



CATHOLIC
DAUGHTERS
OF THE
AMERICAS

**MISSION
STATEMENT**

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.

MOTTO

Unity and Charity

**Minnesota State
Board**

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Regent's Notes	1
State Board	2-4
State Chaplain	5
State Chair/District Deputy news	6-10
Local Court news	11-19
National News	20
New members/Deceased Members	24

The Voice of the Lakes

MINNESOTA STATE
CDA NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025
VOLUME 2025 — ISSUE 3

Regent's Reflections Cathy Nelson, State Regent

Happy Advent Sisters!

Advent is important to us as a period in which we are *waiting* for Christ's coming. We are *anticipating* the joyful arrival of our Savior and King. We are *looking forward* to celebrating His birth and the salvation made possible with His coming.

Yet, Saint Pope John Paul II said, "Advent is a *journey* towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man." "At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern."

While 'waiting' during Advent suggests inactivity, a 'journey' requires action and movement. Rather than contradicting each other, these two aspects of Advent support each other, and strengthen us if we employ them both.

By contemplating Christ's coming through prayer we *wait* with purpose, to be drawn closer to God. There are so many special ways to pray during Advent. We might use a daily Advent prayer calendar or join our National CDA Chaplain and Board for daily prayer on the National CDA Facebook page (12 noon each day). We could pick up a daily prayer book like the '5 Minute Prayers Around the Advent Wreath' that I purchased from my parish resource library. We could read and journal throughout Advent with an aid such as Bishop Barron's 'Advent Gospel Reflections'. Lighting the candles of our Advent Wreath with a special prayer each Sunday or even a search of the internet for Catholic Advent Prayers can lead us to fruitful prayer.

Our prayers open and warm our hearts for the *action* of Advent, for 'loving and serving others'. Many of our parish, community, and CDA projects are geared precisely for this purpose. We conduct sock and coat drives; provide holiday meals and gifts for families in need; participate in community toy collections; and visit, sing with, play games, and share treats with those who are alone or far from family. Through the local projects that we support we can see the effect of our actions and witness the gratitude with which they are received. Still, one of the beautiful features of CDA that I value is the opportunity to support projects and charities beyond my local community.

Knowing that the people whom I am assisting, although we may never meet, will experience God's own love and concern through my prayers and actions, is immensely rewarding.

Wishing each of you rich opportunities to warm your own hearts in preparation for the Christ Child's arrival at Christmas.

Happy Advent, Merry Christmas, and a Blessed New Year!

Your Sister in Christ,

Cathy



2024 CDA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOME IS DEDICATED

On September 23, 2025, members of Court St. Mary Peter who sponsored the 2024 CDA Habitat build in Red Wing were joined by State Regent, Cathy Nelson to congratulate the homeowners, Tabbathia and Anne. Court St. Mary Peter presented the new homeowners with all the needs for each of their bathrooms, and a wall clock was presented to them on behalf of the State Board and MN CDA members. Present to receive the \$10,000 MN CDA Grant was Goodhue County Habitat for Humanity Executive Director, Bob Hawley, who shared this personal thank you - ***"Thank you Cathy! And thanks for all the local group have done for us! It has been a pleasure working with them!"***

Thank you to Court St. Mary Peter for supporting this successful build and to all MN CDA members for making it possible by raising funds through our annual Gummi Bear campaign! It is so rewarding to not only help build one of our CDA sponsored homes, but also to be able to enjoy the dedication of the home. Check out the update in this newsletter for the 2025 Habitat Build sponsored by Court Sacred Heart #1424, Waseca. We hope to see some of you on our CDA workdays and at this home's dedication later in 2026!

Finally, be sure to send in your court's application for the 2026 CDA Habitat Build. Applications are due December 1, 2025, to State Regent Cathy Nelson. Applications were given out at our Summer Workshops and sent to Court Regents again in November. You can do it – you have the support and prayers of your CDA Sisters across the state!

MN
State
Board



Above: State Regent and Ct St. Mary Peter members with homeowners Tabbathia and Anne.

Right: MN CDA Habitat Grant is presented by Goodhue Co Habitat Director.





2025 CDA Habitat for Humanity Grant

The 2025 HFH Grant Build has begun! Court Sacred Heart #1424, Waseca, is the recipient of this grant and we are working with the Two Rivers HFH Affiliate, out of Rochester. This affiliate serves the counties of: Waseca, Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, and Wabasha. The current Habitat for Humanity home is located at 1475 Sage Lane, Owatonna. This build is unique as it is a "Veteran's Build" which means the home will be for a veteran and family, and most of the contractors hired are veteran owned businesses. This is a larger home than the usual HFH homes. It will be a 4-bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home. Two Rivers HFH has partnered with the Owatonna High School shop classes. The interior and exterior walls are being built by the students at an off-site location. They will be brought over to the building site and set up. Hopefully the house will be buttoned up before winter, and then the interior will be worked on through the winter/spring. Habitat is hoping this build will be wrapped up by June. Currently, applications are being evaluated as prospective homeowners.

Court Sacred Heart, along with Two Rivers HFH has designated two dates as CDA build dates, January 15 and February 19. This will be interior work – possibly hanging drywall, cutting out electrical boxes, painting, staining, varnishing, and more. We won't know the exact work until closer to the build dates. But – this is YOUR opportunity to help with a build! You don't need to know any skills – you will be taught on the job! Please call, text, or email either of the Waseca CDA HFH committee members to be added to the "volunteers" list. Lori Mickelson 507-461-2446, loriann8262@gmail.com or Pat Foley 507-461-5095 pmfcda@gmail.com.

Why Every Local Court Should Have a Balanced Budget

Preparing a budget is one of the most important financial responsibilities for any local court. A well-planned budget serves as a roadmap for the year, helping your court plan for the future, allocate resources efficiently, control spending, and measure performance. It ensures that the court's activities align with its mission and that funds are available to meet all obligations. A budget should always be prepared as early as possible at the beginning of the new CDA year. This allows the court to begin its year with a clear financial direction and ensures that all officers and members are working toward the same goals.

Appointing a Budget Committee

To prepare the budget, the Regent should appoint a Budget Committee that includes the Treasurer. This committee is responsible for reviewing prior year financial reports, estimating income and expenses, and proposing a balanced budget for approval. It is also recommended that the Budget Committee review the budget partway through the year and make adjustments if necessary. This mid-year review helps the court stay on track and adapt to any changes in financial circumstances.

Balancing Receipts and Disbursements

An important principle of sound budgeting is that *receipts should be more than or equal to disbursements*. This means that the court should not plan to spend more money than it expects to receive. Maintaining this balance promotes financial stability and allows the court to meet all obligations without creating a deficit.

Approval and Payment of Budget Items

Even after the budget is approved, the court's standing rules must clearly state that items included in the adopted budget are approved for payment. If this rule is not in place, a motion must be made before each budgeted item can be paid. This procedure ensures financial accountability and proper authorization of all expenditures.

Why Budgeting Matters

Strategic Planning and Goal Setting: Budgets translate the court's plans into actionable financial targets, ensuring that all members are aligned toward shared goals.

Resource Allocation: They help determine how to distribute funds effectively to support the court's priorities.

Cost Control: They help track and manage expenses, preventing overspending.

Cash Flow Management: Budgets forecast income and expenses to ensure adequate cash flow for all obligations.

Decision-Making: A clear budget provides a solid, data-driven foundation for confident decision-making.

In summary, a well-prepared budget strengthens financial stewardship, provides direction for the court's activities, and ensures that resources are used responsibly. With careful planning, ongoing review, and adherence to proper financial procedures, every local court can achieve stability, transparency, and success throughout the fiscal year.

You can find a sample of a Local Court Budget in Section 5 Attachment 23 of Tools of the Trade on Our National website. www.catholicdaughters.org.

Submitted by:
Darlene Highet
Dollhighet@gmail.com

Father James E. Starasinich, State Chaplain

Dear Minnesota Catholic Daughters of the Americas,

The Jubilee Year of Hope is concluding on January 6, 2026, with the closing of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. I hope everyone had a chance to participate in some way, locally, nationally, or even visiting Vatican City and Rome or other shrines in Europe or elsewhere throughout the world. If you have not been able to participate in this Year of Hope, visit your local cathedral or a place designated in your diocese to pray and receive the grace of the indulgence.

I was blessed to participate with youth from the parish I am currently serving as pastor, Queen of Angels in Austin, where we visited places in Rome and elsewhere in Italy as Pilgrims of Hope. We met Bishop Robert Barron, our shepherd, at St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome, where we listened to his catechesis on the significance of the role of Peter and his successors. The Papacy continues for two thousand years, as Jesus' promise that he will be with us until the end of the age is certainly played out in history through the role of the papacy.

Some of the places we visited and prayed were at the tombs of St. Maria Goretti and St. Bartolo Longo (just recently canonized in October) and the shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary in Naples (Pompei); and the birthplace of Francesco Forgione, better known as Padre Pio, the saint from Pietrelcina. In Rome, we visited and prayed at the catacombs of St. Callistus, and at St. Peter's Basilica, where we also attended a Wednesday audience with Pope Leo XIV. We celebrated our last two Masses outside Italy, one in Germany and the final in Switzerland. While in Germany, we had an outdoor Mass at the Marian shrine of Altötting, in the presence of the daughter and granddaughter of Blessed Franz Jägerstätter, an Austrian who refused to follow the evils of the Nazi regime. Our pilgrimage was a wonderful inspiration in this Jubilee Year of Hope. St. Paul's words to the early Christian community of Rome speak to us today: "Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Romans 5:5).

We have all witnessed recently the power of prayer, and many of us participated in these prayers for the community of Annunciation in Minneapolis. I personally asked another recently canonized saint, Carlo Acutis, for his intercession for the young girl who miraculously was recently released after 57 days in the hospital. Even the doctor who was treating young Sophia stated that her recovery was miraculous. Let us never give up when times are tough but persevere in prayer! Prayers united have the power to change the course of history.

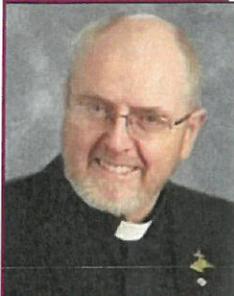
As we begin a new liturgical year, we prepare with Advent, a time of expectation and the birth of the Savior of the world. May these days lead us to celebrate with joy the Christmas season – and may we remember it for the short but joyful season that it is – by singing the Christmas carols throughout the season (and Advent hymns throughout Advent)! Too often we get caught up with the secular world, taking advantage of us immediately after Halloween by playing Christmas music to lure us into buying presents and thus forgetting the "reason" for the season. Let us recapture the season for what it should be and live out the whole Christmas season.

I conclude with lyrics from one of my favorite Christmas songs, and which I recently learned was written in the 1970's to focus on a return to the real meaning of Christmas (much like Charles Schultz's *A Charlie Brown Christmas* did), *I Believe in Father Christmas*:

"I wish you a hopeful Christmas, I wish you a brave New Year!"

God Love You!!!

Fr. Jim Starasinich --



**State
Chaplain,
Father Jim**

IMPORTANCE OF OUR DISTRICT DEPUTIES

I would like to share information regarding your MN State District Deputies. If you go back in history, you will see that CDA was organized for the “moral, spiritual, and intellectual improvements of its members and for charitable, religious, and benevolent purposes.” These ladies, our District Deputies, are in the heart of this organization as they do assist with any improvements needed and ensure the purpose of this organization is carried out.

District Deputies (DD) are the State Board’s representative to the local courts she is assigned. This is usually 2 or 3 area courts near the court she is a CDA member. This does mean that she is also a local member of the same court in which she is also a State CDA Representative – a District Deputy. This is good as she does know what is going on in her local court. And in the other 1 or 2 courts to which she is assigned, she is also charged with attending at least 2 meetings each year, helping with the Financial Reviews, and understanding what is happening in those courts as well.

The downside is that she is a local member of one of the courts for which she is responsible. This can be difficult for the DD when conflicts arise. Let me back up by explaining the “chain of command” in CDA. A local Regent is responsible for her local court, along with her board of officers. But the responsibility of ensuring that reports get completed, information passed along to members, meetings are run efficiently, members are treated charitably, and projects are in place to serve the community, the church, and assist with state, national, and global concerns all falls on the Regent. How does this happen smoothly? Well, let’s start with the National CDA.

There is a National Regent, Regent Elect, 1st Vice Regent, 2nd Vice Regent, Secretary/Treasurer, and 9 National Directors. The National Directors are charged with assisting a certain number of State courts – acting as a Liaison between the State and National CDA. When problems arise or questions come from the State or functions happen and a representative from National CDA is needed – that is typically a job for the National Director. Did you know that our National Director is from South Dakota? Brenda Anderson – come to National convention in Iowa this July and you can meet her!

As for State officers – each state court has a State CDA Regent, 1st Vice Regent, 2nd Vice Regent, Treasurer, and Secretary. There are also 10 District Deputies – these ladies also act as a liaison between the State CDA and the local courts. DDs are vital to this organization as it would be a difficult task to have the State Regent be the main contact for all 25 courts across Minnesota!

Local officers include the Regent, Vice Regent, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Recording Secretary. The local board should work together to accomplish the goals of CDA and to keep to our motto of – Unity and Charity. Past Regents – local, state, and national -are tasked with helping the newly elected Regent, when needed, throughout the new term, which is 2 years. When the gavel is passed along in the ceremony – the Past Regent has pledged to help. This keeps with our motto of Unity! We are a united Sisterhood!

Now, back to our wonderful District Deputies. As you can now understand, a District Deputy has made quite a commitment to assisting for a term of 2 years. She knows she will be called upon when questions arise. She also knows she won’t know every answer so will then turn to the State for information. She is vital as a representative of the State as she can attend functions, meetings, etc. for her local courts.

District Deputies – please know you are appreciated by the State Board for all you do to assist us!

Local Courts – please remember to include/invite your DD when you host events, functions, or any of your meetings.

Local Regents – look to your DD for guidance. If she cannot answer questions immediately, she knows that the State board is next in line for help.

Remember – we are UNITED in our SISTERHOOD!

Lori Mickelson, 2nd Vice Regent, MN State CDA

Education

Shared from National website:

It has often been said that education means “a drawing out” of a person’s talent as well as a “putting in” of knowledge or instruction. Education is a key ingredient which significantly impacts the long-term success of our organization. Education helps bring us fulfillment and helps improve attitudes. Education should include programs or activities that assist members in learning about CDA, its history, its charitable projects and charities, as well as the programs on the spokes of the Circle of Love. This could include topics of spiritual nature, safety concerns, and medical issues. Education may lead to higher participation in a whole range of activities. The CDA scholarships and Education Contests are a part of the education spoke.

This year I would like to “challenge” each court to partake two-fold:

- Participate in the Education contest: Information can be found on the National Website.
- Submit a report on the Education area: Form can be found on the MN Website:

Title of the Project _____
 Describe fully ONE project in the Circle of Love program for Education done by your court this past year. What was the goal for the activity? How many were involved? What impact did the activity have on your court or parish? It is as simple as that.

Should you have any questions regarding the Education Contest, please reach out to me.

Margee Keller, Education Chairperson 2025-2026

margeekeller@hotmail.com – 218.349.4566

This year’s Education Contest Themes are as follows:

The Least of These Matthew 25:40 OR

The Least of These: Lifting Others Up.

State Chair News



JCDA news

**February 22, 2026 has been Proclaimed as
National JCDA Day - JCDA’s 100 Anniversary!**

In June there will be a ‘National JCDA 100th Anniversary Retreat’. Let us all pray that they have a fun and successful retreat—with a renewed excitement for our youth to expand and share their Faith!



JCDA Turns 100!

Save the Date

June 9 - 12, 2026

LOVE YOUR #SELFIE
RETREAT

To be held in
Lake Charles, Louisiana



LEADERSHIP OF OUR STATE CHAIRS

Our state chairs are an integral part of our organization. They assist the state board in implementing the spokes in the Circle of Love program so that they are utilized within all of our local courts.

Education: It has often been said that education literally means “a drawing out” of a person’s talent as well as a “putting in” of knowledge or instruction. Education is a key ingredient which significantly impacts the long-term success of our organization. Education helps bring us fulfillment and helps improve attitudes. Education should include programs or activities that assist members to learn about CDA, its history, its charitable projects and charities, as well as the programs on the spokes of the Circle of Love. This could include topics of a spiritual nature, safety concerns and medical issues. Education may lead to higher participation in a whole range of activities. The CDA scholarships and Education Contests are a part of the education spoke. For more information contact our MN Education Chair, Margee Keller: margeekeller@hotmail.com.

Quality of Life (Social Awareness): issues of our national program are the heart of our ministering to the needs of all peoples. We are called to reach out with compassion and support, to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow and sickness. For more information please contact the MN Quality of Life Chair, Theresa Steve: trn_83@hotmail.com.

[Click here for Quality of Life Supplement](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Quality%20of%20Life-1.pdf?t=1680613966000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Quality%20of%20Life-1.pdf?t=1680613966000)

Family: The family is often called the principal cell or building block of human society. The family is the place where the Catholic faith is handed on and lived. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 2202 states, “A man and woman united in marriage, together with their children, form a family.” Families may include other family members such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. Some families may have only one parent. CCC 2205 states, “The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. In the procreation and education of children it reflects the Father’s work of creation, it is called to partake in the prayer and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The Christian family has an evangelizing and the missionary task.”

A family provides its members with emotional and spiritual kinship through shared values, beliefs, traditions, common experiences, activities and unconditional love.

Courts should continue to strengthen family relations by interacting with families. Projects for family should include programs or activities that assist and support the family. Families praying together, working together, and playing together will fully encompass the Circle of Love Program. For more information, contact our MN Family Chair, Ruth Broumley: ruthbroumley@gmail.com.

Spiritual Enhancement: The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is primarily a service organization; however, service for the sake of service can become burdensome and more of an obligation than a joy. That is why the Spiritual Enhancement component of the Circle of Love is so important. Through the spiritual program in each local and state court, we help our members to nourish and develop their relationships with God. Out of those developing relationships comes the realization of God’s love and everlasting mercy, and because of that realization, the desire to serve Him by serving His people grows. Our service, then, becomes the way we witness our faith and share God’s love with a hurting world. Because of His guidance and support, we can serve with joy and faithfulness.

In the Spiritual Enhancement section of the Circle of Love, you will find ways to provide opportunities for your members to spend time with God. You will find ideas for enhancing personal sanctification as well as suggestions for involving your members in the spiritual life of their parishes and communities. It is important that your court’s Spiritual Enhancement Program helps your members to understand that they are truly a sisterhood and that they need to be church to one another before they can be church to others. For more information contact our MN Spiritual Enhancement Chair, Monica Capra: mcapracda@gmail.com or [Click here for the Spiritual Enhancement Supplement](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Spiritual-1.pdf?t=1680614017000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Spiritual-1.pdf?t=1680614017000)

Youth/JCDA: Tomorrow's promise lives in today's youth. In responding to their needs today, we shape a better future for all. Every Catholic Daughters of the Americas court can fulfill the goals of the Youth Program by committing itself to sponsor, participate in, and/or support at least one youth activity. This can be accomplished by working collaboratively with existing community and parish youth groups such as the youth ministry, social action groups, local schools, or by sponsoring a Junior CDA Court. The selection and scope of the activity should be determined by the needs and/or interests of the youth in the community. It is the mission of the Youth Program to nurture personal and spiritual growth; to promote service to others and to foster an awareness and appreciation of diversity through a variety of suggested activities and experiences.

[Click here for Father Leonard Bachmann Graduate Scholarships](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2025/8/Father%20Leonard%20Bachmann%20Scholarship-1.pdf?t=1756410631000)

(<https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2025/8/Father%20Leonard%20Bachmann%20Scholarship-1.pdf?t=1756410631000>)

JCDA Scholarships: Click on the links immediately below for JCDA Scholarship Applications

[National Scholarship for 8th Grader Entering 9th Grade in Catholic School -- 2025-2026](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2025/8/8th%20to%209th%20grade%20Scholarship-2.pdf?t=1756410438000)

(<https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2025/8/8th%20to%209th%20grade%20Scholarship-2.pdf?t=1756410438000>)

[National JCDA Scholarship -- 2025-2026](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2025/8/National%20JCDA%20Scholarship-2.pdf?t=1756410477000)

(<https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2025/8/National%20JCDA%20Scholarship-2.pdf?t=1756410477000>)

For more information contact our MN Youth Chair, Mary Pufall: marypufall@gmail.com

[Click here for Youth Supplement](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2024/6/Youth-2%20Reduced-1.pdf?t=1718749928000): (Updated May 9, 2024) (<https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2024/6/Youth-2%20Reduced-1.pdf?t=1718749928000>)

LEADERSHIP: A few years back, Bette Midler had a hit with a song called *"You Are the Wind Beneath My Wings."* This song is really about **leadership** because it is the leader who is the inspiration that allows others to "fly higher than an eagle." Dedicated and inspired leadership over the last 100 years in the Catholic Daughters has kept CDA the largest Catholic women's organization in the world. You, as a member of CDA, have the opportunity to learn the skills and techniques of leadership and implement your talents as a future leader. You will be the wind beneath the wings of others and "let (them) fly so high, they will almost touch the sky!" Consider becoming a leader in CDA!

Hopefully, this will give you the skills and confidence to step forward to become an officer in your local court. In so doing, you will become one of those leaders who have vision and get others to share that vision. You will be the inspiration for others to follow.

[Tips for Leaders](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/QuarterlyNewsletter_March2013_Tips.pdf?t=1579535038000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/QuarterlyNewsletter_March2013_Tips.pdf?t=1579535038000)

[Complete Walk the Walk](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/Complete_Walk_the_Walk.pdf?t=1579535088000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/Complete_Walk_the_Walk.pdf?t=1579535088000)

[Leadership Update - December](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/Leadership_for_the_web_December.pdf?t=1579535111000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/Leadership_for_the_web_December.pdf?t=1579535111000)

For more information contact our MN Leadership Chair, Ellen Huneke: bcalf@sleepyeyetel.net

[Click here for Leadership Supplement](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Leadership-1.pdf?t=1680613813000) (<https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Leadership-1.pdf?t=1680613813000>)

LEGISLATIVE: Our obligation is to become better informed on public issues, addressing the morals and human dimensions, while supporting church teaching on human life, human rights, justice and peace.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas DO NOT ENDORSE CANDIDATES NOR ANY POLITICAL PARTY!

Operation Morning Star is a program of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas to Our Lady under her title Morning Star, to encourage Catholic women to speak out in the legislative arena.

Learn more about legislation efforts at [Operation Morning Star](#) or contact our MN Legislation Chair, Brandy Pelzel: pelzel40@hotmail.com For more information click the links below:

[Read the March 2023 Operation Morningstar Newsletter](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/3/Operation%20Morningstar%20PDF-1.pdf?t=1679217708000) (<https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/3/Operation%20Morningstar%20PDF-1.pdf?t=1679217708000>)

[Guidelines on Election Politics](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/Guidelines_on_Election_Politics.pdf?t=1579535535000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2020/1/Guidelines_on_Election_Politics.pdf?t=1579535535000)
[Click here for Legislation Supplement](https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Legislative-1.pdf?t=1680613907000) (https://files.ecatholic.com/24341/documents/2023/4/Legislative-1.pdf?t=1680613907000)

Gummi Bears for Habitat for Humanity: The MN Catholic Daughters raise money for Habitat for Humanity with our gummi bear campaign. The participating courts receive as many boxes of gummi bears as they feel they can handle and distribute them after Masses and at other events for a free will donation. People are very generous when they know they are supporting a great cause! This allows us to help Habitat in a big way every year so that they can work to build simple, decent, affordable homes for economically disadvantaged people which provides them a better environment in which to raise their families. We provide the finances for the house and also help "hands on" to build these homes. We, as Catholic Daughters, may leave the site of the build bumped, bruised, and tired but it is very rewarding for all involved. CDA was one of the first women’s organizations to complete a house in Habitat’s seven day “Blitz Build.” For more information contact our MN State Chair, Sara Miller: saramiller44@hotmail.com

Publicity, Newsletter, Website: These three mediums are the means in which we get local, state and national CDA news and important information to each of our members. We all need to remember that these women can’t do their job if we don’t provide them with information. We need to keep them updated with all that is going on in our local courts, as well as news and events at the state and local level. **Publicity Chair:** Deb Lutmer, deblutmer@gmail.com; **Newsletter Editor:** Jackie Svenby, mncdanews@yahoo.com; and **Website Chair:** Joan Welscher, joanwelscher206@gmail.com

Seminarians and Women’s Religious: The future of the Catholic Church relies heavily on bringing more men and women into clergy and religious orders. Without these men and women choosing these vocations, where would our Church be? Thankfully we have a system in place to help support those choosing these vocations! **Support our Seminarians Chair,** Rita Young: rita.e.young@gmail.com; **Women’s Religious Chair,** Colleen Peplenski: cmpeplenski@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted, Lisa Ouderkirk, 1st State Vice Regent

*** Snippets from State**

Are you looking for a rewarding experience for personal growth? It's ready and waiting for you in the form of a CDA court leadership position! Our local courts will be holding their biennial elections in the Spring of 2026. Local court officers serve for two years and may serve a second consecutive two year term or serve a second two year term at a later date, for a total of four years in any one position. These term limits are outlined in the National CDA Bylaws and are set up to provide members with an opportunity to learn, lead, and mentor as others step up to share their leadership talents. I encourage each of you to consider accepting a leadership role in your court. By rotating officers according to the Bylaws, no one person is burdened or burned out, and all have an opportunity to share their talents. It's exciting to hear that several of our courts have gained new members in the past few months! Thank you all for sharing the good news of CDA membership with others in your parishes and communities whether through personal invitation, pulpit talks, or special events!

Don't trust the internet. For **verified quotes from Pope Leo XIV** go to www.vatican.va

Upcoming Court Anniversaries
Court St. Margaret Mary #605—l’Falls—105 years—1/9/1921
Court St. Cecilia #2025—Red Lake Falls—55 years—1/10/1971

Showing Support for our Local Catholic School

On August 25th and 27th our Court helped show support by assisting with two events at our Catholic School. On August 25th, we showed our appreciation for our teachers and school staff by preparing and serving a lunch for them. It was truly a team effort, we had over 9 members prepare either a casserole, sandwiches, a salad, or a dessert. We had members decorate, serve, and clean-up. The staff were so happy and grateful. They said it's their favorite day of the year because they don't have to cook! We also gave all the teachers a goodie bag to use for classroom items. It included stickers and an Amazon gift card. We know school supply costs can add up fast so we want to help in any way we can.

On August 27th we also assisted with another parish event involving the Catholic School at Sacred Heart. It was the back-to-school picnic for families of those attending the Catholic School. The Knights of Columbus grilled hotdogs; the Catholic Daughters made cookies and other desserts and helped serve the meal. The event was well attended, and it was a fun time.

Right and Below: The photos are from the school staff luncheon that was held on August 25th



* National CDA Reminders:

The 2 Year Calendar, Address Labels, and Fun 'D' Calendar sent to CDA members from the National office are biennial fundraisers for our National CDA headquarters. Your support keeps our CDA 'home' in good shape and allows its staff to support us with expertise and efficiency.

Have you sent in your \$50 donation for a chance to stay at "The Grand Ole Lady", our National CDA headquarters in New York? Information was handed out at our Summer Workshops and details and raffle tickets are available here on the National website.

Is your court making plans to attend the next National CDA Convention in Coralville IA? We hope to join many of our MN CDA sisters there! Your court may even consider conducting a special fundraiser just to support the attendance of more members. An invitation with information about associated tours can be found on the National website too. Watch for more information in early 2026.



Left: Ct. St. Bernard members attended the summer workshop hosted by Ct. Santa Maria #247-Adrian. The State Board presented information based on the workshop theme of "Sow and Grow". Left to right are: Lisa Diekmann, Deb Lutmer, Mary Metz, Julie Brake, Donna Dew, and Lydia Diekmann.

Right: Regent Mary Metz and Donna Dew managed the bake sale as part of the Country Store at the parish Fall Bazaar in September. All the "bakers" were generous, as were the customers.



SILLY SOCKS FOR KICK OFF

Let's have some fun
 Socktober is here
 Check out our socks
 And give a big cheer!

All kinds of socks collected
 Over 500 pair
 The sock bins were full
 Thanks to people who care!

Our Court again supported Socktober to help fulfill a need in our area. Totes were setup in the foyers of St. Anthony and St. Adrian Catholic Churches to receive donations of new men's, women's, and children's socks. 541 pairs of new socks were delivered to the Manna Food pantry in Worthington. Most people take new, clean socks for granted, but to someone who does not have much, socks are very much appreciated.

Right: To kick off our sock collections, members wore "silly socks" just for FUN. It's just another way for us to be the hands and FEET of Jesus.





Left: Ct. St. Bernard members were “spiritually enhanced” with the “Let Your Light Shine” reading taken from a recent National Quarterly newsletter. The readings coincided with each candle (bent, birthday, decorative, Christmas, scented, etc.). Shown is Regent Mary Metz with officers Lydia Diekmann, Julie Brake, and Laura Fodness (holding our future member, Madelyn). Members were also asked to bring any candles of their own to add to the display.

"Stand Up for Human Life" - Join CDA Sisters from around the US in *Person* or in *Prayer* at the annual March for Life in Washington DC - January 22-23, 2026

DRAGON PRIDE PACKS

A new project for Ct. St. Bernard is called “Dragon Packs”. The packs/bags were donated and are the Adrian School colors of blue and gold. Each bag holds 5-6 notebooks, folders, pens, pencils plus a coupon from the local consignment store to help purchase Dragon spirit gear. The Dragon Packs will be distributed to mid-year enrollees who are in need of school supplies. The coupon will help them purchase an Adrian Dragon t-shirt or sweatshirt to show their school spirit. Pictured holding the Dragon Packs are: (front) Pearl Wieneke,



Mindy Kemper, Steph Diekmann, Lydia Diekmann, MaryAnn Loosbrock, (back) Laura and Madelyn Fodness, Mary Metz, Julie Brake, Lisa Diekmann, Deb Lutmer, Denise Lynn, Donna Dew, and Roxanne Kemper. The ladies chose to wear flannel just for the fun of it!

Ct. Santa Maria #247—Adrian

Court Santa Maria collected school supplies AND two new members.



Pictured Left:

Front: Mackenzie Wolf, Lenore Domeyer, Alice Cook, Carolyn Elias, Pam Konz
Back: Lynnette Domeyer, Melanie Wagner, Taylor Boltjes, Rita Boltjes, Eileen Henning, Cindy Bullerman

Present but NOT pictured were: Suzi Lonnenman, Diane Reisdorfer, and LuAnn Reisdorfer

Right: New members of Ct. Santa Maria Mackenzie Wolf and Taylor Boltjes are shown with our newest '50 year' member, Suzi Lonnenman.



A prayer was said at our September meeting, along with the collection of school supplies—

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for another start to our CDA year. Just as the children are going back to school, we are getting back to work on our many charitable works.

(Notebook): Help us remember to write upon our hearts that these are good days. Show us what is important, help us set goals, and open our hearts to listen to your word.

(Pencils): Remind us to pencil in time for ourselves and spend time in prayer with You.

(Erasers): Help us to erase any negative thoughts and words and get a fresh start to each day.

(Crayons): Enable us to see that everyone matters. Help us color your world with love for one another.

(Glue): May we stick together as families and community in good times and bad.

(Ruler): Forgive us when we don't measure up every time.... your forgiveness reminds us: We are enough!

(Scissors): Show us how to cut ourselves some slack here and there and have some fun.

(Highlighters): Remind us to seek connections with friends and family and attend CDA when we can! Make CDA a highlight in our month!

(Pencil sharpener): Help us to sharpen our leadership skills and point out new members.

(Backpack): Help us to avoid getting weighed down with stress.... if it's too much to carry, we can give it to You!!

Lord, as we begin our CDA year, please give us the grace to work together in Unity and Charity and help us share the gifts You have bestowed upon us. We ask this in Your name. Amen

By: Cindy Bullerman 9-18-25

Two Kindergarten classes of students at the Holy Redeemer School, and one boy getting his Blessed Backpack tag from Lorraine Lanners. Each student received their personal Blessed Backpack Tags with a very special prayer included on it for their book bags. This last month CDA volunteers distributed Blessed Tags to 194 new students in five Catholic schools. The students love them and actually show us where they want them on their backpack bags.



Below left: We sold fresh baked cinnamon, caramel, and frosted rolls made by CDA volunteers at our church. We served hundreds at Memorial Park, Red Baron and a Habitat For Humanity as fundraisers. Making over \$1,000, we had a great time showing our faith in the community.

Below right: Six CDA volunteers came forth and had an Ice Cream Social at Southwest Minnesota State University on college Opening Day as many new students were moving in. This was fun for everyone and showing our faith for all the new students. Serving is Mary Carstensen, Jan Healy, Joyce Persoon, Cindy Sanders, Jenny Dieken, and Beth Ritter.



We also raised \$1,250 for Habitat for Humanity by distributing our CDA Gummi Bears.

We served delicious bars after our All Soul's Day Mass and gifted our time with the elderly while playing Bingo at an Assisted Living Home.



Court Owatonna #1180 - Owatonna

CDA Members present checks to "The Lighthouse of Southern Minnesota"

On July 22nd the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Owatonna #1180 Regent Rose Ann Kubicek and Vice Regent Martha Kearin presented checks to Amanda Starks, Executive Director of The Lighthouse of Southern Minnesota. They gave \$1,662 to be used for homeless women and children at "Rachel's Light" and \$1,354 to be used for homeless men at "The Hospitality House". The funds for these donations were acquired from the Spiritual Bouquet cards that were distributed in May and June in the Catholic Churches of Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's in Owatonna, and Holy Trinity at Litomysl. Following each Mass for three weekends in May and June members of the CDA Court Owatonna #1180 offer beautiful Spiritual Bouquet cards for a \$5 donation which can then be given to loved ones for Mother's Day and Father's Day. Then an envelope with those loved ones' names on is placed in a basket near the altar of each respective church during the month of May for the Mother's Day cards and in June for the Father's Day cards. These people are then prayed for at each Mass offered at that church.

The Catholic Daughters of the America's motto is "Unity and Charity", so when an Owatonna Catholic Daughter member saw this project at a church in Florida many years ago she presented it to the members of the Owatonna CDA Court. The members voted to take this project on as one of their "Circle of Love" projects. Every year since that vote contributions have been given to help many homeless in Steele County. The Owatonna CDA Court is grateful to all who have helped support them with this project.



Above and right: The photo is (left to right) Rose Ann Kubicek of CDA, Amanda Starks of The Lighthouse of Southern Minnesota, and Martha Kearin of CDA.



In October, each court should have completed a Financial Review. Most courts surely know what they are doing and are trusted to protect the funds of the court. You may ask – Why Have a Financial Review?

A Financial Review is completed twice each year – mandated by CDA Bylaws. These are a Fall review (including records from April 1 through September 30) and a Spring review (including records from October 1 through March 31). ***(Just because you have done a review the same way for the last 10 years doesn't mean it's being done according to current mandates!! Please honor the guidance of your DD!)***

Financial Reviews ensure that the local courts are running according to procedure. They ensure that the National and Local Courts are in sync. These help answer any questions and advise Local Courts on any changes from State or National. And finally, Financial Reviews safeguard accounts to make sure our funds are protected.

Book officers need to be present with all the records from the time period of the review. The Financial Review committee shall consist of 3 non-officers and the District Deputy.

Hopefully your review was completed efficiently – and that the original copy of the review paperwork was sent to the National CDA office. And copies of the review paperwork were sent to the State Regent, State Secretary, Local Court Financial Secretary (to be kept with the current membership Roster), Local Court Regent, and the District Deputy.

If done on a court meeting night, the DD should give a report of findings on the review at the local meeting. And she should follow up if any corrections were needed. If not a court meeting night, the DD should still address those present with the findings of the review. It is the responsibility of the DD to file a report - titled a visit report – to the State 2nd Vice Regent. This lets the state know that the DD is doing her job in attending the review/and or court meetings.

Thank you for your help in completing this task!!

Lori Mickelson, 2nd Vice Regent, MN State CDA

Court St. Mary #509—Moorhead—Ct St. Mary Shines Bright on Catholic Daughter Day!

Ct. St. Mary used National Catholic Daughter Day to achieve major success in service and recruitment. Using the national recognition day as a powerful platform, our court showed up in multiple ways throughout the weekend. Members graciously served coffee and donuts after Mass, hosted a highly successful fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, and personally addressed the congregation with inspiring pulpit talks at every Mass to recruit new members for both Court St. Mary #509 and a new JCDA court.

This focused effort resulted in the highest amount ever raised for our annual Habitat for Humanity fundraiser and identified seven potential new members. Continuing this momentum, the court hosted an engaging

informational meeting two weeks later, providing a deeper look into our wonderful organization for both new and potential members.



Court St Rita #409—Perham

Court St Rita held their 57th Style Show fundraiser on October 28, 2025. The theme for this year was Aloha! About 130 guests enjoyed a delicious catered brunch, bid on many silent auction items and took a chance on dollar chance bags to win. 5 local businesses provided the models and latest fashions. Proceeds from the event help us donate to local charities throughout the year. The Hawaiian theme was fun with palm trees, flamingos, seashells filled with chocolates and salt water taffy and bright colorful table clothes. Members wore Hawaiian shirts or dresses topped of with a Lei. Thanks to generous donations, many door prizes were given away. Midway through the show, the theme was announced for next year which is "Oh Christmas Tree". Pictured are some of the many members who helped with our event: Left to right: Regent Leanne Stoll, Janel Altstadt, Cathy Doll, Jolene Miller, Pat Hager, Jackie Hager, Rosie Altstadt, Dianne Lorentz, Sue Martodam, Denise Schornack. In front: Judy Thomas, Dianne Rohde-Szarke. In other pictures are guests enjoying the show and past Court Regent, Dianne Rohde Szarke in Christmas attire on the Aloha stage announcing next year's theme. It was a fun, successful morning. All our members working together was awesome!



Left: Financial Secretary Pat Hager and Treasurer Rosie Altstadt registering guests.

Right: Past Regent Dianne Rohde-Szarke announced next year's theme.





Left: We offered Gummi Bears at all four parishes in our NCACC. Many members collected donations after the Masses November 1st and 2nd. Member Diane Lorentz organized and we received nearly \$1000 for Habitat for Humanity!

Right: For the Month of October we made a basket available for parishioners to help collect items for Someplace Safe, a domestic violence advocacy. Our committee of Lisa Hemmelgarn, Mary Mercer and Jolene Miller (pictured) emptied and delivered several times along with our monetary donation.



On CDA Sunday we Celebrated at Mass with Officers processing in and members wearing sashes, Janel Altstadt and Cathy Doll helped with singing. We served refreshments after Mass and made a display table of information for interested women to learn more. Our Officers wore their Medallions for the first time and Regent Leanne Stoll spoke about the Catholic Daughters of the Americas® for a few minutes.



Left: Pictured left to right are Financial Secretary Pat Hager, Regent Leanne Stoll, Treasurer Rosie Altstadt, Vice Regent Lynn Schwanke, and Recording Secretary Dianne Rohde-Szarke.

Seasonal Changes—Minnesota State Supervisor

Oh, how I love the change of seasons, Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. Although many of us find it described in different terms: First Call to Convention, March of Life in DC, Donations, Circle of Love Reporting, Second Call to Convention and then the biggie – National Convention (NC) July 21-26, 2026! There will be workshops and tours before the 21st, and those are wonderful times to network with other CDA sisters from other states. Watch for mailings and the Call to Convention from National Regent, Susan Moné. That's right, approximately 240 days away. All of us on your National Board are excited and working hard to make sure the NC will be one of the best yet. It'll be amazing and with our CDA sisters from Iowa, working hard with the details, it'll be worth the drive. This is your chance to see how much more CDA is across the nation with its projects and charities, with the networking, Masses, inspirational speakers and fun workshops. So, have you and your CDA sisters from your Court started making plans yet? I do hope you are planning on going. With the location in Coralville, Iowa, it is literally next door. No flights to catch, just a "Girls Road-trip". Maybe someone will want to organize a bus so that those of you who live in the northern part of the state can just hop on and not bother with GPS or anything else. Coralville is in the southeastern part Iowa, northwest of Iowa City. I have seen that there will be a bus of ladies coming from Pennsylvania and they have a tour stop planned at various Shrines along the way. Maybe that is something that you can add to your itinerary. However you get there, I know Minnesota will send the best. Delegate forms will be coming from National after the first of the year so be sure to return those to the National office and a copy to your State Regent. Delegates should come from every Court in Minnesota along with other members. A National Convention is not just for delegates; it's for the entire membership. As your National Supervisor, I am challenging each court to send delegates and members to Coralville in July 2026. Taking notice of how things are done will be very helpful for future planning. Your voices are needed and will be heard by attending.

Now on that note – Minnesota has always had shining stars in Leadership positions, and I believe our Midwest common sense and our faith filled lives has given much to our CDA Order. Thank you to the past CDA Leaders who have shared their light across this nation. Here and now, I am asking you all to consider another big project for the future of Catholic Daughters. I know, I have seen and I am very confident that you, the members of Minnesota CDA are very capable of being a Host for a National Convention-maybe for the year 2030. This does seem like a long time away but by planning the details, organizing the committees, making the contacts and working together, Minnesota could once again host a phenomenal National Convention. It's been quite a few years since the last one in 2006, and maybe that was just a warmup, an appetizer for this next one in 2030, IF your State Board makes a bid and is IF chosen to host. Are you in on this? I hope you are. IF each Court did just one or two committees, i.e. decorations for a luncheon or banquets, sold raffle tickets, or being on the Welcome committee, every CDA member in MN would join in faith, fun and a surge in energy for the State. Working side by side, with direction and confidence, the membership of CDA would see that Yes, we are the leaders in the Midwest, Yes, we are faith filled women and Yes, we can do anything together.

I know it to be true – do you? Contact your State Regent Cathy Nelson or any of the State Officers and let them know. I would be more than willing to answer questions and help in anyway possible to make the 2030 National Convention in Minnesota one that rises to the top of "Best Ever" status. You can do it – I Believe in each of you.

My CDA blessings,
Brenda Anderson, National Secretary-Treasurer
and Minnesota State Supervisor

Summer Workshop hosted by Adrian-August 24, 2025—where our National Supervisor, Brenda Anderson, was able to join us , bringing us greetings from National and being available to answer our questions.

Below right: Lisa Ouderkirk, Brenda Anderson, Darlene Hightet, Cathy Nelson, Linda Schons, Lori Mickelson.

Below left: Breakout sessions -each local Court Office learns more about their duties.



Court St. Rita #409, Perham, hosted one of the four Summer Workshops on September 28th.

Right: A few of us welcomed the State officers as they arrived in Perham and shared supper at the Pizza Ranch. Fuzz provided hospitality for 2 of them to sleep at her home.

Below: Pictured are L to R: Cathy Nelson, Lori Mikkelson, Rachel Poser, Lynn Schwanke, Di-
anne Rohde-Szarke, Rosie Altstadt, Leanne



Stoll holding First Place National Website award, Lisa Ouderkirk, Linda Schons and Darlene Hightet.

Reflections of Membership

Dear CDA Sisters, in our August newsletter we introduced this series of articles in which we invite one of our CDA sisters to share how she became a CDA member and why her CDA experience is important to her. If you would like to share your path to CDA membership, please let me know. Blessings, Cathy

This month, I'm pleased to introduce you to Leanne Stoll ...

It was around 2012 when one Sunday morning at my parish, Sacred Heart in Dent, MN the State Officers were at our church. They had been making their way around the State. They had spoken at the Mass and were talking to women afterwards during our coffee and rolls fellowship.

One officer, Sophie Zvonar, was a member of Court St. Rita #409 in Perham. I was curious and wanted to know more and asked a few questions. Soon, Nancy Bambanek joined the conversation. I explained that I was familiar with the name of the organization and thought as my children were getting older that I had more time on my hands. Nancy looked at me and said, "You're searching for something". I can still picture standing there with both of them. Both Nancy and Sophie were very welcoming and Sophie told me she would be in touch. I received a postcard and a phone call shortly after that conversation. I had been working for years with Sharon Stevens of Court St. Cabrini in Fergus Falls. She had shared many times her involvement with Catholic Daughters, their fundraisers and Gummi Bears for Habitat for Humanity while we took our lunch breaks. Every now and then Sharon would say, "You know Leanne, there is a Court in Perham". She was the gentle nudge that was always there in the back of my mind encouraging me.

I attended my first meeting, and the members were so friendly. I didn't know what to expect or how a meeting went but was assigned a Big Sister to help me learn and answer questions. A few months later, after signing official membership forms, Court St. Rita #409 was looking for a Financial Secretary and Fuzz Hammers was on the nominating committee. She called me and explained why she was calling and how she thought it would be a great way to get to understand how things work if I considered saying yes. She shared how she had enjoyed serving in the past. We had a great conversation, but I was hesitant. I was kindly declining, indicating I thought I was too busy and didn't think I could take that on. She understood that I worked and with summer coming I must be planning a garden. In actuality, I wasn't able to tell her the real reason. You see, we had just found out that we were expecting a baby! Our immediate family didn't know yet, I was older, my baby was 10 going on 11....I guess God thought with this extra time I thought I had on my hands I should be holding the hand of another child, not just joining a women's group! Shortly after I did share my news and I continued going to meetings and becoming an active member, learning all about the organization. I started by reading the pages between the sections of the cookbook, which I had purchased from Sharon years earlier. Eventually, I was on the nominating committee twice and then became Recording Secretary in 2020. At that time, Regent Dianne Rohde-Szarke was apologetic, that I had to have my first officer position during a pandemic and all our meetings had to be by email. She was an amazing mentor, and I learned a whole lot that year and the second year of my term we returned to meetings in person. This prepared me to say yes to being Regent in 2022 and I am completing my second term in the Spring of 2026. Interestingly, when I became Regent in 2022 for Court St. Rita #409, so did Sharon for Court St. Cabrini. I think there will always be more to learn and get familiar with as I continue to be an active member. I truly enjoy the way the organization works together with the Tools of the Trade and Bylaws for guidance along with the many Chairperson contacts for the different parts of the Circle of Love and the State and National level support. If you ever have a question, there is always someone to answer it. The many ways to be spiritually enhanced is a real asset to the organization locally and on up. It is enjoyable to read about other Court activities and hearing from the State and National leaders through the Share Magazine and Voice of the Lakes State newsletter. I have met so many wonderful women within Court St. Rita #409 and from around the State that I may have never met had I not been listening to bits of encouragement early on during my work breaks and finding out more that morning at coffee and rolls. I will always think about my experience and share it with other women when I get the opportunity to encourage others the way I was encouraged. God is Good and yes; He does work in mysterious ways!

Blessings, Leanne Stoll, Regent, Court St. Rita #409 Perham, MN.

CDA Membership Novena

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be

CDA Membership Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we venture into growing our membership, we come before You asking for Your guidance, wisdom and support, especially for Court _____. Fill us with your grace, Lord God, as we make contact with others. Remind us that all we do, all that we accomplish, is for the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of Your Kingdom, and for the service of humanity.

Guide our hearts...our words...our actions, to be a shining light for all to see.

May the face of Christ shine through. We ask Your Mother, our patroness, by her powerful intercession, to be with us as we witness to others.

We ask all these things in Your most Holy name. Amen.

Day 1: For guidance

Heavenly Father, as we pray for growing our membership in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, we come before You asking for Your guidance, wisdom, and support especially for Court _____. Help us to discern if this is how and where You are calling us to serve.

Day 2: For service

Lord God, fill us with Your grace as we consider serving others through CDA. Remind us that all good works are for the pursuit of truth and the greater glory of Your kingdom.

Day 3: For courage

Guide our heart, our words, and our actions, that we may be a shining light for all to see. Give us the courage to step forward and offer our gifts in service.

Day 4: For humility

May the face of Christ shine through us in our interactions with the members of the CDA. Humble us so that we may serve with a pure heart.

Day 5: For the intercession of Mary

We ask Your Mother, our patroness, by her powerful intercession, to be with us as we seek to join this sisterhood. May she show us the way to a deeper life of service.

Day 6: For the CDA sisterhood

We pray for all the members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. May we be filled with renewed energy and purpose as we continue our mission.

Day 7: For a generous spirit

Inspire within us a generous spirit, that we may offer our time and talent to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Help us to give freely as we have received freely from You.

Day 8: For a joyful heart

Help us to find joy in the prospect of serving with others. May our heart be filled with gratitude for the opportunity to answer Your call.

Day 9: For a peaceful outcome

We surrender this intention to You, Lord. Whether we grow our membership or not, help us to accept Your will with peace in our hearts. Amen.

Closing prayer (to be said each day).

Heavenly Father guide us in growing our membership, filling us with grace as we connect with others. May our actions reflect Christ and serve the pursuit of truth and humanity. We seek the intercession of Mary, our patroness, as we witness to others. We ask this in Your name. Amen.



Minnesota Catholic Daughters

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Newsletter Guidelines:

- Story should be 50-125 words
- Include who, what, when, where, and why in your story
- Include Court name, number & city
- If submitting photo, attach it as a .jpeg file to email with article-give photo a caption & identity each person
- Deadlines to submit articles: **July 10—Nov 10—Feb 10**
- Include your name, court, phone and/or email so we can contact you if we need more information.

Welcome to our New Members!

Ct Santa Maria #247, Adrian
Taylor Boltjes, Mackenzie Wolf

Ct St. Mary Peter #1864, Mazeppa-Bellechester
Maria Elena Maciel Gonzalez

Ct Sacred Heart #1424, Waseca
Becky Petsinger, Michelle Wetzel

Ct St. Cecilia #2025, Red Lake Falls
Debra Champagne, Marilyn Fisher, Kelsey Paradis, Bernie Rosten

Ct St. Anne #1840, Medford
Carolyn Hoffman

Ct St. Charles #1791, St. Charles
Lisa Marie Perez

Blessed Be Their Memory

Ct Our Lady of the Fields #2107, Argyle
Judy Adolphson

Ct Queen of Peace #1558, Slayton
Alice Knutson

Ct Caledonia #555, Caledonia
Theresa Askelson, Joann Moe

Ct St. James #1820, St. James
Karen Haler

Ct St. Joan of Arc #1291, Marshall
Alita Lenertz

Ct St. St. Anne #1840, Medford
Joan Hellevik

Ct Winona #191, Winona
Yvonne Echelard

Ct St. Margaret #1888, Eveleth
Elenor Askew

Ct Plainview #497, Plainview
Joyce J. Heaser

Ct Sacred Heart #1424, Waseca
Darcy Barnes

Ct. St. Charles #1791, St. Charles
Pat Cade

Eternal rest
grant unto
her Oh
Lord,

 ...and may
perpetual
light shine
upon them.