

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS



Pennsylvania State Court

Peggy Guckin, Pennsylvania State Regent

Volume VI - Issue 1

May God Always Hold You in the Palm of His Hand

Summer 2016

State Officers 2015-17

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www.cdapa.com www.catholicdaughters.org

Message from Peggy Guckin, State Regent

Dear Members,

hat a spring we have been having! In April and May, there were four courts all celebrating milestones of 95 years of service under our banner of Unity and Charity. Margaret and I attended the Court Ave Maria #650 celebration and Peg attended Court Patricia #998, both celebrated on Satur-



day, April 23rd. During the lunch at the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal, a tour came into the gift shop, and one of the members, seeing our banner, came over to us. She was a member of a CDA court from NJ. What a small world!

On Sunday, May 15, which was Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the Church, I had the pleasure of joining the officers and members of Court Bellevue #655 on the occasion of their 95th anniversary. What a beautiful celebration it was! Father's message was to talk and to pray to the Holy Spirit for help and guidance. This past week, I was doing just that, and I received His help. Sunday, May 29, we will be celebrating with Court Allegheny #664. We congratulate these courts and look forward to celebrating their 100th anniversary in five more years.

I would like to thank all the courts that responded to the request from Shirley Seyfried, National Regent, to donate \$50 for Court St. Monica #2706 in Kenya, East Africa. They have two dreams—one to buy a bus and hire a driver to run a taxi service for a fee. This would help the new court to meet one of their goals to build two bathrooms in the church. The other dream is to buy a tractor trailer and plow so they can raise vegetables to sell and give to the poor. With these items, they would be able to raise more money to help with their charitable projects. To date, we have received donations from only 15 courts out of 71 courts in PA. It's not too late to donate. Please send your check to Margaret Giordano, State Secretary. All courts donating will have their name listed on our card to give to Shirley Seyfried. The donations that Shirley receives will be presented to Father Peter at the Convention.

We are two months away from our long-awaited National Convention. Many members from various courts have been very busy giving of their time and talents to help make this a successful Convention.

All courts received an email or a letter from your state officers telling you what we were in need of to help make this Convention a success. Besides the dioceses donating 1000 items for our Welcome Bag, we are asking for homemade cookies and bottled water. On behalf of Shirley Seyfried, we are also asking for a \$50 gift for the Tombola. We will need many volunteers to give directions, to be at the registration tables and to sell chances. Also, we will need ladies to wear white for the liturgies and to sit in the meditation chapel with the Blessed Sacrament while the chapel is open—just to mention a few jobs.

continued on page 2

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.

Table of Contents

Regent's Address front page
Mission Statement front page
State Officers front page
Newsletter Schedule2
Message from Natl. Director2
The Upper Room2
Spiritual Intention Report 3-4
News from National4
Convention Dress Suggestions4
State Convention Charity4
Court Chatter5-8
State Website Design8
Quality of Life9
State Newsletter Winners9
Parliamentary Procedures9
State Education Winners10-11
Message from State Chaplain 12

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

Marge Bradley Editor/Publisher State Newsletter mkobradley@verizon.net 1400 Ted's Way Duncansville, PA 16635 814-505-5025



For all who fear dancing for joy, I have a challenge for you!

Put on your favorite music that honors God. It can be Christian or Christian rock, classical or country. Any music that speaks to you.

Listen to the words.

Listen to the melody.

Let the burdens of life float away.

Think of the many blessings in your life. Your family. Your friends. Members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas—your Sisters in Christ who are also your prayer warriors.

Think about the truth that even if you were the only person on earth, Jesus would lay His life down for you.

Think about the many mansions God has waiting for you with streets that are paved in gold.

Then think of dancing on those streets as you see Jesus face to face!

Rejoice before God and in God.

Dance as though no one is watching. Dance! Dance before the Lord with all your might!

I look forward to watching you dance at the National Convention in Pittsburgh, July 19-24, 2016!

Sherry Nilles, National Representative Second Vice National Regent

Message from State Regent

continued from front page

By now, you should know who in your courts will be going to the Convention. If you are not coming to the Convention but live near the area and would like to take part by helping in one of these jobs, we would love to have your assistance. I would like to ask all District Deputies to check with your courts to see who is coming and when, what and how many donations they are bringing and in what areas they would like to give their time to help. District Deputies, please give this information to your Diocesan Chairman and to the State Regent.

I want to thank all the retiring court officers for all their time and talents working with their members, CDA families, churches and communities. Although you are leaving office, remember to stay active and involved. Thank you to those members who said "YES" when God pointed His finger toward you.

The State Officers are looking forward to seeing you all in Pittsburgh. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact a state officer or me, Peggy, State Regent at **215-570-3574** or email: **mmg721@aol.com**.

Stay cool. Summer is here! God Bless.

Peggy Guckin, State Regent

Catholic Daughters, Pennsylvania State Court + Summer 2016

The Upper Room

"There is an appointed time for everything; and a time for every affair under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

What do we see when we look at ourselves? We're no longer "spring chickens." Now is not a time for our youth. It is a time for our mellow years to shine. We can no longer expect from ourselves what we did when we were "spring chickens." We must put aside those expectations and face the present reality. What is God calling us to now? "There is an appointed time for everything..."

After Jesus rose from the dead, the disciples were lost, confused, bewildered and wondering: Is this the end? What shall we do now? Where do we go from here? What is God calling us to now?

This is what they did. "They went to the upper room...all these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer together with Mary the Mother of Jesus."

Right now God is calling us to a time of prayer together with Mary and all our sisters in the CDA, those in heaven and those on earth. We are sisters in the upper room. This is what "seasoned chicks" take on in earnest: prayer and waiting for the Spirit.

Sr. Mary Paul, D.M. Spiritual Enhancement State Chairman 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:

<u>95th Anniversary</u> Court Allegheny #664 Court Ave Maria #650 Court Bellevue #655 Court Patricia #998 Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

> Court Allegheny #664 Court Bellevue #655 Requested by: Opal Kunz (Court Isabella #959)

Happy Birthday

Danielle Christian, niece Adam Christian, nephew Sr. Mary Paul, DM, sister Theresa Hauck, sister Jada Hoskins, granddaughter Tom Hauck, brother-in-law Nicole Kreider, daughter Valerie Hatfield, daughter Sandy Sultzbach, mother-in-law Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary

Valerie Hatfield Mary Tercha Nicole R. Kreider, Treasurer Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

<u>Happy 60th Birthday</u>

Charlotte DiCola, life-long friend Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary

Easter Blessings

All living and deceased Catholic Daughters Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

State Spiritual Intention Report This report shows the many people whom we have included in our Spiritual Intentions, March-May 2016. Donations are forwarded to the National office to benefit the North American Pontifical College in Rome and are much appreciated by the seminarians there. Please consider using our Intention cards in the future. Send Spiritual Intentions to Margaret Giordano, State Secretary. Her address is on the front page of this newsletter. Thank you!

Graduation Congratulations

Kim Burgess, III, grandson Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary

Get Well Wishes

Beverly Polec Christine Moncrief Shirley Wybranski Requested by: Court Rose Cecilia #1641

Jason Voisard (Peggy Guckin's Nephew/Godson) Sandy Jablonski Requested by: Joe and Pattie Fromknecht

Shane Albertson Requested by: Peggy Guckin, State Regent

M. Joan McKenna, Past National Regent Paulette Roden Rita Smith-Wade-El Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

> Beth Genemore Sands Requested by: Janet Mandarino (Court Monessen #776)

For Successful Treatments

Jane McKenna Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Suzanne Stauffer Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

In Loving Memory † In Sympathy † Repose of Soul

Joseph Rhoa Requested by: Nancy M. Anna (Court Our Lady of Victory #722) Lisa Mays (Court Our Lady of Victory #722)

continued on page 4

Catholic Daughters, Pennsylvania State Court + Summer 2016

State Spiritual Intention Report

continued from page 3

In Loving Memory † In Sympathy † Repose of Soul

Saitta Family Requested by: Opal Kunz (Court Isabella #959)

Thomasina Dush Requested by: Court Isabella #959

Teresa Herr Jerry Liebeck Mary Painter Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

Mike Higgins Bunny Nemith Msgr. Michael Burke Alice Dunleavy Requested by: Court Rose Cecilia #1641

Mike Higgins Requested by: Court St. Francis de Sales #2617

Dolores Leath Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary

Georgeanne Beresnyak Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members Laraine McGinnis Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary Court Washington #1651

> *Raymond Moll Elizabeth Krol* Requested by: Court Washington #1651

John Thomas Requested by: Edgar and Nancy Anna (Court Our Lady of Victory #722)

Letty Barnes Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Regents!

Please share the newsletter with your officers and members. If you would also like it emailed to you, send your email address to Peggy Guckin, State Regent: mmg721@aol.com

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

Priest Appreciation Day is June 5th. Remember your priests and chaplains.

Financial Reviews—Has your court completed its review and sent it to National with a copy to State Regent and Secretary?

Officers Forms—Even if your officers are in for a second term, you need to complete the form; send original to National and legible copies to State Regent and Secretary.

+++

Suggestions for Clothing at National Convention Business attire for all business sessions. If you tend to get cold, bring a sweater or jacket.

Wednesday evening—Candidate's Night PA yellow shirt

Thursday evening—PA State Dinner Hofbräuhaus House—Casual dress

Friday morning-Red-White-Blue Mass

If you are not wearing white to help with Mass, please wear Red-White-Blue for the God and Country Mass. After Mass, you can change from your whites and put on R-W-B if you wish to do so.

Friday evening-PA Fun Night

Shirt or cap of your favorite sport team White outfit (no pants), gloves, if you have them, and if you are going to participate in the liturgies

Saturday-Installation Mass

Officer's robe, cleaned and pressed, 11 inches from the floor with your white shoes

Saturday evening—Appreciation Dinner Semi-formal attire suggested

+++

PA State Charity for National Convention Carmelite Community of The Word Hands & Hearts Ministry

Project One: Monetary donations are needed for purchase of benches for the chapel at the orphanage. These benches are desperately needed because, at this time, the children must sit on the floor during prayer time and Mass. Make all checks payable to: Pennsylvania State Court and indicate "Hands & Hearts" in the memo.

Project Two: New Baby/Maternity Kits. Items for the kit are listed in the March *Quarterly* under "Convention."





ALLENTOWN DIOCESE *Court Easton #358*



Members of Court Easton #358 First Row (seated): Joan Tanzella, Fay Meola, Joyce Ernesti, Mary Strucko, Eileen Yanno Second Row: Diane Bochantin, Fr. Floyd Caesar, Mary Gallagher, Margaret Giordano, State Secretary, Kathleen Finkbeiner, Pat Bleam Third Row: Sally Lerch, Mary Thomas, Joanne Rissmiller, Nicole Krieder Fourth Row: Karen Yanity, Mary Marzin



Allentown Diocesan Meeting State Officers join the members of the Allentown Diocese for their Spring meeting Fr. Floyd Caesar, Chaplain for Allentown Diocesan Courts, Margaret Giordano, State Secretary; Peggy Guckin, State Regent, Karen Yanity, Diocesan Chair and Pat Bleam, Diocesan Secretary

Whatever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me. -Matthew 25:40

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE Court Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755



Altoona Mirror photo by Patrick Waksmunski

Lifetime Achievement award winner Patricia Gildea (left) is congratulated by friend Chabela Grab of Hollidaysburg prior to the WISE Women of Blair County 2016 tribute banquet at The Casino at Lakemont Park on April 20. Awards were presented to local women in seven categories.

Before a record crowd of 245 at the organization's 24th annual tribute dinner, Gildea and six more honorees offered their thanks, praise and recognition of others working for the betterment of the community.

Patricia Gildea's whole life has revolved around making her community better, but she still was shocked when she learned that the WISE Women of Blair County had selected her for its top honor this year.

"I've gone to WISE Women programs and I always knew about the awards, but I never ancticipated getting one," Gildea said. "So it was quite a shock."

The retired Hollidaysburg woman with a work history spanning more than six decades also has a long list of professional and community organizations to which she has been devoted.

"'Always be planning something' seems to be my motto," Gildea said.

Every year, WISE (Women Involved in Scholarship and Empowerment) recognizes women for their "community input and/or involvement in organizations whose projects advance the WISE Women mission to empower women and eliminate racism through collaboration, service and education techniques."

Excerpts from Altoona Mirror, April 16 and 21, 2016 Reprinted with permission

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE contd.

Campus Court Our Lady of Loretto #2702, St. Francis University



December 1, 2015 ~ Signing the Charter

March 15, 2016 ~ Circle of Love Project



March 15, 2016 ~ Circle of Love Project



March 15, 2016 ~ Court Officers Sarah Westin, Financial Secretary Marissa Armstrong, Recording Secretary Aundrea Wolford, Treasurer, Emily Smith, Regent and Kaitlyn Williams, Vice Regent



April 5, 2016 ~ Court Meeting

April 17, 2016 Baking Convention Cookies

These past few months we have been blessed with exploring all that a membership in Catholic Daughters has to offer, and particularly finding what it means to be a Campus Court. We began our year by helping out with the March for Life event held on campus on January 22nd. We teamed up with the campus Knights of Columbus Council, St. Francis the Poverello, #8222, as well as CDA Court Joan of Arc #706, located nearby in Cresson, PA to march in faith with our CDA banner.

During Lent, we hosted Stations of the Cross at our Immaculate Conception chapel on campus.

We managed the hospitality tent during Special Olympics held April 17th. Saint Francis has hosted Special Olympics for over twenty years. This year we had 300 athletes from fifteen counties in central Pennsylvania, and being able to represent the Catholic Daughters of the Americas at this event was very inspiring for us.

Most recently, we baked fourteen dozen cookies for the upcoming National Convention.

In March, we organized a large brainstorming meeting to come up with projects and fundraising ideas. We came up with two pages worth of projects to implement next academic year to associate with the seven Circle of Love programs. Our plan is to designate a facet of the Circle of Love for each month we are in session and develop one or two projects that coincide with that topic.

continued

Court Chatter contd.

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE *Campus Court Our Lady of Loretto #2702 St. Francis University*

We also plan on recruiting at the University Involvement Fair in September to not only share our love for this organization but also to encourage more strong, Catholic women to join this court and help it to grow further.

Thank you to all of the courts and individuals who sent donations and well wishes to us during our installation as a new Campus Court. We are so grateful for your support and proud to continue the traditions of CDA on our campus!

Members of Court Our Lady of Loretto #2702 Written by: Kaylee Hollan, Senior Occupational Therapy major

ERIE DIOCESE

Court Columbia #2



Phyllis Vrobel, Regent, looking on as Angie Lewis, Mary Holzer, Sue Kelly, Treasurer, and Joanne McClay, Financial Secretary, put orange ribbons on prayer cards to eradicate ISIS. These were passed out at the Catholic Churches in the Meadville Area.



Phyllis Vrobel, Regent, and Audrey Albaugh, Vice Regent, presenting the Court Columbia #2 "Catholic Daughter of the Year" Award to Mary Ann Ferlin.

56th Biennial National Convention July 18 - 24, 2016 Pittsburgh, PA

Catholic Daughters, Pennsylvania State Court + Summer 2016

PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESE

Court Ave Maria #650 - 95th Anniversary



Front row: Marleen Duley, Vice Regent; Tina Dambach, District Deputy; Heather Goldsmith, Regent; Peggy Guckin, State Regent; Margaret Giordano, State Secretary; Gloria Leggett-Benton, Financial Secretary; Lydia Phillip, Treasurer; Rosemary Barber, Recording Secretary Second Row: Laura Duley, Past Regent; Eloise Brown, Barbara Lester, Bertha Allen, Barbara Adams, Helen Green. Third Row: Tonya Harris, Suzanne Garnett, Carolyn Adams, Marie Phanord. Fourth Row: Knights of Columbus



Barbara Adams and Eloise Brown crowned Mary



Heather Goldsmith, Regent, awards Marlene Duley 20-Year Pin

PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESE

Court St. Ephrem #2230



St. Ephrem #2230 prepared 155 meals for Aid for Friends. Back row, left to right: Babs Walsh, Mary Ann Rushton, Rose Marie Medash, Dolly Maronsky, Joanne Hayes Front row, left to right: Barbara Jackson, Laura Tertel, Carol Parsons, Phyllis Arora

PITTSBURGH DIOCESE

Court Bellevue #655



Officers and members with State Officers for 95th Anniversary Mass celebrated at Church of the Assumption. Lunch followed at Shannopin Country Club.

Front row, left to right: Shirley Hall, 2nd Vice State Regent; Peggy Guckin, State Regent; Margaret Giordano, State Secretary; American Flag bearer ladies in white, front row, left to right: Alice Havics, Maria Faller; second row: April Bauman, Linda Scalamogna. Back row: Lisa McCann, State Treasurer; Marion King, Financial Secretary; Marilou Belch, Treasurer; Rosemarie Faller, Vice Regent; Mary Jo Knaus, Regent, Sally Randa, Recording Secretary

New Horizons for cdapa.com

Lots of new ventures are on the horizon for our State Website! A redesign is in the works and with it will come contact lists for District Deputies and Diocesan Committees, along with several new features.

One which many will find useful is a site-wide search tool. This will surely come in handy because another new feature is a webpage for each Court in the State of Pennsylvania! More information on how this will work will be sent to the 2016–2018 Court Regent. So, remember to submit your Officers List to National and State. This form, along with many others, can be found on our website: cdapa.com > Forms > Adobe XI .pdf Column > Local Court Officers (93kb).



Lastly, but surely not least, our State Court will have a members-only forum. Forums, also called Message Boards or Discussion Boards, have multiple categories and sub-categories where conversations take place in a linear fashion—meaning, a statement is posted in a relevant category/sub-category and as replies are made, they follow in conversation format. Think of the Circle of Love as a category and each Circle of Love Program as a sub-category. Everything stays neat and organized and the sharing of information becomes much easier!

I am now looking for testers. Initially, I need persons who are web-savvy and know what a forum is and have used one before. I am also looking for testers who are not familiar with forums, but want to help us better understand the questions a new person may have.

If you're interested in being a tester, please email me at: forum@cdapa.com.

May all of these new ventures bring us closer as sisters in faith and help us join together in Unity and Charity! *Pattie Fromknecht, State Website Designer*

Come, Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, you are the reward of the saints, the comforter of souls, light in the darkness, riches to the poor, treasure to lovers, food for the hungry, comfort to those who are wandering; to sum up, you are the one in whom all treasures are contained. Come! As you descended upon Mary that the Word might become flesh, work in us through grace as you worked in her through nature and grace. Come! Food of every chaste thought, fountain of all mercy, sum of all purity. Come! Consume in us whatever prevents us from being consumed in you. —St. Mary Magdlene de Pazzi

Quality of Life

As Quality of Life Chairperson, I received twenty-seven reports from local courts. One court project in particular stood out and is the project I submitted to National for recognition.

Court Saint Francis De-Sales #2617 runs its own community food cupboard. Its local neighborhood has a high poverty rate, many homeless people and a high number of recovery houses with transient clientele.

In 2015, the court gave

out over 17,600 pounds of non-perishable food. Food is purchased with funds raised at various fundraisers. Those attending fundraisers are encouraged to bring canned goods with them and are rewarded with extra raffle tickets. Additional food is received from various donors including their own members, other courts in the diocese, churches of different denominations and several people who donate every month. They receive monetary donations and matching funds from a company at which one of their members is employed; and they have received grants from various sources.

What makes this court project stand out, in my opinion, is the number of people and organizations they have managed to get to work with them. Members of other courts and parishes and students from various schools help prepare bags to distribute.

Most importantly, people who are recipients of the food also help. This gives them a chance to give back and gives them a feeling of self-worth making them feel valued. They carry groceries, help stock and distribute them. Some past recipients have returned to help and also make food and monetary donations. This project has allowed many people to get involved in giving back at all levels of the community.

While the recipients are always grateful for the food, it is the ladies of Court Saint Francis DeSales #2617 who are grateful and feel blessed as they serve Our Lord and see the face of Jesus in every encounter.

Thank you to all the courts working to improve quality of life in communities throughout Pennsylvania and beyond. And a special thank you to the thirty-seven members of Court #2617 for a job well done. You make us proud!

Mary Catherine Wydra, Quality of Life Chairman

Would you like to see your court's activity featured in our newsletter? Send article/photo, by U.S. mail or email, to Peggy Guckin, State Regent!



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS 2016 NATIONAL NEWSLETTER CONTEST STATE WINNERS

1st Place—Category I—Division I Court Brownsville #1141, Brownsville

1st Place—Category I—Division II Court St. Francis De Sales #2617, Philadelphia

> 2nd Place Court Allegheny #664, Pittsburgh

3rd Place Court St. Dominic #2222, Philadelphia

1st Place—Category II—Division I Court Rev. Patrick McArdle #448, Bellefonte

1st Place winners were sent to National Chairman. Thank you to all the courts that submitted their newsletters. *Gloria Kissel, Newsletter State Chairman*

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE POINTERS

TOP PRIORITY TRANSITIONING OF COURT OFFICERS SET DATE – for TRANSITIONING MEETING in a week

or so following Election of Court Officers. Both former and new officers need to be present.

BRING—former officers bring books and documents pertinent to each office.



DISCUSS—each FORMER officer explains to other OFFI-CERS all the duties and procedures she handles. Former Officer gives to the NEW OFFICER any books or files pertaining to HER office, and explains in detail what needs to be done in or with each book/document.

DEVELOP IDEAS—for the coming year's monthly programs and other special events.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS—approve Regent's appointments as chairpersons.

SET DATE—for meeting with Committee Chairpersons (Circle of Love and other Standing Committee Chairpersons) to plan the coming year's program/projects, to be approved at the next Court Meeting.

TEAM—there is no "I" in Team. Your cohesive TEAM will move CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS over the GOAL (CDA Mission) Line.

Patricia M. Gildea, State Parliamentarian

2016 PA State Education Contest Winners

Tina Dambach, State Education Chairman

Category Art Division 1

First Place Second Place Third Place

Art Division 2

First Place Second Place Third Place

Art Division 3

First Place Second Place Third Place

Art Division 4

First Place Second Place Third Place

Poetry Division 1

First Place Second Place Third Place

Poetry Division 2

First Place Second Place Third Place

Poetry Division 3

First Place Second Place Third Place

Poetry Division 4

First Place Second Place Third Place

Essay Division 1

First Place Second Place Third Place

Essay Division 2

First Place Second Place Third Place

Name of Winner

Hannah M. Golub Helena Sicree Abigail Conrad

Kira Johnson Jocelyn Miller Gwen Nave

Emily Miller Madeline Rains Michelle Rackish

No Entry No Entry No Entry

Amir Maltony Bella Carabin Dylan R. Wojtanoski

Veronica Guerrini Adam Elder Malia Magestro

Emily Stubits Marisa Torok Nicole Fratrich

Antoinette M. DeAngelis Joan L. Lazor Patricia Dettore

Max Clement Blake Weber Morgan Phillips

Audrey Clement Margaret Matous Carolina Carpenetti

Court and City

Sharon #507, Sharon Blessed Madonna #2521, State College Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755, Hollidaysburg

New Kensington #860, New Kensington Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster Our Lady of Victory #722, Northern Cambria

Our Lady of Victory #722, Northern Cambria Sharon #507, Sharon Easton #358, Easton



Washington #1651, Washington New Kensington #860, New Kensington Sharon #507, Sharon

New Kensington #860, New Kensington Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755, Hollidaysburg Sharon #507, Sharon

Easton #358, Easton Sharon #507, Sharon St. Bernard #339, Indiana

Sharon #507, Sharon St. Bernard #339, Indiana St. Theresa #562, Blairsville

Blessed Madonna #2521, State College Our Lady of Victory #722, Northern Cambria New Kensington #860, New Kensington

Blessed Madonna #2521, State College Bellevue #655, Pittsburgh Ave Maria #399, Lock Haven



Category **Essav Division 3**

First Place Second Place Third Place

Name of Winner

Erika Antunes Maxine Malvar **Brandon Sorge**

Computer Art Division 1

First Place Second Place Third Place

Alex Kavanagh Trenton Querry Victoria Gonsiewski

Computer Art Division 2

First Place Second Place Third Place

Daniel Leonard Natalie M. Janidlo Zachary Dodson

Computer Art Division 3

First Place Second Place Third Place

Brendan Boylan Liam Wanner No Entry

Computer Art Division 4

First Place Second Place Third Place

Christina Bell Marianne Warner No Entry

Ava Coates

No entry

No Entry

No Entry

No Entry

Abby Fleming

Lucia Caretti

Breanna Cribbs

Music Division 2

First Place Second Place Third Place

Music Division 3

First Place Second Place Third Place

No Entry

Photography Division 2

First Place Second Place Third Place

Photography Division 3

First Place Second Place Third Place

Jonathan Thomas Misinay Gabriella Hong **Jacob Schaeffer**

Photography Division 4

First Place Second Place Third Place

Christina Bell Denise Russick Margaret B. Antolik

Court and City



Easton #358, Easton Sharon #507, Sharon Our Lady of Victory #588, Mount Caramel

Sharon #507, Sharon Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755, Hollidaysburg St. Dominic #2222, Philadelphia

Oueen of Peace #1023, Lancaster St. Thomas #1483, Franklin Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755, Hollidaysburg

Sharon #507, Sharon



St. Theresa #562, Blairsville St. Thomas #1483, Franklin

Court Sharon #507, Sharon



Prince Gallitzin # 2625, Altoona Court St. Bernard #339, Indiana Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster

Sharon #507, Sharon Oueen of Peace #1023, Lancaster Easton #358, Easton

St. Theresa #562, Blairsville Patricia #998, Kittanning St. Bernard #339, Indiana



The names of first-place winners have been forwarded to Joyce Fleming, National Education Chairperson.

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



Return Service Requested

Message from State Chaplain "Amoris Laetitia"—"The Joy of Love"

Dear Catholic Daughters and Friends,

n Friday, April 8, 2016, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, released his Apostolic Exhortation, *"Amoris Laetitia"* – Latin for *"The Joy of Love."* An Apostolic Exhortation is a type of communication from the Pope that encourages the faithful of the Church to undertake a particular activity. While an Apostolic Exhortation does not define Church doctrine, it allows the Pope to convey important sentiments and reflections important for Christian living.



"Amoris Laetitia" is a reflection on the deliberations recently held at the Synod of Bishops on the Family which was convened in Rome in October 2014. (A synod is a gathering of Bishops

from around the world who assist the Holy Father by providing counsel on important questions facing the Church in a manner that preserves the teachings of the Church. A Synod does not hold the power of an Ecumenical Council, such as Vatican II.) It was during this Synod that the Bishops of the Church discussed many of the current circumstances in our world that effect the family and family life. (*I am sure many of you heard reports about this Synod last year.*)

In *"Amoris Laetitia,"* Pope Francis affirmed Church teachings on family life and Christian marriage. In his reflection, the pope reminded us that the goal of the Church is to help families—in fact, help everyone—to experience God's love and know that they are welcome as members of the Church.

Some important things to remember from "Amoris Laetitia":

• The Church needs to understand families and individuals in all their complexity. People are strongly encouraged to live by the gospel message, but should also be welcomed into a Church that appreciates their struggle and treats them with mercy. Overall, Pope Francis calls for an approach of understanding and compassion.

• Divorced and remarried Catholics need to be integrated into the life of the Church. Divorced and remarried Catholics should be made to feel a part of the Church; they are not excommunicated and should not be treated as such.

◆ All members of the Family need to be encouraged to live good Christian lives. In his reflection, Pope Francis reminds married couples that a good marriage is a "dynamic process" and that each side has to "put up" with imperfections.

• Children must be educated regarding sex and sexuality. In a culture that cheapens and exploits sexual expression, the pope emphasizes that children need to realize that our sexuality is not "an object to be used," but a gift from God to be respected and safeguarded.

◆ Traditional teachings on Christian marriage are affirmed. Marriage is between one man and one woman and is indissoluble. Pope Francis wrote that "same-sex" marriage is not considered marriage. In the same document, the Holy Father wrote that persons with homosexual inclination should be "respected in his or her dignity and treated with consideration." With pastoral solicitude, Pope Francis reminds us that families with LGBT members need "respectful pastoral guidance" from the Church and her pastors so that gays and lesbians can properly carry out God's will in their lives.

To view the USCCB web page on *"Amoris Laetitia,"* please visit: www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriageand-family/amoris-laetitia.cfm.

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 of CDA PS: Now is the time for courts to discuss with their pastors if they wish to distribute "It's OK to Wish Me A Merry Christmas!" buttons in your parish. To order the buttons, please visit: **www.wmamc.com**.