



Special Edition

# 2021 State Convention

The Minnesota Catholic Daughters of the Americas held their Biennial convention in Moorhead, MN on April 23rd and 24th, 2021. The State Officers, National Representative Connie Dronette, and other select members were present. CDA members from throughout the State of Minnesota gathered for the event at their own home computers, or in the company of other CDA sisters around someone's laptop. The Theme for the event was "We are called.....to serve!"

Marlys Knuth, State Regent, from Slayton presided over the business meetings. Father Tim Biren served as the State Chaplin. The convention opened with greetings by the Mayor of Moorhead; Convention Chair, Lisa Huderkirch; and Host Court Regent, Brandy Pelzel. Marlys introduced National Supervisor, Connie Dronette from Louisiana, and five Past State Regents.

Second Vice Regent, Monica Capra gave a quick lesson on Zoom basics and showed the CDA members how to vote.

One Resolution was presented by Committee Chair, Deb Lutmer. The resolution to have the MN State Board contribute 50% of the cost for a Zoom annual fee, up to 75.00, for any Court who applies, passed with a vote of 22 Yay and 23 Nay votes.

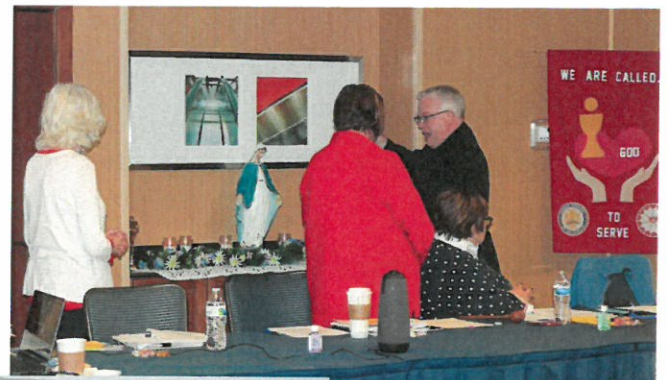
50 year plus members, were recognized for their years of service and dedication to Catholic Daughters by video tributes.

The 2021 State Regent's award was presented to Patti Johnson from Pipestone in recognition of her valuable contribution to the Minnesota Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

A Memorial Mass was held on Friday, April 23rd, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church to honor our deceased members who passed away since the last convention. This mass was live streamed for all CDA members. Packets of Forget-Me-Nots were handed out for each deceased member to be passed on to their families.



The 49th Biennial Minnesota Catholic Daughters of the Americas convention was held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead. Although it was mostly a 'Virtual Convention', the State Board, the National Representative, and some other 'special' members were present in live form. Above: The shrine was a beautiful tribute to our Blessed Mother and adorned the meeting room.



Opening ceremonies



Resolution reading



Continued on page 2

Continued from Page 1

All the State Chair reports were presented, and the 2023 Nominating Committee was voted on and chosen, all by Zoom. Mary Pufall gave tributes to the retiring State Chairs and District Deputies, and then welcomed the new State Chairs and District Deputies.

Some of the other highlights throughout the Convention included:

- 2021 Habitat Build—Awarded to Court St. Anne-Medford
- Shirley Seyfried spoke on the Membership Crisis we are in
- State Fundraiser and State Projects stay the same
- International Local Court project of Kenya was introduced by Shirley Seyfried
- Keynote Speaker, Renee Rongen, gave an inspiring speech
- 2023 Bid for the State Convention goes to Detroit Lakes
- Shirley Seyfried reported on the upcoming MN State Pilgrimage to Germany and The Passion Play
- Video presentations were shown to recognize/honor Courts who had special Anniversaries but couldn't celebrate

After the Saturday Mass a new slate of State officers were installed: Father Tim Biren and Connie Dronette installed Father Larry Delaney, who will be the State Chaplain of the Catholic Daughters for the next biennium. Father Delaney installed the newly elected State Officers: State Regent Mary Pufall of Moorhead; First State Vice Regent, Monica Capra of Mazeppa-Bellechester; Second State Vice Regent, Cathy Nelson of Medford; State Secretary, Jeaneen Nelson of Slayton; and State Treasurer, Vera Hannig of Crookston. These ladies will serve until the next State Convention to be held in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota in 2023.



Right: The whole room—and everyone on zoom—applaud the new State Court, from left to right; Vera Hannig, Jeaneen Nelson, Cathy Nelson, Monica Capra, and Mary Pufall, with Past State Regent Marlys Knuth, seated.



The transferring of the robes ceremony



Installation of Father Delaney as the new State Chaplain



Keynote Speaker, Renee Rongen

Convention snapshots

