



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

The Angelus

Pennsylvania State Court

Peggy Guckin, Pennsylvania State Regent

Volume IV - Issue 2

May God Always Hold You in the Palm of His Hand

Fall 2014

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Message from Peggy Guckin State Regent

Dear Members,

By the time you read this, the 55th Biennial National Convention will be a fond memory. Some of us who attended also enjoyed the sights of Yellowstone National Park. Mark your calendars now for the 56th Biennial National Convention to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania the week of July 17, 2016.

I was humbled and amazed at the Mass celebrating the life of my mother, Catherine Guckin, when 22 Catholic Daughter honor guards from across the city of Philadelphia were dressed in white. I would like to thank everyone for the sympathy cards, Mass enrollments and emails regarding her recent death. I will acknowledge each of you personally and make a donation on your behalf to our State Pro-Life General Fund.

Regents, if you have not already done so, please be sure to fill out a 2014-2016 Court Officers list. Send the original to the National Office and mail a copy to the State Regent. Please remember to include an email address. If you have not completed this task, please email me your name, your court name and court number. This information is only used to give you CDA news.

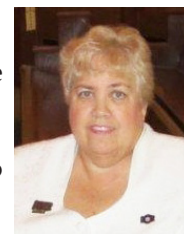
If you are no longer a regent and you receive CDA information in the mail, please be sure to give it to the new regent so she will be informed as to what is going on.

A workshop will be held for all officers and members on October 3rd and 4th, 2014 at the sweetest place on earth, the Hershey Lodge, Hershey, Pennsylvania. Overnight cost for the Hershey Lodge is \$109.00 per room for 1-4 people. Our conference will open with Mass celebrated by our State Chaplain, Fr. Timothy O'Sullivan, at 2:00 p.m.

Please remember all our sick and deceased members and remember to pray for all caregivers.

I would like to thank Marge Bradley, Newsletter Editor, and all the contributors to our newsletter.

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and that you are ready to get back to CDA work!



Peggy Guckin, State Regent

CDA 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.

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Newsletter Schedule Quarterly Publications

Fall: September-November
Winter: December-February
Spring: March-May
Summer: June-August

Submission Deadlines

Fall: August 1
Winter: November 1
Spring: February 1
Summer: May 1

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2014 National Convention - Montana

Over 800 delegates participated in the 2014 National Convention held in Montana, July 16-20, 2014. Pennsylvania had a delegation of 22 members.

It was a successful convention for Pennsylvania in that Letty Calvetti was elected as a National Director, and I was elected to the 2016 National Nominating Committee.

Many PA courts won awards for the Education Contest, and our esteemed State Regent, Peggy Guckin, won first place for the State Newsletter.

As the 2016 National Convention will be in Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania delegation performed a skit to welcome everyone in two years. Upon Johanna Leonard's suggestion, we sang "Hello from Pittsburgh." Theresa Shields played the piano and led the singing.

The PA delegation wore yellow baseball jerseys with their names and the CDA logo on the front and "Pennsylvania 2016" in purple lettering on the back of the shirt.

"Visit Pittsburgh" provided a three-minute video for all to enjoy. While the video was playing, the PA delegation distributed Hershey kisses. Upon completion of the video, Theresa played a Stephen Foster ditty while the PA delegation concluded the presentation with a verse originated by Theresa.

The entire National delegation enjoyed the presentation and looks forward to attending the convention in Pennsylvania in 2016.

A big THANK YOU to all of the members of Pennsylvania for making us look so good at National.

Remember to toot your horn and publicize your efforts. From your local court to your constant support of your State and National Boards, your efforts are literally award winning!

Peg Rafferty, 1st Vice State Regent

Some National Convention Thoughts...

It is always a truly spiritual experience for me to attend a National Convention, and this one was no exception. The business meetings are very professional. And, friends for a week, are friends for life!

One area of the business meetings that I thoroughly enjoy is the discussion of by-law amendments that have been proposed. Even though some of the proposals take quite some time to discuss, I have found it very educational to hear the different opinions that are given, pro or con, to a particular by-law. This year there were 33 proposals, four of which were not changed.

I would like the Pennsylvania courts to be aware of one of the amended by-laws that involves your court's budget.

Proposal #31 and the by-law now states that "Local Courts Shall Adopt A Budget." It is to be made available to your District Deputy along with some other items. These, along with the budget, will be discussed at our Workshop in Hershey in October.

We do hope that each court will have some representation at the workshop as we try to share with you the latest ideas that we brought back from the National Convention.

SEE YOU ALL IN HERSHEY, the sweetest place on earth.

Shirley Hall, 2nd Vice State Regent



Pennsylvania Delegation to 55th National Convention



The paten was passed on to us at the Installation Mass, representing the next National Convention to be held in Pittsburgh in July 2016!



*Seated: Shirley Hall, 2nd Vice State Regent; Peggy Guckin, State Regent holding the paten; Peg Rafferty, 1st Vice State Regent
Standing: Sr. Mary Paul, Spiritual Enhancement Chairman; Margaret Giordano, State Secretary;
Fr. Matthew Kuhn, newly installed National Chaplain; Lisa McCann, State Treasurer and Arline Rich, National Director*



National Regent Anne Nelson presenting crystal plaque to "CDA Women of the Year," Muriel Forrest



Peggy Guckin, State Regent, accepting Awards from Anne Nelson, National Regent

**The National Convention was enjoyed by all!
We look forward to working
toward Convention 2016 - Pittsburgh!**

My Spiritual Convention

I was fortunate enough to attend the 55th Biennial National Convention in Billings, Montana, July 16–20, 2014. Several of us flew out of the Pittsburgh airport, leaving Monday evening the 14th. The travel was eventful as we experienced one delay after another. Even though we arrived at the Grand Montana Holiday Inn at 2 a.m.—three hours later than we were expected—the hotel staff then and throughout the entire stay was exceptional.

The accommodations were accommodating. The meals were delicious. The meetings ran smoothly. The entertainment was entertaining. I found the entire convention to be very well organized and almost flawlessly presented.

There was one aspect of the Billings National Convention that stood out far and wide over and above what I expected. That aspect would be the very evident spirituality during the entire convention.

Now, you may be thinking, what did I expect? I was attending the national convention of the number one organization of Catholic women. Spirituality and liturgies were to be expected.

Although I have only attended one other National Convention to have any comparison, the Billings National Convention was an amazing spiritual experience for me. There were daily Masses, adoration and Benediction, noon praying of the Angelus and afternoon Liturgy of the Hours. It was wonderful to be able to step into the small meeting room any time of the day or night and spend peaceful prayerful time with the Lord before the Blessed Sacrament.

I was honored to be a participant in the God and Country Mass on Friday, July 18th. The Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, JCD, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA. We were blessed all week long that all of the Masses were co-celebrated by no less than four additional priests along with various main celebrants.

The ceremonial procession for this Mass was one of the most emotional services I have ever witnessed. With solemn dignity, Service Flags were presented while a detailed narrative was read describing that particular aspect of Military Service. It was my honor to present the Blue Star Service Flag. The Blue Star Flag shows that the home in which it is hung has a family member actively serving in the military. This honor was extremely special to me as I am just learning what it is to be a soldier's mother. My youngest child, my son, Vincent, recently joined the Army and just two days before the Mass left on his first deployment to Afghanistan.

Representation of all branches of the United States military were presented and spoken of in solemn detail.

I was also honored along with all the women and men there who had any military association by receiving a special red white and blue pin upon our registration at the opening of the convention. We were instructed to wear this pin at all times so all would see and know that we had some affiliation with military service. So, as I asked all that commented to me about being honored by wearing the pin, I ask you, to remember all active, retired and deceased United States Military and in particular remember my Vincent in your prayers. In Unity and Charity,

Lisa McCann, State Treasurer



PA delegation skit to promote 2016 National Convention in Pittsburgh



Delegates remember those who have gone before us. The book of remembrance was placed on the altar. All those whose names have been inscribed have been especially remembered at all our Eucharistic Celebrations during the Convention. May they rest in peace.

National Convention Was Inspiring!

What an inspiring program the 55th Biennial National Convention in Billings, Montana was for me! I enjoyed the beauty of the Northwest of our blessed country.

I enjoyed the company of the many Catholic Daughters from throughout the Americas, I learned much from attending the meetings, and I felt honored to participate in the national choir, but what has touched me most was the opportunity for the numerous spiritual activities.

The Tuesday evening pre-convention concert featuring Irish tenor Mark Forrest, the Wednesday morning Spirituality Workshop presented by Father Jim Sichko, the Adoration and Benediction (also featuring Mark Forrest), and the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary by Audrey Albaugh of Pennsylvania Court Columbia #2 all set the stage for the opening of the 55th Biennial National Convention. Thursday's Memorial Mass, Friday's Eucharistic Liturgy for God and Country, when the Blue Star Service Flag was carried by State Treasurer Lisa McCann, and Saturday's Mass of Installation, where Letty Calveti was installed as National Director and PA State Regent Peggy Guckin received from the Montana State Regent the paten as our state court prepares to host the 56th National Biennial Convention in Pittsburgh. Each of these celebrations was a uniquely spiritually uplifting event that filled my heart and soul with a deeper love of God and the work we do in His name as Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary



REMINDERS:

I hope all the courts have a copy of the "Tools of the Trade," Second Edition. This is your "bible" in helping you to run your court smoothly. Please familiarize yourself with it. Each court has been assigned a District Deputy. Please be sure to welcome her when she comes to a meeting. She is there to assist you with anything that you would need. These duties are outlined in the Tools of the Trade in Section IV State Court. Your Regent must call your District Deputy to set up a date for Financial Review and for any ceremonies, including Installation of Officers. If your District Deputy is not able to attend

a meeting, the DD will contact me to appoint another DD or maybe your Ceremonial Coordinator.

Regents and Financial Secretaries, in completing membership forms, please send the State's copy to Margaret Giordano, State Secretary.

Peggy Guckin, State Regent

SAVE THE DATE! **STATE CONVENTION** **CROWN PLAZA HOLIDAY INN** **TREVOSE, PA** **APRIL 24 – 27, 2015**

National Education Winners

Art Division 2	2 nd Place, Alexis Marshall	Court Doyle #932
Art Division 3	2 nd Place, Emily Miller	Court Our Lady of Victory #722
Computer Art 3	1 st Place, Coleen Malley	Court St. Rene #1868

Congratulations to Newsletter Winners

Congratulations to Court Patricia #998, 2nd Place

PA State Newsletter, 1st Place

I would like to thank Marge Bradley, Newsletter Editor,
and all who have contributed articles:

PA State Spiritual Enhancement

First Place for Spiritual Intentions
and Donations to North American College in Rome

Newly Elected National Officers for 2014 - 2016

National Regent, Shirley Seyfried

National Regent-Elect, Helene Shepard

First Vice National Regent, Olga Samanieg

Second Vice National Regent, Sherry Nilles

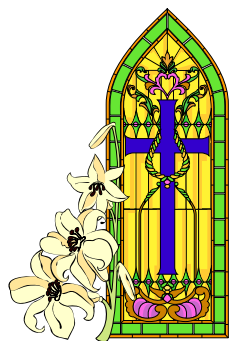
National Secretary-Treasurer, Vickie Feist

One of nine National Directors is our very own Letty Calvetti.

But it does not end there—Peg Rafferty was elected to Nominating Committee for 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR NATIONAL WINNERS!

Message from State Chaplain



Dear Friends,

Throughout the month of August, you may recall hearing on the news various reports about the distressing conflict in Iraq. While many television reporters reported on the happenings, few reporters actually shared the most important detail about the conflict. The conflicts

in northern Iraq were not really one ethnic group fighting another ethnic group; the disturbing reports coming out of the Middle East oftentimes did not report what was actually at the root of the conflict: radical extremists in northern Iraq were (and probably continue) executing Christian children, Christian women and Christian men, for no other reason than they were Christians.

We might be tempted to believe that the torture and persecution of men, woman and children, because of their Christian faith, is a heinous activity carried out by cowards of yesteryear. However, sadly, this is, in fact, far from the truth. A recent report from the Vatican stated that a staggering 100,000 (possibly more) Christians are killed throughout the world every year because of their Christian faith! Unfortunately, these atrocities against humanity seem to be on the rise not just in Iraq, but also in other countries like Pakistan, Nigeria and Egypt. To put that number in perspective: in the three minutes it takes you to read this article, a Christian was just martyred somewhere in the world because of his or her faith; in the hour you spend at Mass this past (or this coming) weekend, eleven Christians were killed because of their faith; and, during the week you spent on vacation this past summer, over nineteen hundred Christians were martyred, in various parts of the world, because of their faith.

For many other Christians around the world who are not killed, they find themselves being forced from their homes and displaced in foreign lands, having their places of worship destroyed as well as witnessing as their religious leaders are kidnapped and tortured. The Vatican estimates that two-hundred million Christians around the world currently live under religious persecution, in one form or another, and trends seem to indicate the persecutions are on the rise.

It is a sad reality to understand that these Christian persecutions around the world did not happen or evolve overnight; the seeds of these persecutions and mindsets were planted over time, as people began to disregard or disrespect the religious freedom of others, until it evolved into an abhorrence for religion. It was only after people fostered a loathing for a particular faith that they felt comfortable enough to begin to persecute that same faith.

Here in the United States (at least for the present moment), we do not know what religious persecution is, as it is experienced in many parts of the world. However, if we are not careful to defend our rights as Christians, or if we evolve into a mindset that we are not courageous to

stand up for our faith, we might very well find ourselves in a situation where we will regret not defending our faith.

As Catholic Daughters, may we see it always as our responsibility to defend the faith that we love! May we realize that—even in our country, especially in times we find ourselves in—we should be vigilant to fight for Religious Freedom whenever, and wherever, we can. May we make it a priority to beg the Lord in prayer to send His Holy Spirit upon our government leaders to guide them to help preserve Religious Freedom in our nation and around the world, rather than undermine the tremendous and positive impact faith has in our country by enacting laws and government regulations that attack religious beliefs.

Some ‘food’ as a closing thought: Martin Niemoller was a Lutheran minister in Germany during the 1930s. He originally supported Adolf Hitler and backed the rise of the Nazi party in Germany. The Nazi party seemed to value what his church valued. However, as the Nazis grew in power, they began to systematically eliminate any person or any group that opposed their ‘plan.’ In one of his most famous writings, Pastor Niemoller described the results of his regrettable silence, when he wrote:

They came first for the Communists, but I wasn't a Communist, so I didn't say or do anything; then they came for the trade union members, but I wasn't a trade union member, so I didn't say or do anything; then they came for the Jews, but I wasn't a Jew, so I didn't say or do anything; then they came for me and by that time, there was no one left to say or do anything!

May the Lord continue to bless all our efforts offered in His name, and may His Mother, Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our nation, watch over us and intercede for us! Mary Immaculate, pray for us!

Rev. Timothy F. O'Sullivan, State Chaplain

Mary's Most Loyal Children

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The Christians and other persecuted minorities of Iraq desperately need our prayers, and our fasting. They also need our help. For news on their plight, or to help, you can visit In Defense of Christians, (indefenseofchristians.org) and you can support the funding campaign of the Knights of Columbus, which is generously contributing matching funds.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, let us remember Mary's loyal and ancient followers in Iraq and Syria. They are not strangers to us. They worship like us. They pray like us. They are brothers and sisters in Christ. Like us, they are loyal sons and daughters of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of Heaven and earth. And they need our help.

In the fourth century, St. Ephraim the Syriac, who prayed to the Blessed Mother in Arabic, declared to her: “Thou indeed art our only hope!” Let us ask the Blessed Mother to intercede for persecuted Christians. May she be, for all of us, our life, our sweetness, and our hope.

Most Reverend James D. Conley, STL, is the Catholic bishop of Lincoln, Nebraska.

—First Things, August 15, 2014

Mary's Most Loyal Children

Celebrating the Assumption with Eastern Christians



Assumption of the Virgin
Guido Reni 1575-1642

By James D. Conley

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a solemn feast day and a holy day of obligation that we celebrate each year on August 15th, is the Church's most ancient Marian feast. Christians living in Jerusalem celebrated the "dormition of Mary" (Mary's going to sleep) from at least the third century—gathering in Palestine to remember the Mother of God, and to honor her as queen of heaven and earth.

Today, Catholics believe definitively that the Blessed Mother, at the end of her earthly life, was taken up into heaven entirely: her body and soul being brought from this world into eternity. In 1950, Pope Pius XII declared dogmatically that "the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

It isn't clear what all early Christians believed about the Blessed Virgin Mary. But from the very early stages of Christianity, many Churches believed that Mary had been assumed—bodily—into heaven; the first beneficiary of the redemption of Jesus Christ. Ancient frescoes on the

walls of the catacombs in the city of Rome indicate that the early Roman Christians were devoted in prayer to the grace of Mary's assumption into heaven. But this belief was especially important, and especially popular, among the Churches of the east—the Syriac Churches in Palestine, and across the entire Middle East.

The early bishops and preachers of the Eastern Church were the ones who preached the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary most fervently. At the fifth-century Council of Chalcedon, in Turkey, the Patriarch of Jerusalem declared boldly that the apostles themselves first taught that Mary was taken body and soul into heaven. Early Eastern Fathers taught emphatically that no one had ever claimed to have discovered the remains of Mary in a tomb.

St. John Damascene, a Syriac deacon from Damascus and Doctor of the Church who preached at the beginning of the 8th century, wrote a sermon to the Blessed Mother, saying to her, "You, O Mother, were transferred to your heavenly home, O Lady, Queen and Mother of God in truth."

From the beginning of Christian history, the Christians of the Middle East have been loyal sons and daughters of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Today, the heirs of that great tradition, the Christians of Iraq and Syria in particular, are facing unprecedented persecution. The Chaldean Catholic Church, the Church of Iraq, has been systematically brutalized by the terrorist group ISIL which has taken over much of northern Iraq. Christians, and other religious minorities, are singled out, tortured, beaten, forced to flee from their homes, and often executed.

In the city of Mosul, Iraq, where Christians have lived and worshipped for 1,600 years, nearly every Christian has been driven out or killed. Last year, there were 35,000 Christians living in Mosul—today, very few remain in the city. In fact, when families flee to other cities, they are pursued by ISIL gangs—captured, extorted, beaten, or killed.

Other religious groups face the same fate. Two weeks ago, Yezidi Iraqis demonstrated in the city of Lincoln, Nebraska. Two hundred Yezidi families live in Lincoln—the largest group in the United States. Because radical Muslim militants consider these people heretics, their friends and relatives are beaten, terrorized, and killed.

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry and bipartisan colleagues recently introduced a Congressional resolution to condemn religious persecution in northern Iraq, and to provide resources to protect Christians and other religious minorities from persecution. It passed the House on August 1st.

The federal government has begun to provide some military protection for persecuted minorities in the Iraq and Syria. The Holy Father has called for international action, and the Chaldean Patriarch has called for armed support. But ISIL continues to spread—continues to overtake cities and towns, and continues to brutalize those it opposes.

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Chatter from Courts

GREENSBURG DIOCESE

A dinner fundraiser was held for a member of **Court St. Bernard #339**, Nancy Robinson, and her family after they lost everything, including the family dog, while they slept and their home was engulfed in flame. The dinner raised over \$10,000, the largest fundraiser the court ever had. CDA members had help from the local university sorority and fraternity.



Back Row: Fr. Tom Federline; fraternity brother; Gloria Kanick, Chairman; Member Nancy Robinson; Nancy's husband, Kenneth; Lisa Avolio, Chairman; Josephine Valenti, Regent; three fraternity brothers. Front row: four sorority sisters.

Officers, members and guests of **Court New Kensington #860** on the occasion of their 90th Anniversary:



Theresa Shields, Regent; Eleanor Chodelka, Vice-Regent; Henrietta Penchick, Recording Secretary; Catherine Collett, Financial Secretary; Barbara Sharick, Treasurer. Also attending Peggy Guckin, State Regent; Peg Rafferty, State 1st Vice Regent; Margaret Giordano, State Secretary; Lisa McCann, State Treasurer; Mary Jo Oppel, District Deputy; Letty Calvetti, State Chairman Leadership; and the Court's Chaplain, Fr. John Szczesny



*Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
make your requests known to God.*

~ Philippians 4:6 ~

PITTSBURGH DIOCESE

Court Bellevue #655 received a Certificate of Appreciation from North Hills Community Outreach for their ongoing contributions to the food pantries. The Court helps to feed 1500 local families in need each year.



Seated: Rosemarie Faller, Marcy Saughnessy and Marian King
Standing: Sally Randa and Nancy Pendred

SCRANTON DIOCESE

Court St. Martin #418, Honesdale, celebrated its 95th Anniversary.



In St. John's Church, back row, left to right: Rosaria Vlach, Corresponding/Recording Secretary and Tess Murray, Regent



At Central House in Beach Lake, PA; sitting, left to right: Eileen Gallik, Treasurer; Rosaria Vlach, Corresponding/Recording Secretary; Tess Murray, Regent and Betty Flynn, District Deputy
Standing, left to right: Teresa Bayly, Vice-Regent; all state officers to Peg Rafferty; and at far right, Pat Kandrov, Financial Secretary

State Spiritual Intention Report

This report shows the many people whom we have included in our Spiritual Intentions from June 2014 to August 2014. Each month we usually get at least one new member sending in their request. The money that we forward to the National office to go to the North American Pontifical College in Rome is much appreciated by the seminarians there. Please consider using our Intention cards in the future.

Margaret P. Novak, Immediate Past State Regent

SENDER

State Officers
Laraine McGinnis, PSR
Ct. New Kensington #860
Margaret P. Novak, IPSR
Margaret P. Novak, IPSR
Ct. Blessed Madonna #2621
Ct. Butler #443
Ct. Butler #443
Mary Anne Galonski
State Officers
Ct. Washington #1651
Laraine McGinnis, PSR
Pattie Fromnecht
Margaret P. Novak, IPSR

RECIPIENT

Dave Novak
Kathy Abercrombie
Fr. John Szczesny
Fr. John Elias
Catherine Guckin
Fr. David Griffin OSB
Patricia Myers
Ruth W. Wallace
Mrs. Guckin
Helen McAndrew
Catherine Guckin
Catherine Guckin
Catherine Guckin
Fr. Derek Fairman

INTENTION

Get well wishes
Get well wishes
Years of service
Years of service
Repose of her soul
Priest Appreciation
With sympathy
With sympathy
Repose of her soul
With sympathy
Repose of her soul
Repose of her soul
Repose of her soul
Pastoral Appointment

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Pennsylvania State Court
Spiritual Intention

The Mass is offered at Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Altoona, PA at 10:30 A.M. on the third Sunday of the month. Proceeds benefit the Pontifical North American College in Rome helping the Seminarians who are studying there.

For: _____

From: _____

Intention: _____

**If you need request cards,
contact Margaret Novak, IPSR,
cdamargaret@gmail.com
or 814-735-3386.**

State Membership Report

We hope that all courts realize that MEMBERSHIP DRIVES are crucial to our organization. We are sorry to report that five courts have been disbanded in the past year. The way to keep your court active and energetic is to bring new people with fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the court. Include new members in your programs and ask for their help with projects. They have joined CDA to help others and be spiritually involved in the largest Catholic women's organization in the world.

At the National Convention in Billings, Montana in July, a new membership skit was introduced. The theme is "Planting and Growing," to relate to our National Regent's theme which is, "we are the vine, you are the branches." Your State Membership Team will be presenting this skit at our State Workshop in Hershey in October. We hope that you will enjoy seeing our "seeds" grow into new members for our courts.

A new Membership Survival Kit was presented in Billings. It is filled with many new, vibrant, interesting and colorful posters, brochures and postcards. We will have this at the Workshop for you to see and hopefully purchase for your Court. The cost is \$20 and well worth the price to advertise CDA to your parishes and help in your drives. This kit can be purchased from National.

Your State Team is looking forward to meeting new officers and renewing contacts with past friends. Please try to attend the State Workshop to enhance your knowledge of CDA and further your understanding of how our wonderful Order can help others. We are always looking for members interested in joining the State Membership Team and hope that you will consider joining us to further CDA in Pennsylvania.

Janet Oesterling, State Chairman, Membership

Blessed Mary, Our Mother

In 2013 at his Assumption Day Mass in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Pope Francis addressed the congregation declaring that Mary, the Mother of Our Lord and Savior, had shared in her son's struggles. She endured suffering along with him, and thus she too was granted redemption when Jesus resurrected. Furthermore, Pope Francis said, "Our Mother, we can add, represents us. She is our Sister, our first Sister to be granted redemption and taken to Heaven. Because of her suffering and redemption, Our Lady is also the most iconic image of hope." Our Blessed Lady is near to everyone throughout the Earth who hurts, and she offers hope to overpower the struggles.

I pray that the Blessed Virgin Mary will provide hope for us in our daily life struggles as well as in our Catholic Daughter works.

*In Unity and Charity,
With Love and Prayers, Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary*

"The Body of Christ—A Concrete Reality"

While attending the Installation Mass at the National Convention in Billings, Montana, the various robes and their bright colors spoke to me of the Mystical Body of Christ. Behind the colors were the works of building up the kingdom. I also saw some of the hierarchy of the Church—the bishop, priests and deacons. There were also Knights of Columbus and the whole body of CDA members.

This was a time when what was before me was so overwhelming that I could not find words for it. I simply rested in the gift of the precious moment, which was locked into Mary's "yes."

We who are the PA CDA are part of this mystery. Let us join each of our "yeses," and like Mary, build up the Body of Christ that is the Church; let us do it in "Unity and Charity" according to the CDA Mission.

Sr. Mary Paul, DM, State Chairman, Spiritual Enhancement

STATE NEWSLETTER WINNERS

Division 1—Category 1

First Place: Court Bellevue #655, Pittsburgh
Second Place: Court St. Frances De Sales #2617, Philadelphia

Division 1—Category 2

First Place: Court Brownsville #1141, Brownsville
Second Place: Court Dominic #2222, Philadelphia

Division 2—Category 2

First Place: Court Patricia #998, Kittanning
Gloria J. Kissel, State Newsletter Chairman

Thank you to Gloria and all her judges for taking on the challenging job of judging so many fine entries. Well done! Thanks also to all the courts that submitted newsletters to the contest. Will your court consider entering next year?



As many times in my life as I have seen the flag folded at a funeral for a veteran, it now brings new meaning to me.

Folding the American Flag

Traditional flag etiquette provides that before an American flag is stored, it should be folded in half lengthwise twice, then a triangular fold is made; folding in triangles continues until the other end is reached. This makes a triangular “pillow” of the flag with only the blue star field showing outside; it takes 13 folds. The flag is folded this way because it provides a dignified ceremonial touch. It has become a tradition to apply meaning to each fold.

As we fold our flag, we remember:

The *first fold* of our flag is a symbol of human life.

The *second fold* is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The *third fold* is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave their lives or a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The *fourth fold* represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The *fifth fold* is a tribute to our country, in the words of Stephen Decatur: “Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations, may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong.”

The *sixth fold* is for where our hearts lie. It is with our hearts that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, Indivisible with Liberty and Justice for all.

The *seventh fold* is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is the armed forces who protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they may be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The *eighth fold* is a tribute to the deceased veterans who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day and peace.

The *ninth fold* is attributed to womanhood, and mothers, for it has been through their faith, their love, their loyalty and devotion that the character of men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The *tenth fold* is a tribute to fathers; they too, have given their sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The *eleventh fold* represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrew’s eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The *twelfth fold* represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies in the Christian’s eyes, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The *thirteenth fold*, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our nation’s motto, “In God We Trust.”

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General Washington, and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.



**In this time of unrest, more than ever, we need to take time,
SAY THREE HAIL MARYS FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD
AND FOR AN END TO TERRORISM**

A Friend Is a Part of You Always

Friendship is a special gift given to us all.
The smile of a friend is sunlight on a cloudy day,
And every smile given to a friend is returned.
A friend is one whom you can talk to, and listen to,
Without judging.

A friend doesn't ignore your faults
But accepts them as a part of you.

A friend is a shoulder to lean on
when you need support,

A pat on the back when you do well,
And a sympathetic ear when you fail.

A friend is a person you can laugh with,
About everything,

You can cry with without shame,
And whom you trust completely.

A friend is a partner in life and a part of you always.

Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters, I thank you for your gift of friendship. You are a special part of my life.

May you share your friendship with others as you continue your journey in the Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

You will be remembered in the Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated monthly at Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

Arline Rich, National Director, 2012-2014



Ideas for Recruiting New Members!

1. Candy Invitation: Hand out candy bars with an invitation on it saying "Come, join the CDA, and see how to get joy out of helping others."

2. Sign in the church vestibule: (with the pastor's permission)—Place starburst candy on the sign. Use a catchy phrase, such as "Be a Star in CDA and join an organization that helps others locally and nationwide."

3. Fans: Label plastic or paper fans with "Cool down with CDA." Include some information about your next court meeting.

4. Happenings: Give examples of past activities. Show perspective members pictures of what you have done and where you have gone with CDA.

5. Create a handout: A one page flyer—highlight local, State and National projects and activities.

Then, get ready to have a Reception of New Members and invite nearby courts to join in the celebration.

Peace and Good Luck Recruiting!

Letty Calvetti, State Chairman, Leadership

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE POINTERS A MOTION ("THE MEAT" of CDA business)

HOW TO:

....Stand, be recognized,
....Begin with, "Worthy Regent"
....Then, say "I MOVE TO..." or
"I MOVE THAT WE..."



Example: Have a Harvest Membership Fest"
...Needs a second.

REGENT: "A motion to have a Harvest Membership Fest" has been made and seconded, any discussion (pro and con)."

What Else Can A Member Do? (Use a Subsidiary Motion)

Examples:

...postpone indefinitely

...amend...(clarify content by proposing an amendment)

...refer...(to an appropriate committee for investigation)

REGENT: Then handles amendments, seconds and discussion. Each amendment needs a second, discussion, vote.

REGENT: On the resulting MAIN motion—asks for further discussion, takes the vote, announces the result.

"The "ayes" have it, the motion carries," or

"The "nays" have it, the motion is lost."

The "voice " of CDA members in the assembly at a meeting is vital!!

Patricia M. Gildea, State Parliamentarian

Checks!

Thank you to all of you for following these guidelines:

◆ Make checks sent to the state court payable to Catholic Daughters of the Americas rather than to the individual to whom you are mailing them or the name of the project or charity.

◆ Include two valid signatures with officer titles on the checks.

◆ On the memo line, indicate the purpose of the check, i.e., state dues and charities or national projects.

◆ If not already there, please include your court name and court number at the top left of the check.

◆ Mail checks to the State Secretary (unless otherwise noted, 10-Week club ticket or spiritual intention monies, for example).

Keep this reference list handy.

Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Peggy Guckin, State Regent
203 Harmony Ct.
Bensalem, PA 19020



Return Service Requested

“Command me to come to you”

By Mother Mary Francis, P.C.C.

The common denominator of every call of God to us from birth to death is the call to come to him. “In the hour of my death, call me.” For what reason? That I may come to you. Bid me come to you... That is the whole point. All of these calls through life on to death, must be answered on a very deep, personal level. The call of those of us baptized in infancy was answered in our name by others; but it became a real, living, driving force in our lives, a practical vital force, as we grew to maturity and actuated that decision in ourselves.

Knowing that we are called to the God who loves us is what sweetens every sacrifice, gives meaning to all suffering, infuses pain with splendor. It is the being called that gives significance to human love as well and offers impetus to the mortifications life continually puts before us.

If we could only remember that God is calling us by name in the unfolding circumstances of each day, we would assuredly reply: “Yes! Bid me come to you.” It is not a case of, “Yes, I will make this sacrifice.” Or, “Yes, I will be patient; yes, I will suffer this.” There can be more than a bit of vainglory in that. There can be any amount of pride in that. But we come to understand that the call does not end any more than it began in the pain, the suffering, the sacrifice, the mortification, the situation, or the hour of death.

It is God who is our Alpha and Omega; he is the common denominator of every call. It is God who is the Caller and the Meaning and the End. If we use our God-given energies to remember this as we respond to the daily calls of our life, then *in hora mortis nostrae* [in the hour of our death] we shall be able to reply to that call, too, making in that tremendous, dramatic final hour of our life on earth a deeply personal decision.



Mother Mary Francis (+2006) was the abbess of the Poor Clare Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Roswell, New Mexico

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*When you hearken to the voice of the Lord, your God,
all these blessings will come upon you and overwhelm you:*

“May you be blessed in the city, and blessed in the country!

*“Blessed be the fruit of your womb, the produce of your soil and the offspring of your livestock,
the issue of your herds and the young of your flocks!*

“Blessed be your grain bin and your kneading bowl!

“May you be blessed in your coming in, and blessed in your going out!”

Deuteronomy 28:2-6