

New York State



Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

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"The harvest is plentiful,
but the laborers are few."
—Matt 9:37

FRUITS OF THE HARVEST IN SARATOGA SPRINGS

SEPTEMBER 2020

We Have Responded To This Pandemic With Faith, Hope, And Creativity!

HEATHER RAVE, ED.D., STATE REGENT



As our state and nation continues to work its way through the 2020 coronavirus pandemic, I ask the question: **What would I want future generations to remember about how we, as New York Catholic Daughters of the Americas, reacted to the coronavirus pandemic?**

Our lives were turned upside down and we lived in a way so fundamentally different from that to which we were accustomed. We should take a moment and think about all that has transpired, what we have learned, and what we should do now. No matter how enthusiastic we are to return to life the way it was before, we must acknowledge that we are different. No society that experiences a global pandemic is the same, even if it was handled as well as possible. Our lives have changed. In this message, I hope to reflect with you upon what we have learned from these last several months and how we should apply those lessons moving forward.

We got creative. Masses were live-streamed from all around the world. Rosaries and Divine Mercy Chaplets were prayed via social media. Email and text message chains supporting each other with Bible study reflections, words of encouragement and prayer intentions were started among our Courts. When society looks back at the New York Catholic Daughter's response to COVID-19, I hope they noticed something different about our response. I hope they are attracted to what they saw in us...Christ's light in the darkness. That even in this trial, we had an inner strength, a peace that will lead them to ask: **Where does this come from?** I hope they see that our 'help

comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth' (Psalm 22:2). I hope they see we carried our crosses in faith, that our trust is not in ourselves, or the government, but in the Lord. I hope our response brings others to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

We have responded to this pandemic with faith, hope, and creativity! I invite you to continue your resourcefulness. Your love for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and your constant devotion to meeting both your Court's and community's physical and spiritual needs are simply remarkable. Your creativity and adaptability to the changing circumstances of the coronavirus have been fascinating to witness.

Continue to **Let Your Light Shine!** It is not enough to merely to survive through this pandemic, but we need to thrive! I pray all of us are together again soon. I look forward to a time when we can safely visit each other and host diocesan events. Being in your company is a profound source of energy and happiness for me as I carry out my term as your State Regent. Finally, as we wait with anticipation for the end of this pandemic, let us do so with profound faith and joyful hope, as well as the consolation of lessons learned. We must not simply move on from all that has occurred. We know that, through Christ Jesus, every struggle can be converted to a blessing that helps us grow in **Unity and Charity.**

Yours in Unity and Charity,

Visit CDANYS.org and CatholicDaughters.org for more news and information about the Catholic Daughters of the Americas®.

Faith Formation in the COVID-19 Era

REV. MATTHEW NEWCOMB, STATE CHAPLAIN



Dear Catholic Daughters,

Many blessings to you all in these very strange days that we live. We have all had to adjust our normal charitable activities. Not many Spring Teas happened this year, let alone all of the other things that we are normally involved with. COVID has made us change many of our normal behaviors. Some of this was probably needed in our lives, but many things we should eventually go back to.

Technology can never reproduce true human interaction; that is true for friendships, education and our spiritual lives.

At this point I'm praying that we will be able to start our religious education program on the first Sunday of October. May Our Lady bless us in her month to return our youth to being educated in the glories of the Faith. In education, at its best we learn from each other, by our discussions, ideas and experiences. This is why at my parish we have adapted a few classes to the Good Shepherd Catechesis. It is modeled off of the Montessori School Theory. I enjoy seeing the children take ownership of the material covered and those that learn in different ways, can see and experience hands on parts about the Faith, especially the Mass and Church History are both especially assisted with these tools. I'm happy to say many of our Catholic Daughters from our local Court are involved with this endeavor and have seen their own Faith increase by being educated on how to catechize in this way. Also, our local court has invested generously in this effort because outfitting a Good Shepherd Classroom is quite a lot. (It's not just textbooks, the Bible and the Baltimore Catechism, although those are all good in themselves, this is just more) Even though we involve ourselves with multi level charitable endeavors; charity must begin at home. The most charitable thing we can do, in my opinion; is the education and formation of the Faith, let's start there or continue there in our post COVID days, especially at our local parish.

Know of my personal prayers for all of you. I can't wait till we can be together again, without masks, with singing; to share the Eucharist first and foremost, the premier prayer of our lives; and also some good fellowship, with food etc. I hope this can occur sooner rather than later. When we truly share time with each other, we see the good we can do and can unify ourselves together to continue the to assist the light of Christ to be shown, most especially in our nation and state.

In Unity and Charity, Father Newcomb

Please continue to pray for all those effected by, ill from, or who have succumbed to the Coronavirus.

Pray for all first responders, healthcare workers, food service personnel and those responsible for delivering supplies across our country.

Pray for all those effected by Hurricane Laura, especially our CDA sisters whose homes lay in her path.



Let All You Do Be Done With Love

SHERRY NILLES, NATIONAL REGENT

This has been a most unusual year! I missed seeing you all at the National Convention that wasn't!

Fall has arrived and with it plans for vibrant interesting meetings must be made for this coming year.

Your help is needed to make this the best year ever for your court. When you are asked to accept the chairmanship for a Circle of Love spoke, to help serve a meal or present a program, please say yes. Be generous with your time, your talent, your treasure. All you have comes from Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give some of it back to those who are helping improve lives and make a difference. Invite all women to join the Catholic Daughters and realize they have many gifts to share. Encourage them to become the living example of Jesus and His mother Mary through membership in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

And please remember:

"Let all you do be done with love." —1 Cor. 16:14

Blessings, Sherry



**The SOAR! Board of Directors
cordially invite you to the
34th Annual New York Awards Gala**

A Virtual Event

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020
7:00 PM EDT**

Honoring;

Gary S. Horan, FACHE

Joseph E. Nyre, Ph.D.

Sister Ann Marie Pierce, IHM

There is no cost to attend this exciting event.

**Simply log on to soar-usa.org/event/2020newyork/
to register for the event**

Our NY State Projects

Some are new, some are not! Please consider participating in all State-wide projects: we are one in Unity & Charity and your State Board hopes that these projects will help to bind us even more closely to each other.

FAMILY

The Thank You Project: Introduced in 2019 and outlined again in the **June 2020** issue of **The Rising Dawn**, **The Thank You Project** is a simple idea that can have world-wide reach. Organizing and collecting thank you cards for active military personnel doesn't have to be a costly endeavor, but can mean so much to the men and women who receive the notes and help spread knowledge of CDA in your community.

Please keep track of how many cards your court creates/collects and details of any card writing event or publicity so that you can report it next year.

QUALITY OF LIFE

The Ladies of Martha & Mary: We learned of this "project" last year from **State Chairman of Spiritual Enhancement Lu Koch** as something her local court was doing; we came to find that other courts have similar practices. We decided to form a State Project from the idea! Another easy to participate in and adaptable project, **The Ladies of Martha & Mary** are a local court committee that sees to the needs of elderly, shut-in or recently hospitalized members by putting together a care package of sorts and presenting it to the member in need. Magazines, puzzle books, restaurant or grocery store gift cards, home baked treats, lap blankets, prayer cards...any little thing can be donated or purchased, arranged into a basket and delivered to the home or hospital room of the member just to let them know we care.

Keeping a list of members that you have visited and presented baskets to will help you to fill out your Circle of Love form next year.

LEGISLATION

Election Eve Rosary: A packet is included with this newsletter that outlines the rosary for the night before elections. We are asking each court to speak to your pastor and organize a parish-wide rosary for America on November 2nd, the night before the 2020 Presidential Election. Remember that as a tax-exempt organization, we cannot endorse any political party or candidate; this rosary is for the intention of our country, not a candidate.

Please let us know how your event goes; take photos; let your local paper know of your commitment to prayer and patriotism.

SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT

Live Stream Prayers: Born of the need to spiritually connect while we were social distanced during the Coronavirus pandemic, rosaries, chaplets, and prayer services live-streamed on Facebook were an important and much appreciated way to get through the days of quarantine. Still continuing, though not everyday, these prayer sessions, led by officers and members from around the state can be viewed on the Catholic Daughters NY State page Monday through Friday at 8pm, with 2pm prayers with **First Vice State Regent Theresa Duran** taking place 2 or 3 times each week (depending on her work schedule).

Past National Regent Helene Shepard posts a theme of the day on the page each morning and gets us all thinking and praying in unity. A schedule of weekly prayers is published on the page a few days before. Additionally, the self-named **Prayer Warriors** set an alarm for 3pm daily to remind them to stop and remember the Divine Mercy of Jesus by either reciting the chaplet or just to say "Jesus, I trust in You" three times.

Please join live for any or all prayer services or sign on to the page anytime to catch "reruns" which can be located in the video tab.

EDUCATION

The Marie C. Curry Seminary & Scholarship Fund: Our perennial Education Project continues. Remember that the assessment does not need to be voted on by court members.

Please submit your donation as soon as you receive the invoice. These funds are necessary to make our donations to the seminaries in each diocese and to provide prize money for our multiple Education Contests.

Congratulations to our new National Board:

National Regent
Sherry Nilles

National Regent-Elect
Emily Guilherme

First Vice National Regent
Susan Moné

Second Vice National Regent
Essie Walker

National Secretary-Treasurer
Connie Dronette

National Directors

Nancy Bambanek

Michele Bowman

Theresa Cersovski

Ivone Da Silveira

Dawn Fortenberry

Irene Gramza

Barbara Jensen

Carolyn Malik

Darlene Moritz

Kudos Eileen

Congratulations to our own **New York State Chairman of Legislation Eileen Petersen** who has been asked by **National Regent Sherry Nilles** to serve as the **CDA National Legislative Chairman!**

We are so proud of you Eileen! We know that your fervor and passion will be evident to the membership as you continue to keep us informed on all legislative issues that concern us as Catholics. Way to go!

YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD,
O MORTAL, WHAT IS GOOD,
AND WHAT THE LORD
REQUIRES OF YOU: ONLY TO
DO JUSTICE AND TO LOVE
GOODNESS, AND TO WALK
HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD.

—MICAH 6:8:



LISA M. STIRPE,
STATE CHAIRMAN FOR 1903 SOCIETY

**"Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted."
Matthew 5:4**

Everyone seems to be in a state of mourning recently for things that will never be the same again. Life is changing so quickly. Our CDA court lost two members this year to natural causes: **Darcy Kubissa**, our Recording Secretary; and **Shirley Schmoltdt**, who was the heart of our court. COVID-19 has taken members from the National, State and local courts. We mourn them, too.

This is the time to trust in God to help us in our grief. I recently lost my mother to cancer and am trying to cope like everyone else. Although Mom had a Protestant funeral in a Protestant church, three Catholic Daughters members were there giving me moral support and sharing their condolences with my family. It really makes the point that CDA sisters can rely on each other.

We depend on each other to help hold our meetings and to work on our **Circle of Love** projects. Social distancing makes this challenging right now. I rely on all of you to send your 1903 Society donations to me, and the New York State Court relies on me to dispatch it to their Secretary. Please remember to mail your contribution to me.

Catholic Daughters stick together to share our tears and our laughter, and to praise God for both. We hold each other up, pray together, comfort each other, and often have lunch. Thank God for all of my Catholic Daughters sisters.

Celebrating 100 years of the 19th Amendment!

EILEEN PETERSON, STATE CHAIRMAN OF LEGISLATIVE

We as Catholic Daughters are living in extraordinary times unlike any we have ever experienced. Staying alive, keeping our families and loved one safe in this time of the coronavirus pandemic is challenging. For some, inability to physically attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and receive the greatest treasure on the face of the earth, the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, has caused great sorrow. There are many churches that have been live streaming the Mass and there are networks, like EWTN, that carry many religious programs. If you are financially able to contribute to your church, the need is great.

Yet, we are women of great hope for it is your prayers and your love for your neighbor as yourself that is transforming communities and building that wonderful culture of LIFE.

One would not know that there is something we can celebrate! Women were given the right to vote on August 18, 1920 and this was a 72 year struggle led by wonderful women like **Susan B. Anthony** who believed in the inherent dignity of every human person. It is vitally important for us as United States of America citizens to perform our civic duty and vote. **Bishop Joseph Strickland** of the Diocese of Tyler, Texas exhorted Catholics to vote "with a well formed conscience" for candidates who "respect LIFE, morality, marriage, family and our basic freedoms".

A Prayer To Mary At Election Time

(Found on EWTN.com)

O most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy,
we entrust the United States of America to your loving care and
beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son.

Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation.

We cry to you from the depths of our hearts

And seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people.

Open our minds to the great worth of human life
And to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.
Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion
And threaten the sanctity of family life.

Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law
Is the foundation on which this nation was founded,
and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights
to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and
the strength to build a new Culture of Life.

Trusting in your most powerful intercession, we pray:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known, that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, our Mother.
To thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the word
Incarnate, Despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer us. Amen



The 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.

Just
\$10 each!

\$8 each
for 10 or
more



Stay Safe!

New York State now has face masks available. These face masks are light and breathable making them comfortable to wear. Made with a quality 2-ply construction, which includes a polyester exterior, a soft cotton interior, and elastic straps to keep it secure

Masks are **\$10 each**, but if you purchase 10 or more, they are only **\$8 each**. Please mail your order and court check to: **State Sales Chairwoman Linda Bolt at 59 Caldwell St., West Seneca, NY 14224**. Questions? contact Linda at: **716-668-3047** or **mariebolt@gmail.com**



The CDC recommends wearing face masks, however these are not "medical grade" and CDA makes no guarantees or warranties, express or implied, that the mask prevents infection or the transmission of viruses or disease.

Jesus Is By Your Side

MARGUERITE FORDE, NEW YORK STATE SECRETARY

We are all trying to accustom ourselves to the "new normal" of life. Some are struggling and others are taking this all in stride. Let us hope and pray for an end to this pandemic and the beginning of healing for our country. Whichever you are, remember that our Lord Jesus Christ is right by your side, always. Close your eyes and imagine He is right there, smiling at you and saying that you will be okay. He is asking you to place all your trust in him. Feel the peace come over you.

To those courts who have held elections for your board members for the years 2020 to 2022, please check to see if you

have mailed the Local Court Officers form to the National Office, the State Regent and to your District Deputy, even if there weren't any changes. I have completed the Spring 2020 invoices for dues and have mailed to the ladies on file. If we did not receive your form these were mailed to the regent of record as of the previous election.

I would like to thank the courts who were creative and performed a spring Financial Review. I have received ones from many. Great Job!

I am praying for all my Catholic Daughter sisters and their families, asking for protection for all against this COVID virus. Stay safe by wearing a mask, stay healthy by washing your hands and keep your family & friend the same through social distancing.

Hugs to all.

Not Much Has Changed

ANNA LUCIA, STATE CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL PROJECTS

Since my June submission, not much has really changed in regards to COVID. We are still wearing masks, scrupulously hand washing, distancing, no vaccine yet, preparing schools with much hesitation (and lots of prayers), many in confinement and most of us wondering if and when life will ever be normal again.

One thing we can be assured of is that Jesus remains by our side through these worrisome times, along with our Blessed Mother and all the Saints whose intercession we can ask for assist. Hopefully you have looked into the NYS Facebook site and listened to the various prayer services provided by **Helene Shepherd** and her sister **Joan Oram**, **Theresa Duran**, and other members that have so graciously given of their time in the early morning, 2pm and evening. Way up north, near the Canadian border, our courts have not been allowed meetings since March, as Pastors do not want to risk reclosing our churches. Hopefully your courts have an approved budget and a Treasurer keeping

monthly bills paid and filing a monthly report.

Another thing that has not changed is monetary needs. **Catholic Extension, Covenant House, Catholic Relief Services**—any organization that provides charity is being stretched to the max during these times, especially overseas. Sadly I know courts might be low in funds due to lack of fundraisers, but do the best you can. Parishes are no doubt low on funds with decreased attendance, but again, do the best you can. Try selling a dollar ticket on something nice donated, or a couple donated homemade pies....think simple to make some money to keep your court funds going, that will enable you to make donations. These are trying times but CDA can do anything!

July 6th I lost my husband of near 50 years after his 5 1/2 yrs battle with Alzheimer's at only 70 yrs of age. I sincerely want to thank all my NYS CDA sisters and State Board members who were so supportive of me with cards, prayers, etc. It was most appreciated and meant so much to me.

Hoping we can look forward to a very promising fall! God Bless you all for all you do for CDA.

We're All In This Together

JUDY STERLING, STATE TREASURER

As we face new challenges now in our everyday life, especially on how to return to what used to be normal, we realize things will never really be the same. We must come out of our "box" and think of new ways to continue our motto of "Unity & Charity".

All of us Catholic Daughters are in this together and with support from one another we can weather this pandemic. I want to thank all the women who are Facebook everyday with the prayers and songs. I watch later when I start to feel anxious and always feel better listening to you all.

Many important milestones in our Courts and personnel lives have been put on hold, but not forgotten and when we can celebrate again, it will be even more special. We are in this together and with our strong Faith and Trust in God, we will get through this.

A reminder for Court Officers, when mailing checks to the State: All checks need to be made out to Catholic Daughters of the Americas, 2 signatures must be on check, use memo line for reference of what check is for. All checks get sent to State Secretary Marguerite Forde at 37 Laurel Road, Kings Park, N.Y. 11754. Also, I ask when contacting me either by e-mail or phone, please mention you are a Catholic Daughter. I have been over whelmed by SPAM calls and e-mails asking for donations. If I do not recognize the name or number, I let my answering machine get it, or I hit the delete button.

I continue to keep all of you and your families in my prayers to be safe, healthy, and this pandemic ends soon. God Bless you all!

Ladies of Martha and Mary

PATTI DRIVANOS, STATE CHAIRMAN OF QUALITY OF LIFE

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds" Hebrews 10:24

I hope all of you are doing well. This has been a challenging year for everyone, and we don't know when that will end. It makes planning meetings and projects challenging with keeping in mind masks, social distancing and crowd size limits. We all need to put on our thinking caps to be creative in how we continue doing our charitable works which define Catholic Daughters.

Consider making cash donations to support the food pantries and crisis pregnancy centers which always need our support since it is difficult for them to hold food drives or baby showers at this time.

The NYS Board has decided to create a **Quality of Life State Project: The Ladies of Martha and Mary**. This undertaking was written up last year in **Rising Dawn** by **Lu Koch, State Chairman of Spiritual Enhancement** and now Regent of **Court McLaughlin #422, Saratoga Springs**. Court McLaughlin created a committee known as the **Ladies of Martha and Mary** who would call, visit and gift a comfort basket care package to court members who were ill, homebound or hospitalized.

Each court can take up the challenge of this project with their own twist: see if members need help getting groceries, medications, or rides to doctor appointments; prepare a gift basket with home baked goodies, grocery store gift cards, take out menus/gift certificates; send a puzzle book or adult coloring book to help these members pass the lonely hours.

While perhaps not every member would be able to do each of those things, we can all certainly make a phone call or send a cheery note. Please let me know what your Court plans to do for their Quality of Life Ladies of Martha and Mary Project; keep track of your efforts to report at the end of the year; and remember like Martha and Mary, do everything to serve and learn from Jesus.

Please let me know what your Court plans to do for their Quality of Life Ladies of Martha and Mary Project; keep track of your efforts to report at the end of the year; and remember like Martha and Mary, do everything to please Jesus.

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE CONTEST RESULTS

BARBARA DREW, STATE CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

This summer is coming to a close and it feels a bit different. Even in these different times, I hope the Courts will hold their installation ceremonies and meetings in the Fall. Most fundraisers are on hold or canceled, however, now is an important time to be creative and inventive and keep fundraising. Be sure to share out your great ideas with neighboring Courts.

Information about the upcoming **2021 Newsletter Contest** should be included in the September issues of the National Newsletter. The guidelines and deadlines will also be included.

Congratulations to the NY State winners of the **National 2020 Newsletter Contest**:

Category I Division I
3rd Place
Court Mary Anthony #883, Liberty

Category II Division II
3rd Place
Court Madonna #114, Port Jervis

Category VI Division I
1st Place
The Rising Dawn NY State Newsletter

We also had a winner in the **National Website Contest**:

Category I Division I
1st Place
Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419, Washingtonville

Thank you for all the members who participated in the prayer services during this pandemic. Stay safe and keep praying.

**for we
walk by
faith, not
by sight.
—2 Cor. 5:7**

Pray for the United States of America

LUCILLE KOCH, STATE CHAIRMAN OF SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT

I have struggled over the past month about my topic for this issue of **The Rising Dawn**. So much is happening in our country and amidst the chaos and the cacophony of voices, the despair of the downtrodden and the destruction by rioters, the hope for a brighter future and the hopelessness of many, the fear of the future and the fragility of our lives, there is one constant...God. No matter what life throws at us, personally and communally, we have someone to Whom we can talk, someone upon Whose shoulders we can lay our burdens, someone Who has experienced all of life, the joys and the sufferings. Jesus is our constant and it is Him in Whom we should turn and put our trust. My fellow Catholic Daughters, we need to pray for our country and trust in **The Divine Mercy**. Let us look to **St Faustina** and follow her "blueprint" to pray for the United States of America.

What are some of the ways St. Faustina was able to beseech the Lord to help her country? First of all, we know that her love for her homeland was very strong. In her diary we read how she constantly prayed for her country, saying "I...pray for Poland, but I see that God is very angry with it because of its ingratitude. I exert all the strength of my soul to defend it. I constantly remind God of the promises of His mercy. ... I throw myself trustingly into the abyss of His mercy, and I plunge all Poland in it, and then He cannot use His justice. My country, how much you cost me! There is no day in which I do not pray for you." (Diary 1188)

We can see this to be true also in entry 1732. St. Faustina said, "As I was praying, I heard Jesus' words: 'I bear a special love for Poland, and if she will be obedient to My Will, I will exalt her in might and holiness. From her will come forth the spark that will prepare the world for My final coming.'"

Secondly, as confirmed in her biography, **Saint Sister Faustina: Her Life and Mission**, by Maria Tarnowska, St. Faustina never missed an opportunity to have a conversation with the Lord Jesus. She longed to speak to Him and often times would stop into the chapel during her day just to spend time with Him. She offered all her works and sufferings to Him, taking her inspiration from **St. Theresa the Little Flower**. She also never passed on an opportunity to receive Jesus in Holy Communion where she begged Him to protect her homeland. In one case, St. Faustina reported, "Jesus said to me, 'My child, unite yourself closely to Me during the Sacrifice and offer My Blood and My Wounds to My Father in expiation for the sins of the City. Repeat this without interruption throughout the entire Holy Mass. Do this for seven days.'" (39) Ever obedient, she completed the novena and reported, "I saw Jesus in a bright cloud and began to beg Him to look...upon our whole country. Jesus looked graciously...I began to beg His blessing. Immediately Jesus said: For your sake I bless the entire country." And He made a big sign of the cross

over our country. Seeing the goodness of God, a great joy filled my soul. (Diary 39)

Even the Blessed Mother made this request of St. Faustina: "For nine days receive Holy Communion in atonement and unite yourself closely to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. During these nine days you will stand before God as an offering; always and everywhere, at all times and place, day or night, whenever you wake up, pray in the spirit. In spirit, one can always remain in prayer." (Diary 325)

In diary entry 1206 we see that St. Faustina started a novena to Our Lady of the Assumption for three intentions, the third of which was "for the intention of my country."

Again, St. Faustina, always open to the voice of Jesus, heard this request: "Make a novena for your country. This novena will consist of the recitation of the Litany of the Saints"" (Diary 59). Following this novena she "saw a great radiance and, in the midst of it, God the Father. Between this radiance and the earth I saw Jesus nailed to the Cross in such a way that when God wanted to look at the earth, He had to look through the wounds of Jesus. And I understood that it was for the sake of Jesus that God blessed the earth." (Diary 60)

Finally, we see in diary entry 714 that Christ asks Faustina specifically to have everyone in her convent to pray the chaplet together for her homeland, "I want all of the sisters and wards to say the chaplet which I have taught you. They are to say it for nine days in the chapel in order to appease My Father and to entreat God's mercy for Poland."

So, how can we follow the example of St. Faustina and pray for our country?

First, I am asking everyone to pray, in word and deed, in morning and evening prayer, in our good works for the day, in the aches and pains of our everyday lives. Offer it all to Jesus in prayer for America. Second, at Mass and Communion, do as Jesus instructed: "...offer My Blood and My Wounds to My Father in expiation for...sins.... Repeat this without interruption throughout the entire Holy Mass." Third, let us pray the Novena Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, a Novena to our Lady of the Assumption* and a Novena of The Litany of the Saints** as St. Faustina did. Courts may want find a way to pray together. We will pray together on the Catholic Daughters NY State Facebook page (dates to be posted). Lastly, let us daily offer these words of St. Faustina for our country:

"Most merciful Jesus, I beseech You through the intercession of Your Saints, and especially the intercession of Your dearest Mother who nurtured You from childhood, bless my native land. I beg You, Jesus, look not on our sins, but on the tears of little children, on the hunger and cold they suffer. Jesus, for the sake of these innocent ones, grant me the grace that I am asking of you for my country." Diary 286

Please let me know what you have decided to do to pray for our country. May God bless us and may God bless America.

*<https://www.praymorenovenas.com/assumption-novena>

** <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/litany-saints>



Helping Our Children Get Back to School

MARY WESTERMANN, OSF, STATE EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

Fall is rapidly approaching, and along with it, schools will soon be reopening. In many school districts, the new school year will be starting the same way the old year ended. Distance/on-line learning as well as hybrid methods (combining distance and classroom learning) will be the "new normal" as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt our everyday lives.

Here are seven tips published in my local newspaper (**The Poughkeepsie Journal**) this past week to help your child, grandchild, niece or nephew have a successful school year. For more detail and additional suggestions, go to the website **Understood.org**.

1. Create a learning space: Dedicate a special learning space for the child(ren). It's important to set up a quiet, clutter-free space.
2. Make a schedule and stick to it: Take a look at your family's schedule to figure out the best times for learning. Does your child need help from you to get started? Are you building time into your child's schedule for exercise? Does your family have any "contracts" to help the kids follow the rules at home?
3. Reduce distractions: Make a list of things that distract your child. Then find ways to limit them during learning time. Block social media on your child's device during instructional time.
4. Use a color-coded calendar: Post a calendar and mark it with due dates. Help your child plan backward from the due dates.
5. Get plenty of exercise: Look for family-friendly workouts you can do at home. Identify a time and place in your home for physical activity.
6. See which accessibility features help your child: Make use of the phones, laptops, notebooks or other mobile devices that have built-in assistive technology.
7. Reach out to your child's teacher(s): Set up a direct line of communication: e-mail, text, phone calls or video conferences.

The 2020-2021 Education Contest themes have been announced:

Let all you do be done with love. 1 Corinthians 16:14
Show love to one another

More information will follow in the next Rising Dawn and in the National Quarterly Newsletter.

Thanks Prayer Warriors

THERESA DURAN, FIRST VICE STATE REGENT

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those that have joined me (and the rest of the Prayer Warriors) for the Facebook prayer sessions we have been live-streaming since March.

Our prayers started during quarantine as a way to confront Coronavirus, give us hope, help us keep track of and pray for members that were sick and those that succumbed to the virus. I started praying with you at 2pm everyday. We soon added evening rosaries and morning Chaplets of Divine Mercy; some "Warriors" became adventurous with prayer services, novenas, chaplets and litanies. I could never have envisioned the wonderful supportive community we have formed within NY State and with our sisters from across the nation.

I have returned to working every other day from home or my office in Hauppauge. I therefore can only lead the 2pm prayer every other weekday; **State Chairman of Spiritual Enhancement Lu Koch**, has returned to watching her grandchildren and so had to give up the 11am Chaplet (she still leads us occasionally at 8pm); however, **Past National Regent Helene Shepard** still posts a theme every morning before 7am!

We will continue these prayers as long as you are watching! Remember, reruns are available if you miss the live sessions. Just check out Catholic Daughters NY State on Facebook!

The prayer that I use to end each prayer service is posted on the next page, please save it for when you join in.

RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER: Convention 2021

CONNIE BREINDEL, SECOND VICE STATE REGENT

I am really looking forward to the **NYS Biennial Convention** that will be here before we know it. Attending a convention allows us to celebrate together this great organization, that it is truly is a gift to be part of. The cancellation of the National Convention that was to be in Dallas in July now has us waiting longer to get together. Members across the state stepping up and leading prayers on Facebook only adds to my anticipation.

The State Board has the responsibility to organize a convention that will be one of the best. With **The Desmond** in Albany, where we held our last three conventions, unable to accommodate us, we reached out to hotels across the state to find a new location. Some hotels were rejected because they didn't have the event space we need or their proposal was too high. We visited hotels in Utica, Syracuse, and Saratoga Springs—we even did a virtual tour of a hotel in Corning! We tried to think about everything when it came to selecting the hotel: package costs, hotel rooms, location of the hotel, and how much walking will need to be done. I am certain that everyone will be pleased with our choice: the Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs.

Now that we have the place and date set, know that your State Board will be hard at work on all the other details that will make the 2021 NY State Convention a success. See you there!

Marialice Sagan, Past National Director and National Education Chairman, has now announced the winners of this year's education contest (complete list is on the national CDA page). I am very proud to announce NYS has 2 winners:

1st PLACE

Music, Division 3:

Evan Carroll

Ct. Bishop Kellenberg #1756
North Merrick

3rd PLACE

Computer Art Division 1:

Isabella Sisting

Ct. Cortland #919,
Cortland

Congratulations to Isabella, Evan and their sponsoring courts.

I saved all the entries for this year (with the exception of the first place winners) and will bring them with me to next year's NYS Convention in case you or your Court would like them returned. As you all know, this is my first year as Chairman and I could not be prouder of NYS and all of you. Thanks again for the wonderful support. God bless you.

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.



Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

This is the prayer used in the 2pm Prayers on the Catholic Daughters NY State Facebook page

THANK YOU PROJECT

We hope everyone has thought about, made plans for, or already starting working on their cards for The Thank You Project. (If you don't know what this is, please refer to the June 2020 Rising Dawn.)

Remember, these cards are for active military, not veterans. Be positive, upbeat and thankful for their service. No puffy stickers, pipe cleaners, or other craft items are to be stuck to the cards/letters. Do not attempt to send money, medals, or gifts of any kind with the cards/letters.

Please count, wrap and ship all card to send, before November 1st to the project organizers at:

Ct. St. Pius X #1690, The Thank You Project,
35 Abbey Lane, Levittown, NY 11756

LEADERSHIP

LINDA MANCHESTER, STATE CHAIRMAN OF LEADERSHIP

As I was thinking about what to write for the article on Leadership, I ran across this prayer for Educators. It was written by Eric Butterworth. I think it also relates to Leadership and it goes like this:

**I tell you and you forget.
I show you and you remember.
I involve you and you understand.**

In our leadership roles, we are teachers. We mentor those that we see as potentials. It is important that we involve them, get them interested. Otherwise, we will lose them. We need to give them the opportunity so they can see how they can contribute their talents to our organization. Some people just need to be asked and others need that little "push".

Of course, it isn't always easy. Some times you may have to alter your thinking and give your person the room to ease into a new role in a gradual way. You have planted the seed and it needs to germinate awhile. There are those who take the lead, you just need to be there in case they have any questions or issues.

In these pandemic times, we cannot lose focus on our motto: **Unity & Charity.** Keeping the lines of communication open with your members is vital. We will come out stronger!

AROUND THE STATE

Washcloth Kits for A Homeless Shelter

As part of their **Quality of Life Project**, the members of **Court Morning Star #899, Northport**, donated supplies to local youth who organized, collected and prepared 1,500 washcloth kits during the quarantine and delivered them to a local homeless shelter.

The Court members were proud to assist the young people who were making a difference and caring for others.



Dear Catholic Daughters,
Thank you so much for choosing me to win the CDA New York State Scholarship. I was beyond surprised to receive the letter in the mail! I am so glad to even be considered, and I know how intense the competition was. I will continue to be a role model for others and will always strive to do better.
Sincerely, Natalie Ugenti

We received a thank you note from scholarship winner **Natalie Ugenti**, who was sponsored by **Court St. Elizabeth # 2687, South Huntington**. Natalie plans to study Chemical Engineering. Good luck Natalie

SOS!

SEND OTHER STORIES

Many of our "activities" were canceled or postponed due to COVID-19, however, we know that many courts are still active: making masks, starting prayers circles, visiting homebound members, and/or starting up their programs once again.

Please send all stories and photos before November 10th 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.

JCDA/Youth News

HELENE SHEPARD, STATE CHAIRMAN FOR YOUTH/JCDA

In spite of COVID 19 I am happy to inform you that I have sent to the JCDA/Youth Committee Members: **Annette Wilson** and **Pat Ziegler** a copy of the new **National JCDA Guidelines** for us to study. We will be sharing this information with all of the Catholic Daughters interested in working with Juniors.

We had hoped to start a State JCDA Court this year but again, COVID-19 interfered. We now pray for an end of this pandemic crisis, so we can move forward here in New York. Please join us in praying for an end to this crisis.

We're betting that "social distancing" will be the term of 2020. This is a time when we're asked to distance ourselves, however, we crave connection.

For our young people, this may add a greater level of anxiety, too. While getting extra days off from school may sound fun at first, it does bring big questions concerning learning and sadness over sports and events being canceled, challenging family logistics, and uncertainty that puts everyone on edge.

We ask the following questions:

- How do we connect with our people without gathering?
- What are the needs of our JCDA/Youth and their families?
- How do we support college students coming home?
- What support do our families need?

You're probably asking questions about your own safety, and that of your friends and family members.

There are lots of ways we can address these situations, but I would like to take a moment and say to you ladies who are dealing with JCDA/Youth, **we believe in you.**

In some ways, you were made for this moment. This is your chance to do what you do best: innovatively care for your JCDA /Youth and their families. Strangely, you don't have to be worrying about developing programs and activities—perhaps for the first time ever. So, use this time to creatively connect with JCDA/Youth students.

What do our JCDA/ Youth need from us right now? They need you to be a consistent voice in their lives. Now is not the time to be silent just because the formal programs have stopped.

What words might they need to hear from you?

Encouragement, assurance, a prayer from you. Go there with them. Let them know that though they're socially distanced they are not relationally-distanced.

What resources do our JCDA/Youth need? This is a time when they may need some hand-holds to navigate this experience. How might you help them deal with fear, grief, the unknown, family relationships, friendships, etc.? How might you help them talk with God?

How might you still function and go beyond JCDA/Youth programming? Here is where you are on the leading edge. Likely, you already have some tech-savvy strategies to stay connected with your JCDA/Youth.

How might you use your skills to provide connection, conversation, and care? What if you...

- Set up a dedicated Facebook Page for students to share their thoughts and pray for each other?
- Create a space where your group could pray for the world and those impacted by this event (the poor, the marginalized, the most vulnerable)?
- Consider ways to support the most vulnerable in your parish community—the elderly. How might you encourage them and provide for them? What might it feel like to be especially impacted by this disease?
- Email questions to parents that they can discuss with their kids along with a prayer they can pray together?
- Set up a dedicated group video meeting or Zoom to talk with students?

We want you to know that we believe in you and in the important work you are doing. We will try to provide the best resources we can to help you use your leadership skills to the fullest.

Help share your ideas by telling us what you're doing and trying and we'll pass along your innovative and thoughtful approaches with others.

Let's advocate for our JCDA/Youth in their ongoing quests to be faithful to the JCDA Goals. We can't wait to hear what you are doing in your courts, parishes and communities to help our JCDA/Youth know that we are here for them.

God bless you. Be safe and stay well.



“DO NOT WAIT FOR LEADERS; DO IT ALONE, PERSON TO PERSON. BE FAITHFUL IN SMALL THINGS BECAUSE IT IS IN THEM THAT YOUR STRENGTH LIES.”

—ST. MOTHER TERESA



Enclosed with this edition of **The Rising Dawn**, you will find a brochure and order sheet for our **State Fundraiser**: a jewelry sale through our friends at Park Lane Jewelry.

This fundraiser is in place of our CDA Giveaway and we hope that the funds raised will help us to meet our financial commitments to seminarians, enhance our charitable givings and keep the cost of our 2021 Convention as affordable as possible.

Park Lane Jewelry, the largest nationwide jewelry company and a family owner business, just celebrated their 65 Anniversary.

Jewelry is a timeless gift and Park Lane offers a large variety of items to please all fashion styles: there is something for everyone. The jewelry is crafted with exceptional quality and comes with a full one-year guarantee.

The best part is, their fundraising program gives back a full 50% of sales to us. With the Christmas right around the corner and in person shopping something we might not be able to do, this is the perfect fundraiser at the perfect time.

The program quite simple and hassle free and the orders can be done directly online. The link parklanejewelry.com/store/start/fundraiser/2299 will be posted on the NYS website and on the Facebook page.

Please share this link with friends, neighbors and family. All merchandise is shipped directly to the buyer, no need for you to deliver. Remember: only the items listed in the enclosed brochure and on the linked page profit the NY State Court.

There is a fundraiser brochure and order form enclosed with this newsletter for members that might not have access to the online platforms. This fundraiser begins now and will close on November 15th to assure delivery for Christmas.

Stock up now for Christmas, birthdays, Mother's Day and graduations...and help the NY State Court earn some much needed capital!

In our continuing efforts to save both money and trees, we continue to seek those who would be interested in receiving The Rising Dawn via email as opposed to in their mailbox.

An electronic version is not only more economical and environmentally friendly, it also means you receive the issue at least one week earlier than the mailed version since printing, stuffing and delivery takes time. While only one printed version is sent to each court unless they purchase additional subscriptions, the email version can be sent to any and all members of CDA in NYS. An electronic version is also posted on the website at cdanys.org.

Rest assured that a printed version will continue to be mailed to anyone that has not opted out of receiving it.

Thank you to those who responded using the postcard included with the June issue of **The Rising Dawn**; though some people forgot to include their name.

Please send your request to **Editor Theresa Duran** at tduran@optonline.net and **Assistant Editor Karen Rave** at krave@hvc.rr.com and you will be added to the email version subscription.

To receive additional printed subscriptions to **The Rising Dawn**, please send \$10 (checks made payable to Catholic Daughters of the Americas) to **Assistant Editor Karen Rave** at 1711 Little Britain Road, Rock Tavern, NY 12575

AND WE'RE OFF!

The New York State Board is happy to announce that the

2021 New York State Biennial Convention

will be held

April 7-11, 2021

at the

*Holiday Inn
Saratoga Springs*

Mark your calendars and start saving your money!

Look for more information in the upcoming Call to Convention!

Due to that darned Coronavirus, we were unable to get a printed version of the June 2020 **Rising Dawn** distributed in a timely manner.

The digital version was sent to all subscribers and posted on the NYS website; however, if you would like a physical copy sent to you, please contact **Assistant Editor Karen Rave** at 1711 Little Britain Road, Rock Tavern, NY 12575 or krave@hvc.rr.com (supplies are limited, so please only request if you really need it, thanks).

IMPORTANT DATES

SEP 7TH	LABOR DAY
SEP 8TH	BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED MOTHER
OCT 12TH	COLUMBUS DAY
NOV 1ST	ALL SAINTS DAY
NOV 2ND	ALL SOULS DAY
NOV 3RD	ELECTION DAY
NOV 11TH	VETERANS DAY
NOV 15TH	PARK LANE JEWELRY FUNDRAISER ENDS
NOV 26TH	THANKSGIVING