



“THE VOICE OF CDA”

Spirit of North Dakota

State Regent—Kathy Kennedy

First and foremost, I want to wish each and every one of you a very peaceful and blessed Advent season and the merriest of Christmases. As you gaze upon images of the infant Christ child, may you see what a wondrous thing it is that God became human. May it also remind you to see that every human is made in His image and that He dwells in each of us. Let us treat each other accordingly.

Recently, our family saw the beautiful outreach of Catholic Daughters throughout the state. Our daughter, Mary, was hospitalized the day before the Fall Workshop because of excruciating pain. A few days later, she had surgery to remove a large ovarian cyst. The prayers and well wishes from CDA members was truly touching and uplifting. Thank you to everyone



for that. Mary is doing pretty well now. She's still feels a little tender, but has already asked her doctor when she can get back to lifting her nieces and nephews and playing volleyball. So she's definitely on the mend! God is good.

I am trying to keep my Christmas "to do" list reasonable and low key as I work to make my Advent prayerful and anticipatory. As I prepare for Christmas, I also have a more distant event on my brain. That would be the North Dakota Catholic Daughters State con-

vention. It may seem like it is a ways off, but we all know how time just seems to be going faster and faster, don't we? (I hope this doesn't happen only to me!)

The State Convention will be held April 24-26 in Fargo at the Ramada Plaza and Suites. All CDA members are invited and encouraged to attend the state convention. I am bringing the convention up now because there are some things you might want to start planning in your local courts. You may want to be discussing who you will send as delegates, what homemade item you will send for a door prize, what kind of things you'll put in the Silent Auction basket your court donates, and which court project you wish to report on/display. You might also want to be thinking of a charitable cause to nominate for our new

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State Chaplain—Fr. Franklin Miller



“The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord’ (Lk 2:11).” I am sure the shepherds were a little startled. However, it did not take them long to realize something important was happening. Indeed there was, a baby boy was born in Bethlehem; true God and true man. “The Word became flesh for us in order to save us by reconciling us with God, who ‘loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins’: ‘the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world,’ and ‘he was

revealed to take away sins’ (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 465).” “The Word became flesh so that thus we might know God's love: ‘In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him’ (CCC, 458).” “The Word became flesh to be our model of holiness: ‘Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me.’ ... Jesus is the model for the Beatitudes and the norm of the new law: ‘Love one another as I have loved you.’ This love implies an effective offering of oneself, after his example” (CCC, 459).” “The Word became flesh to make us ‘partakers of the divine nature’ (CCC, 460).” What makes Christmas so wonderful year after year is the knowledge and belief that we are to become “ever-new.”

The “old ways,” the actions, ideas, and thoughts not of God in our life, will pass away and there will be a new birth of life and love within our heart. “Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God” (Mt. 5:8).

It is very easy to get caught up in the commercialization of the Christmas season. The buying and acquiring gifts can often lead us to forget that our Blessed Lord is the most precious gift to receive and he has come to us through the love of Mary of Nazareth. As Disciples of Christ, we strive to echo her words; “My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit finds joy in God my savior” (Lk 1:46a).

May you have a wonderful and joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year!

April Raffle Calendar by Mary Baer

It is that time of year to test your luck in the April Raffle Calendar. Last year was the first time we put the entry form in the State Newsletter and it did not reach many of you until mid March which didn't give you much time to send in your entry; this way you will not be so rushed. We will also have entry forms in the March Newsletter.

Our profits though were about the same as the year before since we didn't have the added expense of mailing the entry forms out separately. Thank you for helping the State Court make a profit of \$2861.66. The costs of the raffle were as follows: \$25.00 license fee, \$13.34 postage to mail out winning checks and \$1200 in

prize money.

The money spent at the state level is used to donate to worthy causes and to help pay expenses for state officers when we have to attend meetings and workshops which are intended to benefit all members of the state. When donations are made to JCDA courts, the Mother Houses of our Religious Sisters in the state, a scholarship to a University of Mary student, help for disaster relief or a gift to the Bishop is given in the name of “North Dakota Catholic Daughters” it includes you as the giver and is possible because of your generosity.

This is why I'd like to encourage all of you to once again take part in the April Calendar Raffle.

Please remember that it is permissible to make copies of the calendar and sell to other people who want a chance to win some cash. Please find the entry form in this newsletter, fill it out and mail it back before April 1, 2015 in order to have a chance during all 30 days of April. A donation of \$10 is suggested for each entry. Every name is put back into the drawing after they have won so there is a chance of winning multiple times. The drawings will be done at the Belfield Public School on Thursday afternoons and will be drawn by different people each time.

Let's see if we can make this the most successful fundraiser yet!!!!

National Supervisor—Vickie Feist



Greetings, dear Catholic Daughters of North Dakota! Advent and Christmas Blessings to you all!

I first want to express my deepest gratitude to the ladies of North Dakota Catholic Daughters on your outpouring of love and support at the time of mom's death in November! Your cards, prayers, masses, and loving words mean so very much! You are such a caring and devoted group of women!!

This year, the celebration of Ad-

vent and Christmas will be bitter-sweet. The grief our family is experiencing is palpable but we are comforted by the knowledge that after 25 years apart, mom and dad will share a glorious Christmas together this year. There is an excited anticipation of Christmas this year though as my dear husband and I will be spending it with our 18 month old grandson, his parents, and our daughter & her boyfriend who are the loves of our lives.

And that leads me to thinking about the other love of my life—Jesus. During the season of Advent when we await the birth of the precious God-Child, it is a

beautiful time to feel that deep yearning in our lives for when you and I will greet Jesus face to face in eternal life. That baby—so pure and innocent grew into an adult who taught us about reaching out in charity to those in need, to share the truth about God's love, and to love God with a deep submission to His will. During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, as we reflect on these lessons let us ensure that our Catholic Daughter Courts continue to live those lessons of Jesus as we reach out to those in need, share the truth of our faith, and submit to God's will. God Love You,

First Vice State Regent—Laurel Ann Dukart



Membership:

Everyone working together

Reviving their Courts, with new members,

Retention of current members, & bringing back those who left.

You are an important part of this process. This Christmas Season, give to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Give of your time: ask someone to join; ask members How your Court can conduct its meetings to be more attuned to the attendees' interests. Please use your Resources to put a little something extra into CDA and see what benefits you will receive in return.

I've received the pleasure of becoming a part of a sisterhood that shares same faith, love of God, and Spirituality. Let's continue to share how Catholic Daughters has become an important part of our lives.

Together we can make and keep North Dakota CDA Strong!

Merry Christmas

And Happy New Year

***Please look for the new ND web site to come soon – maybe by Christmas??? If not then, soon into the 2015 year!!! To get the web information as soon as it's completed, please send your email addresses to: dukartcda@outlook.com

Second Vice State Regent—Mary Baer



With the New Year right around the corner many of you may be thinking of New Year's resolutions. I think all of us as Catholic Daughters should take it upon ourselves to make the New Year's resolution of getting one new member for 2015. Just think if all of us did that our membership at the local and state levels would double.

With new members in mind, I would like to discuss a little bit about leadership and new members. Leaders are volunteers and they can't do it alone; they need helpers who are also volunteers. Believe it or not, those people are all of us. You may not think of

yourself as a leader (because you are not an officer of your court) but you are.

Being a leader or a volunteer takes energy – so we have to be careful of energy leaks; such as angry words, distractions, or tampering in someone else's business while neglecting our own. Leaders must therefore be aware that their energy is subject to depletion and they must make guarding that energy reserve a priority. A way to help restore or bring up that energy reserve is to bring new members into your court, become more active yourself, or getting others more active.

All of us need to take it upon ourselves to try and get new members. We just have to keep asking – we can't let the word "no" get us down. Once we get those new members we need to

plan an orientation program for them and when doing this remember the word **AIM**.

Acquaint your new members to the organization and to other members. Structure time for the members to get to know each other and to develop personal relationships.

Inform new members of your court's history, purpose, and structure. Give them some background information on the organization, its makeup and operations.

Members. Get your members excited about CDA once again. Target the returning members and also the newly recruited. Provide time for them to meet each other, to share ideas and expectations.

Good luck with this and any other New Year Resolutions you may have. I can't wait to see how our courts have grown.

Parliamentary Procedure by Angela Scheett

What is parliamentary procedure? It is used to conduct meetings in an orderly manner. According to the Tools of the Trade, "Special Rules of Order may be adopted by National, State and Local Courts of The Order (Catholic Daughters of the Americas) with the approval of the National Board. In all matters of procedure not otherwise provided for by the Bylaws, the current issue of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the authority in all branches." Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, provides guidance in the codes of parliamentary procedure. The un-

derlying principles are justice and equality, one thing at a time, rule of the majority, and rights of the majority.

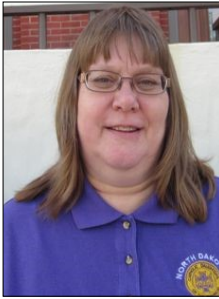
Justice and equality mean that every item of interest has an equal chance to be presented to the group. In addition, each individual at the meeting has a fair chance to offer her comments regarding the item under discussion. This occurs until nothing new is presented and the group is ready to make a decision. One thing at a time is just that; only one item can be under consideration at any one time. As long as there is a topic under discussion,

nothing new may be presented. Once a decision is made about the first item, the meeting can move forward with something else. Rule of the majority and rights of the majority relate to voting on items presented. Everyone has the opportunity to express their opinion, whether they are in the majority or the minority. When the group is ready to make a decision, it is brought to a vote. The majority vote determines the result.

A quorum must be present to conduct a meeting. A Local Court quorum is eight members in good standing, providing a majority of

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State Secretary—Bonita Erickson



How can we prepare the way for the Lord? How can I get away from the hustle and bustle of the season? How do I make room for Jesus? Mary and Joseph went off to a stable or cave, off by themselves, off alone. No space was reserved for Jesus when he came. There was no hospitality, no welcome. There was severe overcrowding in and around Bethlehem, and the local residents and visitors alike were unwilling or unable to receive Jesus when he was born.

The lack of room for Jesus is an age-old problem. There still is severe overcrowding. Our minds are overcrowded with news and information, our hearts are overcrowded with innumerable concerns, our schedules are overcrowded with things to do, the malls are overcrowded with shoppers, the highways are overcrowded with traffic, the airwaves are overcrowded with noise, and electronic devices are overcrowded with messages. With so much overcrowding, we run the risk of not having enough room in our personal “inn” to receive Jesus this Advent and when Christmas arrives.

If we want to prepare well for Christmas, it’s essential to make room in our hearts to receive Jesus. No matter how busy we may be, no matter how much hustle and bustle may exist, no matter

how many distractions and mental preoccupations may swirl about our minds, we need to set aside time and space to welcome Emmanuel, our Savior.

We need to prepare for the Christmas joy. We need to find time to meditate and pray, to converse with our Messiah and Lord in silence and solitude, to ponder the mystery of the Incarnation, to offer hospitality and welcome Jesus. Moments of private prayer are very important. We need to examine our relationship with God as that really is the most important Gift.

There are many prayerful ways to welcome Jesus into the “inn” of our hearts.

Some ways would be to read the first two chapters of Luke’s gospel and prayerfully reflect upon his infancy narrative; say the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary; pray in front of a manger or crib scene at home or at church.

If we receive Jesus into our hearts, we are to become what we receive. Then it is not so much our life, but Christ living within us. After making space for Jesus, then it is time to make space for others. The greatest Gift we can offer anyone is to bring Jesus to them, to be like the Blessed Mother Mary, to be the Christbearers, to give the present of Christ’s presence.

Lord, help us to prepare our hearts, and our souls for your coming. Help us to remember that you are with us as we prepare.



In Loving Remembrance

Annie Schmidt
Salestine Schaff
Merri Jo Connole
Harrietta Nagel
Perry Masset
RoseMary Wald
Alice Findlay
Genevieve Hagan
Ann Link
Marie Suerth
Helen Fischer
Mary Gross
Frances Kreller
Mary Martin
Frances Roehrich
Matila Schmaltz
Kathryn Busch
Carol Holweger
Martina Oosterwijk
Alice Power

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.

Court Highlights



Wilton volunteers tie blankets for Ignite Light

Members of Ct. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Wilton recently made and donated tie blankets to the State Project "Ignite Light."



Bowman observes "Cupcake Sunday"

Ct. Father Tracy reminded people that every baby should have a chance to have a birthday. Regent, Codie West, hands out cupcakes to parishioners.



Wahpeton ladies gather for "Gifts in a Jar"

Ct. Court Cardinal Muench #1852 of Wahpeton made "Gifts in a Jar" for a Ways and Means project. The various cookie layers and decorative jars are sold after Mass. Pictured L to R: Joan Pope, Shirley Langenwalter, Jeanette Pikarski, Theresa Kubela, Carol Crissler, Val Hegel, Berniece Miller, Doris Bruesch, and committee chairmen, Brenda Cox and Shavonne Wilkie.



Prayer breakfast held in Mandan church

Ct. St. Cecelia #362 is putting emphasis on improving the activities for spiritual enhancement by hosting a prayer breakfast. Pictured L to R: Melissa Mosbruck-er, Regent Bonnie Quast, and spiritual life coordinator Lyvon Hellman.

The State Board would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



Court Highlights

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- ◆ Mary Ann Krush
- ◆ Marlene Biondo
- ◆ Fr. Chad Wilhelm
- ◆ Christine Alfonso
- ◆ Suzanne Legacie
- ◆ Linda Koller
- ◆ June Haller
- ◆ Peggy Stieg
- ◆ Donna Wolf
- ◆ Trasa Diem
- ◆ Kathie Tooz
- ◆ Mary Lou Hendrickson
- ◆ Jeanne Hecker
- ◆ Daphne Hecker
- ◆ Tara Brandt
- ◆ Carol Johnson
- ◆ Patricia Kilber
- ◆ Dori Picard
- ◆ Liz Thelen
- ◆ Vicki Untersehe
- ◆ Tiffany Meier
- ◆ Ann Loren
- ◆ Koleen Hoff
- ◆ Diane Hauck
- ◆ Marilyn Lacker
- ◆ Ruth Haas
- ◆ Lindsey Taylor
- ◆ Lisa Fandrich
- ◆ Stephanie Schuldheisz
- ◆ Jois Hutentbiler
- ◆ Kelli Kessel
- ◆ Rita Kolden
- ◆ Maddi Karte
- ◆ Shawn Peck
- ◆ Cindy Ternes
- ◆ Selma Schumacher
- ◆ Shirley Bachmeier
- ◆ Karla Sigette
- ◆ Joann Kitchens



Harvey JCDA make diaper wreaths

The Junior Catholic Daughters in Harvey made diaper wreaths and donated them to the St. Gianna Home.

Cont. from pg. 4—Parliamentary Procedure

Officers are present. While meetings can be held without a quorum, no official Court business may be conducted.

Items of business arise in a variety of ways during a meeting. They may already be on the agenda from the Board, assigned Committees, and when the Regent knows she needs input from the members; or they may be offered by a member. These items need to be presented in the form of a motion. There are six essential steps; three by which the motion is brought before the group and three in the consideration of the motion. When a motion is brought before the group, 1) a member makes a motion (“I move that...”), 2) another member seconds the motion, and 3) the Regent states the question on the motion. When it is under consideration, 4) members debate/discuss the motion, 5) the Regent puts it to a vote, and 6) the Regent announces the result of the vote. If there appears to be no disagreement during routine business, time can be saved by using General Consent. The Regent states, “If there is no objection...” and the action she mentions will take place whether it is minutes approved, bills allowed to be paid, or meeting adjourned.

It is important to follow parliamentary procedure so as to have a well-ordered meeting where each person can have their say. Everyone also needs to be respectful of one another. This includes allowing others to speak without interruption and listening instead of talking to one’s neighbor. That way, all can hear what is being discussed and make decisions accordingly.

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ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.
93
HARVEY, ND
58341

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Catholic Daughters of the Americas
State Regent - Kathy Kennedy
POSTMASTER - Send address corrections to:
115 Brewster St W
Harvey, ND 58341

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Current Resident Or



State Regent cont. from pg. 1 state project.

If there are any members who wish to be considered as a candidate for state office by the nominating committee, they must submit their name to the nominating committee chairman, Renae Sticka, by February 1, 2015. Candidates must submit five (5) copies each of the following: a statement of qualifications, a statement of endorsement from your local court signed by a majority of the officers, a current picture, and a consent to serve statement.

Your State Board will be meeting in December to make some im-

portant decisions about the convention. Each local Regent will be mailed a Call to Convention packet in January with registration forms, deadlines, and other pertinent information.

We will be working hard to make this convention informative, productive, and enjoyable. We have reviewed the evaluations from the last convention and will strive to make necessary changes and keep what seemed to work. Please remember that we are a relatively new, inexpe-

rienced State Board that is doing our utmost to meet the needs of all our North Dakota Catholic Daughters.

I know I quote Blessed Mother Theresa quite a bit, but I find that her inspiring words help me. I hope they do that for you, too. She once remarked, “One sin that I have never had to confess is that I judged someone.” Wouldn’t it be a beautiful world if everyone could say that? Peace to all!

**Next deadline for “The Voice of CDA”
March 1, 2015**

codewipf@gondtc.com