all creatures. If done as a family, it can be a great way to experience nature and create great memories. *Job 12:7: But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. And his hand is the life of everything and the breath of all mankind.*

And don't forget solitude. Let's take some time to spend alone with Jesus. This is one of the best gifts you can give to yourself this summer. *Psalms 145:11-12: On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.*

Happy, blessed summer to you all.



# Do Something!

EILEEN PETERSON,  
STATE CHAIRMAN OF LEGISLATION

In the Christian song entitled **Do Something**, the singer vocalizes through a litany of evil being imposed on the world. At one point during the song, the lyrics say: *I shook my fist at Heaven, said, "God, why don't You do something?" He said, "I did, yeah, I created you."*

As Catholic Daughters we must do our part to stand in the breach between the advocates of the anti-gospel and the bodies and souls of our children and grandchildren. It is our time to **Do Something**, with the help of Our Lady and Our Lord.

We are living in what Pope Pius XI called the greatest heresy of all time: disregard for the 10 Commandments. Saint John Paul II wrote that in the modern age there is a war for the world's soul between those who believe and preach the Gospel and those who are blinded and opposed to Sacred Scripture and moral teachings (Threshold of HOPE and Fatima Mysteries).

Try to take part in First Saturday devotion given to us at Fatima: *"On the First Saturday of five successive months, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary and keep Our Lord company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary."* We have hope in her promise to us from Fatima: "her Immaculate Heart Will Triumph."

For many years Planned Parenthood (the multi-billion dollar organization that promotes and profits from abortion and immoral sexual behavior) has been pushing Legislation for comprehensive sexual education in schools for students as young as Kindergarten through 12th grade. Please contact your State Senator/Assemblyperson as their **constituent** and encourage them to vote NO on S-2558A (Senate Bill) and A-6616 (Assembly Bill).

We are hopefully optimistic that we will soon see the end of Roe v. Wade. The Supreme Court Decision about to be released will confirm that as in the Dred Scott Decision that legalized slavery, the abortion decision of 1973 must be reversed. Please pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe and Our Lady of America for our Beloved America.



Lord God, I thank you today  
for the gift of my life, and for  
the lives of all my brothers and sisters.

I know there is nothing that destroys more  
life than abortion, yet I rejoice that You have  
conquered death by the Resurrection of  
Your Son.

I am ready to do my part in ending abortion.

Today I commit myself  
Never to be silent,  
Never to be passive,  
Never to be forgetful  
of the unborn.

I commit myself to be active in the pro-life  
movement, and never to stop defending life  
until all my brothers and sisters are  
protected, and our nation once again  
becomes a nation with liberty and justice  
not just for some, but for all.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen!

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director and  
Chairman of the Board, Priests for Life

# By The Numbers

TINA BIGELOW, SECOND VICE STATE REGENT

Do you have a significant number or numbers that seem to always show up through a crisis or a very important event in your life? If so, do you ever wonder if there is any meaning behind it?

Well, many years ago, this question came up in a conversation that I had with my sister. While she was in the hospital recovering from a mental breakdown, she kept seeing the number 3 and wondered why she felt God's presence whenever she saw this number. When she asked a close friend of hers, her friend explained that God uses numbers as way to tell us something. She pointed out that throughout the Bible, starting with the creation of earth, that a number or group of numbers are used to reveal a significant meaning. Theologians have discovered that there are patterns of numbers in certain languages that reveal hidden meanings that validates God inspired every word in Scripture to reveal His Plan to Man.

This interesting revelation sparked my curiosity to the point where I needed to find out what my significant numbers meant in Biblical numerology. As I reflect on the moments these numbers would show up, I realized at that moment the messages God has been revealing to me.

**Edward F. Vallowe**, makes a profound statement in his book entitled "Biblical Mathematics," "The precision with which the Bible numbers all fall into their places cannot be accounted for except by the supernatural power and wisdom of a God Who is infinite".

I find it very interesting that regardless of how many times you may hear a passage from the bible, each time something else is revealed.

A few weeks ago I heard a homily through a podcast that pointed out the significance of the number of fish caught through the Gospel of John in Verse 21:1-14. Days after Jesus' Resurrection, Peter decided he wanted to go back to his previous job of being a fisherman and six of

the disciples joined him. The 7 men fished all night but caught nothing. Early the next morning, Jesus appears on the shore, but they do not recognize him and answers him with frustration that they did not catch any fish. He then tells them to throw the net to the right of the boat, and when they brought it back up, they marveled at the fact that the net held together even though it contained so many large fish. Once they got to shore, Peter counts 153 great fish.

The obvious messages in this story are 1 - without Christ, attempts to do something great on our own will cause failure, but with Christ all things are possible; 2 - Jesus was reminding them that they now work for God and His plan is for them to be catching men not fish.

The hidden message is revealed in the number 153.

Although there have been many theories as to what this message reveals, all agree that the number of fish caught signifies that salvation is open to all and that the Church will encompass men from every nation, place, class, and time.

St. Augustine believes that man's salvation relies on keeping the 10 commandments with the help of God's Grace and the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit. He believes that the message revealed through John's Gospel that the 10 (commandments) plus 7 (Gifts of the Holy Spirit) equals 17, and if all the numbers from 1 to 17 are added together ( $1+2+3...+17$ ), they equal 153.

Some scholars believe that the hidden message is revealed in the Hebrew language, because in their language, every letter has a number attached to it. The Hebrews used their alphabet as a numbering system. The numbers attached to the letters in a Hebrew word could be added together to give a numerical total. The number 153 is the numerical total for the Hebrew words "Ani Elohim" – I AM GOD. When Jesus caused the disciples to catch exactly 153 fish, He was declaring to them that not only was He the Son of God, but that He was God Himself.

God is always revealing His Will to us, may we always be vigilant to see it.





# Outstanding Projects: Youth & JCDA

KATHY KNOTT STATE CHAIRMAN OF YOUTH/JCDA

Many lonely days and nights not able to be with family and friends have been our experiences during the pandemic. However, we have seen an increase in creativity and the value of our spirited faith. The extended efforts of our CDA Courts to reach out to others in greater need than us were truly remarkable.

## Outstanding Project: Youth

Supporting and interacting with Youth in our communities is integral to the Mission of CDA and to the future of our Order and our Church.

The importance of communication was never revealed so much as in the annual Youth Project for **Court Queen of Peace #1534, Wappingers Falls**, during the pandemic. In this rural community the forced isolation could have crippled the efforts to offer Merry Christmas to needy families.

But, Carol Quaid, the Project Chairman for the last 11 years, was unstoppable! She went beyond reaching out to the ladies in the Court, she advertised in the parish bulletin. Well over \$4,000 in gift card donations flooded in from well-wishers in the parish.

Happily, Christmas gifts were provided to 155 local children and an additional gift was made the **Poor Clare Sisters** and a local nursing home. This project went from a Court event to touching the members of the parish and the entire community. Catholic Daughters were shining stars this Christmas.

## Outstanding Project: JCDA

The JCDA girls showed their gifts and talents all over our New York State. We are familiar with the spirited efforts and energy displayed in our teen JCDA girls. They are generous with their own financial means and

team up to reach their goals. There is more than that going on!

**Court Mary, Queen of the Apostles, Monroe**, sponsored by **Court Margaret Mary #768**, offers membership to all: the Senior Court actually paying dues and expenses for girls in the Junior Court, welcoming them all in. This Court takes its name from the patroness of the Pallottine Sisters. The girls also automatically become members of a Regional Youth Group called **Pallottine Teenage Federation (PTAF)**. This also introduces JCDA to the communities of several parishes in a very good light.

I am pleased to brag about this sampling of the marvelous good our women and girls are continuously doing to make our world a better place. Please continue to share your success stories with me.

# NYS CDA Merchandise

LINDA BOLT, NEW YORK STATE CHAIRMAN FOR SALE OF ARTICLES.

Happy Spring my fellow CDA members! With the warmer weather we can hopefully all start to wear our new **CDA Jackets** proudly and possibly drum up some interest in membership.

Just a friendly reminder – in case you've forgotten – to mail the check to cover the postage for the shipment of the jacket, please do so. If you are questioning whether you did or didn't mail a check, please contact me to confirm.

Moving forward, the best way to obtain articles you or your court needs is to email me directly. I don't always have every **T-shirt** in every size. Once you email me I can check my inventory and get back to you before you mail me out a check for something I don't have.

The website is not always up to date just for the simple fact that I am constantly fulfilling orders. That being said, the good news is that we now have our new **Mass Cards** available and our shipment for our **New York State CDA Membership Pins** just arrived; if your court is in need of these, I can get them out to you.

Also, always make checks out to **Catholic Daughters of the Americas** and never to me personally. When I get a check made out to me personally, I have to convert it to a check made out to CDA. It's just an extra step for me. I know many of you make the postage check out to me since you think I paid for the postage; however this is not necessary as I get reimbursed by the state for all postage costs.

As always, if I can do anything for you or your court, please feel free to contact me at [mariebolt@gmail.com](mailto:mariebolt@gmail.com) or **716-668-3047**. Thanks for your patience with me, I am a work in progress.



## Creating Leaders From Our Members

HELENE SHEPARD, STATE CHAIRMAN OF LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to all the courts that submitted their **Circle of Love Leadership Reports** that reflected the past two years. You did not allow the pandemic to stop you from reaching out. Many of you were able to think outside the box.

The leadership spoke is one of the most difficult areas to work in because it is based on teaching, motivating, and encouraging members of your court to become leaders and to demonstrate their leadership skills in the court and in the civic and church communities.

We had a wide variety of activities and projects. Some were very clever and outstanding but did not fulfill the requirements of demonstrating how they became leaders or taught others to be future leaders.

It is necessary for me to mention these well-done projects for so worthy causes: *Book Club, How We Serve, David vs. Goliath, Parish Council Participation, Money Counters, Demonstration in Support of Local Police, Concert for Life, Zoom Meeting, Parish Support, Bundles of Love Baby Shower, CDA: Who we Are & What We Do, Reception Honoring Religious Sisters, Increase Member Participation, Court Newsletter, President of Suffolk County Scholarship, Keeping the Court Open, Bilingual St. Joseph Rosary, Food for Kids, Project Speakers.*

Several Entries for Leadership cited attending the Pray & Play Retreats. Many Courts mentioned that they were unable to do anything due to COVID-19. We must respect their decision.

Out of all the projects reviewed only one could be forwarded to National Leadership Chairman, Essie Walker, for consideration on the National level; that project was:

### Officer Roles Explained

#### Court of the Assumption #690, Maybrook

At the October, November, December, and January meetings each officer explained to the members what their duties were and the time commitment needed broken down to a weekly average.

*“Our goal was to help the members understand the role of each officer and to give them the confidence to say, yes if asked to run or to volunteer to run,”* they stated.

It was believed that these sessions were successful because a member called to discuss her running for the office of Court Regent. The member has the skills to be an effective Regent and shared reasons for her decision.

### The other two runner-up projects which deserve recognition by New York State were:

#### The Doggie Costume Fundraiser Project

##### Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis

#### Roast Beef on Wheels Project

##### Court Msgr. Nelsen Baker #1043, Lackawanna

I would urge courts to begin thinking how they could teach, encourage, and motivate their members to become leaders and to demonstrate their leadership skills, making a difference in society.

I would hope that next time around we would receive 100% from the local courts.

In closing, I leave you with the words **Lisa Cash Hanson**: *“Leadership is the ability to guide others without force into a direction or decision that leaves them still feeling empowered and accomplished.”*





Posing with grateful seminarians after lunch at Cathedral Seminary

Theresa ensures the Seminarians of the support of CDA now and after they are ordained to the priesthood

## Snack Goodie Bags For Seminarians

In May 2021, in the midst of COVID, the **Past Regents & Officers Chapter of the Archdiocese of New York** inaugurated a new Seminary Project. The goal was to distribute **Snack Goodie Bags** to all seminarians the week before exams. They knew that the young men were not able to visit their families and would need extra prayers and nourishment to prepare for their finals.

The project was continued this year with donations from the members of the Chapter and \$100 in financial assistance from the **Past Regents Chapter of the Rockville Centre Diocese**. They successfully distributed a total of 110 bags of goodies to these deserving young men.

White bags were donated by **Diane Meore** and the tag was personalized for each seminarian. **Alice Ryan** who wrote out a card and message for each bag. Prayers were included for all Seminarians.

On Monday, April 25, 2022, **Maureen Haas** and **Helene Shepard** purchased chips, candy, energy drinks, and iced coffee drinks at BJ's, ShopRite and Stop and Shop. The members of **Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419, Washingtonville**, filled the bags on the morning of April 28th. That afternoon Maureen & Helene delivered to **St. Joseph's Seminary** in Dunwoodie. On April 29th more bags were delivered to **Cathedral Seminary House of Formation** in Douglaston with the help of **State Regent Theresa Duran**. The three were honored to lunch with the seminarians.

The **Past Regents & Officers Chapter of the Archdiocese of New York** hopes to gain more support from around the state so they can continue to bolster the men that have said yes to God's call.

Thanks to the members who made this a great success.



Fr. Bruno, Rector of St. Joseph's, blesses the Goodie Bags that were then handed out to the Seminarians





# Catholic Daughters Cares

What is happening today to the Ukrainian people is devastating and heart-wrenching. While we have no control of this situation, through prayer and faith, we can make an impact. You may be asking yourself, “what can one person do to truly make a difference in the world?” The only limit to your impact is your commitment. The Ukrainian people need our support.

It is our mission and our time to shine during these dark times as we humbly respond to our Lord’s Calling.

Special thanks to **Serena Yanitelli**, Quality of Life Chairman of **Court Joan of Arc #604, Haverstraw**, who organized a collection of relief supply for **Ukrainian Refugees**.

She began collecting first-aid and hygiene supplies, blankets, and sleeping bags. Serena delivered them to the Ukrainian Hall in Spring Valley, NY. They are filling cargo freights being transported to Europe to aid Ukrainian refugees.

We have set up an **Amazon Registry** to make it easy to donate, the drive is winding down, but if you still wish to support the effort, go to: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/QDMZALBKNW4Q?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/QDMZALBKNW4Q?ref_=wl_share)

Donations can also be delivered directly to Serena’s home at 14 Dickens Street, Stony Point, NY 10980.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Serena at: **delprincipiodc@optonline.net**

Individual members, Courts and friends of CDA donated (some unnamed), but we do wish to recognize:

**Court McLaughlin #422, Saratoga Springs**  
**Court Joan of Arc #604, Haverstraw**  
**Court Stella Maris #822, Freeport**  
**Court Morning Star #899, Northport**  
**Court Nativity of Our Lady #931, Brockport**  
**Court Our Mother of Good Counsel #1311, Blasdell**  
**Court Queen of Peace #1534, Wappingers Falls**  
**Court St. Pius X #1690, Levittown**

Other courts sent monetary donations to offset the \$10,000 sent by National to **Catholic Extension** to help churches in Ukraine deal with the devastation caused by the military attacks and bombings. Those include:

**Court St. Paul #71, Mechanicville**  
**Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis**  
**Court Columbia #248, Hudson**  
**Court Rita #264, Cornwall**  
**Court Sacred Heart #370, Oyster Bay**  
**Court Mother Admirable #592, Dannemora**  
**Court Stella Maris #822, Freeport**  
**Court Our Mother of Good Counsel #1311, Blasdell**  
**Court St. Pius X #1690, Levittown**

Many other Courts donated goods and money directly to National and other local organizations helping Ukraine. Thank you all for showing mercy and for being the hands and feet of Our Lord in this endeavor!



**Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our protection against the wickedness and  
snares of the devil; May God rebuke him,  
we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the  
Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust i  
nto hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander  
through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.**

# 2022 Outstanding Court Projects for Quality of Life

CHRISTINA R. PACKWOOD, STATE CHAIRMAN OF QUALITY OF LIFE

## Absolutely amazing!

I received 28 reports from responding CDA courts around New York State. These courts had a goal of sharing how they improved the quality of life for their neighbors in our world. The courts supported families, children in schools, military (active and retired) and Veterans, migrant workers, resource centers for the abused, babies, medical needs, other court members and I could go on but you get the idea. That old saying we have – CDA means **Can Do Anything** – applies to all of these courts. I read and reread these projects and now will share with you the fruits of their works:

### School Break Breakfasts and Lunches

**Court Peré LeMoynes # 833, Fulton**

Chairman **Marjorie Corsoniti** wrote that their community has many low income families that rely on free breakfast and lunch at school for their children. The court saw the need to step forward and help when school was not in session. The court has been collecting food items such as: small boxes of cereal, fruit cups, canned soups, crackers w/peanut butter, microwave mac and cheese, anything they can be safely prepare themselves. When they have school vacations, they supply each one enough food to tide them over the break until it is back in session.

The school has partnered with the court letting them know who might need a bag. Members of the parish has been very generous in donating to the cause. The court received several notes from families thankful for the support. This is truly heartwarming.

### Packages for the Troops

**Court Morning Star #899, Northport**

Chairmen **Margaret Huber** and **Rae Billone** headed up this project of sending boxes to servicemen/women who are in remote areas. The packages contain personal items, snacks and candy, word games, playing cards,

hand sanitizer, socks, sneakers and batteries. Members of the court donate items and they supplement with a monetary donation from the Court Treasury. A weekly article in the parish bulletin requests names of local servicemen and women. Over the years they have helped not only members from their community but also across the country.

One recent package went to an airman who's mother saw the article and submitted his name. He is deeply religious and as a hobby makes rosary beads and other religious items so the court included beads and other special items in his box.

Each package also contains a note thanking them for their service and asking them to share the contents with other service members. Most of all, the court members want them to know they are not forgotten and all are remembered in prayers.

### Migrant and Destitute Court Our Lady of Charity #2355, Flushing

Chairman **Nilda Tirado**

reported that the members have food and clothing drives for the homeless and day laborers in the community. Recently, unaccompanied children have relocated nearby. Members decided to purchase coats, sweaters, pants, pajamas, socks and presents for The Epiphany. Members felt the warmth of giving these items to families and plan to continue this program in the future.

## Thank you!

Every single project is so important to so many. All of you should feel grateful that your court is so productive in giving of yourselves with donations and time to help your communities in so many ways. Thank you for making our Circle of Love wheel keep turning for the love of your neighbors and your courts. This is God given work and Blessings for all. I wish you well and God's speed into your next projects.



# A Task? Or A Challenge?

JUDY STERLING, STATE TREASURER

Many times in our lives we are asked to try something new and we are not sure we are up to the task. Many times we say *not now, I'm not sure how to do it, or where would I begin*. Better yet, *why not have someone else do it? –they would probably be better at it, they have done it before*. Sometimes our excuses are just that: excuses.

My first challenge on the State Board was taking on the office of State Treasurer. Let me tell you, though it seemed like a *task*, I have not regretted doing it!

Recently I was given a task. There were a few things that came to my mind, like *I didn't want to do this when I was in school why would I do it now? And where do I even begin*. But I thought *why not me?*

So, I started the research for my latest task. Thank goodness for Google! The more I read, the more I was fascinated and was like: WOW!

I had to decide which subject matters to use, and it was not easy! Do I use old or new, is the story to tell too

long or is it too short, and would someone else find it as interesting as I did? Only time will tell if my worries were right or wrong, but I enjoyed the task I was given and I hope that all who hear it will enjoy it also and have a WOW moment too!

I have decided not to use the word *task* anymore, and instead to use *challenge*. I have yet to say thank you to the women who believed in me to take on these challenges!

Let me say congratulations to all the newly Elected Local Court Officers! Thank you for stepping up to the *tasks* and *challenges* that will be given to you the next two years. (Not sure if Google will help!)

Your State Officers are available to help, so never feel over whelmed, you are not alone! We hope all Court Officers returning or new, will join us for the training sessions we will be providing, and of course this year's Pray & Play Weekends! I am personally looking forward to seeing all my sisters again, and meeting new ones! Its been a long, cold, and wet spring and I am ready for a few weekends with my sisters in Christ to enjoy ourselves in fellowship and prayer! Everyone enjoy your summer, stay safe and healthy!

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## Some Things For New Officers To Consider

PATTI DRIVANOS, STATE SECRETARY

**The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted" —Matthew 23:11-12**

Congratulations to our new local court officers. I wish you all the best and pray that God blesses you abundantly as you work with your members for the next two years in unity and charity.

To prepare for this article, I did an internet search for the characteristics of a good leader. This was the result:

**1. Bravery** – Not afraid to do the right thing. This may be difficult when you have differing opinions. Ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom and then turn to the Bylaws and the Tools of the Trade. You also have a chain of command (District Deputy, State Supervisor and State Regent) to assist you.

**2. Courage** – trying or doing something outside of your comfort zone.

**3. Listens to people** – really listen to what the members have to say.

**4. Works for the good of the people** – the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and dignity for all

**5. Works as a team** – CDA – Can Do Anything!

**6. Dedicated to others** – embrace the principal of faith working through love

**7. Dedicated to their beliefs** – remember our motto: *Unity and Charity*

Thank you to all of the Past Officers for what you have done during your term to lead your courts. You have touched so many lives by the service you have given. Consider joining your local Past Regents chapter so you can continue your service to Catholic Daughters.

The State Court will be giving workshops on the roles and responsibilities of the Court Officers. We hope everyone will take the time to join us as we move around the State to meet with you.

States Dues invoices have gone out so Past Regents please forward them to the new Regent.



# 2022 Newsletter Contest Results

SYLVIA MURDOLO,  
STATE CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Peace and love to you all. In accepting **Second Vice State Regent Tina Bigelow's** invitation on behalf **State Regent Theresa Duran** to be your new **NYS Public Relations/Newsletter Contest Chairperson**, I anticipated reading many beautiful articles in each submitted newsletter. And I was not disappointed!

In my new capacity, I am reporting the winners of the NYS Newsletter Contest. I received 13 submissions. The 1st Place Winners have in turn been submitted to **National Director Barb (Jensen) Ward** for consideration at the National Newsletter Contest. Those winners will be announced at the National Convention in Puerto Rico, July 20-24, 2022. Wouldn't it be very outstanding if one of our own submissions comes back a winner?!

Here are the New York State Contest results:

## Category I Division I

1st Place: **Court McLaughlin #422, Saratoga Springs**  
2nd Place: **Court Nilan #985, Highland**  
3rd Place: **Court St. Frances Cabrini #2438, Coram**

## Category I Division II

1st Place: **Court Margaret Mary #768, Monroe**  
2nd Place: **Court Queen of Life #2664, Commack**  
3rd Place: **Court St. Pius X #1690, Levittown**

## Category II Division II

1st Place: **Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis**  
2nd Place: **Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419, Washingtonville**  
3rd Place: **Court Ave Maria #832, St. James**

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you for those that took the time and effort to submit in such a timely manner. I anticipate a more organized start for next year.

By now, you will have received your score sheets back electronically. The judges were especially (brutally) honest with my own Court's newsletter but I take that as a blessing. Feedback is a gift that when graciously received will produce far better results. My Court decided to go from a two-page legal size newsletter to four-page letter size so we can add more pictures and make the font a little larger.

In agreement with **State Regent Theresa Duran's** recommendation, I would very much encourage all Court newsletters to be sent by regular mail to your members who don't receive emails. Approximately one-third of my 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.

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.

## 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.

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*And whatever you do,  
in word or in deed,  
do everything in the name  
of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the  
Father through Him.  
—1 Colossians 3:17*

# We Are Pilgrims... Again!

The NY State Board is excited to announce our second pilgrimage, this time it's right here in the USA!

Holy Hill Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians

## Pray & Play XL: Wisconsin

In 1859, the Blessed Mother appeared to 28 year old **Adele Brise** as she walked home from church. Identifying herself as **The Queen of Heaven**, Mary instructed Adele to ***"Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation."***

Upon hearing the story of Adele and learning that Our Lady appeared right here in the United States, I became determined to learn more and make every effort to visit the spot. My fellow officers were also excited and thought we should pursue the idea as our next pilgrimage. Details are still in the works, but **LeAnn Brand** of **LP Pilgrimages** is helping us to create a unique experience for **August 2023** in the beautiful state of Wisconsin. This pilgrimage will be a sort of **Pray & Play XL**.

Plans include a visit the ***Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help*** in Champion, WI, where Mary appeared to Adele, ***The Basilica and Shrine of Mary Help of Christians*** at Holy Hill, ***The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe*** in LaCrosse, ***Sinsinawa Mound***, ***Rudolph Grotto Gardens*** and more! Plus, we will wrap up our visit to Wisconsin with a stay at **Lake Lawn Resort** for a bit of lakeside fun and relaxation.

Prices and a preliminary itinerary will be announced very soon, but why not start saving now? Put away \$5 a day, or even \$25 a week...it doesn't have to be that hard: deny yourself a couple of Starbucks coffees a week, drop your change in a jug overnight, skip the dessert when you go out to eat. And then give yourself the gift of spending time in prayer with other CDA members, of experiencing the summer beauty of the upper Midwest and of standing on the same ground where Mary once appeared.

**Watch for more information to come about this unique opportunity**



The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, built on the site where Adele Brise saw The Queen of Heaven



Hop aboard Delavan Lake's premier tour boat, the Lake Lawn Queen, for a truly memorable outing, or just relax in a lounge chair with a good book!



The Rudolph Grotto Gardens are set in a beautiful area of trees and flowers and provide a spiritual setting where you can spend quiet moments contemplating the wonders of God and creation.



The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe is a spiritual destination for pilgrims from all over the world, who yearn for the peace, love and compassion.



# Our Christian Family

MARYLYNN BORST, STATE CHAIRMAN OF FAMILY

I am pleased to have received 29 reports from courts around New York State for the **Family** spoke of the **Circle of Love!** What great work was done despite the challenges and difficulties of the pandemic. Congratulations to all!

**Court St. Michael #1173, Penn Yan**, had 18 members participate in providing 68 crock pots worth of food, each feeding 25 people! What a difference that food made to the less fortunate families in their area.

**Court Rita #264, Cornwall**, has been sharing a traveling image of Our Lady of Fatima, along with a rosary and reflection book, with parish families each week for the past 6 years! How beautiful!

**Court Ave Maria #832, Smithtown**, donates \$100 per month to purchase items for a family with 3 children through the *Adopt-a-Family* program. The court says it's very gratifying to be able to assist a specific family with specific needs.

Each of the courts that submitted a report made a difference to those who benefited from their project. From the most complicated to the simplest, the main theme of love of family shone brightly! Many courts supported struggling pregnant mothers with useful items for their babies. Some participated in *Operation Shoebox*, which benefits families all over the world with toiletries for the needy. One project which really touched me was a court which held a Valentine's Day trivia quiz for the members who had been isolated for a long time due to the pandemic restrictions. The impact it made on the ladies was tremendous.

There were toy drives, giving trees and movie nights. Scarves, hats, gloves and blankets made. Monthly raffle for a charity that assists families of veterans. Thanksgiving meals were donated, and wash kits were assembled by the thousands and given to homeless and needy families.

The outpouring of love and care for all types of families was overwhelmingly evident as courts used the resources available to them to make a difference in the lives of others.

We hope that all courts will be inspired to consider what project they can devise for next year!

## Important Dates

Jun 1	Birthday of Past National Regent Helene Shepard
Jun 5	Pentecost
Jun 6	Priest Appreciation Day
Jun 10-12	Pray & Play: Wadhams Hall, Ogdensburg
Jun 16	Feast of Corpus Christi
Jun 18	CDA Instituted in 1903
Jun 19	Father's Day
Jun 19	Juneteenth
Jul 4	Independence Day
Jul 10	Institution of Court Infant Saviour #2780, Pine Bush
Jul 20-24	National Convention, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Jul 30	Local Officer & District Deputy Workshop, St. Joseph's Community Center, Greenfield Center, NY
Aug 5-7	Pray & Play: Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington
Aug 8	September Rising Dawn Deadline
Aug 10	150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
Aug 13	Local Officer & District Deputy Workshop, Italian Club, Waterloo, NY
Aug 15	Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Aug 19	Birthday of State Regent Theresa Duran
Aug 20	RVC Past Regent's Chapter Summer Spree, O'Connell Gardens, Oceanside, NY
Aug 26	Birthday of Immediate Past State Regent Heather Rave
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

## Rising Dawn Subscriptions

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