



Spirit of North Dakota State

Volume 10, Issue 4 - - - Winter Edition 2022



State Regent - Mary Baer



I find it hard to believe it is time to be writing another article for the newsletter. Time certainly has a way of flying by. It seems as though we were just gathering in Mandan for our Day of Sisterhood. There were about 34 people in attendance. It was a great day of sharing, learning, praying, fellowship, and “sisterhood”. As was mentioned in my Regent’s letter we were blessed to have two National Directors with us!! I wish more of you could have been able to join us.

Since time goes by so fast, please put the dates of the State Convention on your calen-

dar now. It will be held May 5-7, 2023, in Belfield. Your Court Regent will be receiving information periodically from now until the convention. If you would like to attend, make sure you talk to her to get registered.

It is also time to start thinking about a State Project for the next two years of 2023-2025. A Court may turn in a proposal that will be voted on at the State Convention. If the proposal is received by February 13, the proposal will be printed in the next newsletter. Remember the proposal should contain a description of the charity.

I wish for each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year but in the days of Advent left ahead of us let them invite us to slow down and become more aware of the good news of God-among-us and the glimpses of goodness always in the everydayness of our lives.

Until next year! Mary

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CDA Motto
Unity and Charity



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.



We have heard the message of repentance all through Advent from John the Baptist. The story of John the Baptist is familiar to all of us: the cousin of Jesus, dressed rather haggardly, preaching and baptizing before the Messiah. St. John the Baptist in the Gospel of Matthew says something very interesting, “Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance” (ch. 3-v. 8). How, during the merriment of the ‘most wonderful time of the year,’ do we do this?

The word “repentance” is rendered *μετάνοια* (*metanoia*) in Greek and means “a change of mind.” Many of us might not realize that the liturgical season of Advent is also a penitential season, like the season of Lent, but with some sugar sprinkled on top!! It is certainly difficult to sense a penitential liturgical season amidst the rampant consumerism during the season. Precisely for this reason do the Church’s penitential seasons prepare us for a solemn celebration of our faith. Advent prepares us for Christmas, just like Lent prepares us for Easter. The preparations involve repentance of some kind.

The prophet’s words that stung the hearts of his listeners should also sting our hearts today. What is the good fruit that can evidence our repentance — a sign of our effort making preparations — during Advent so that we can experience a deeper immersion into the mystery of Jesus’ incarnation that we will celebrate on December 25 and throughout the Christmas liturgical season?

We know that the real merriment of Christmas is not in receiving gifts, but in giving them, and watching our loved ones delight in our present. And yes, we know about the ultimate gift that Jesus gives to us in becoming human ... hence, the reason for the season ... he who is the only gateway for us to become who we really are meant to be. So, if Jesus himself is his gift to us — and we do indeed delight in that gift of himself — what gift will we give to Jesus in return this Christmas? And will it delight him?

We know that nine months before Jesus’ birth, the Blessed Mother gave her fiat in response to the angel’s invitation, a gift of total surrender to the divine will. We also read that a few days after Jesus’ birth, three wise men and their entourage come from the

East, having traveled many miles for quite some time, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. All of these are costly gifts, indeed. Perhaps, our experience of preparations (i.e., metanoia, or repentance) this Advent could produce a good fruit that will indeed delight the Baby Jesus. I don’t think Baby Jesus wants some gift that can be bought online or from a store, but rather, a comfortable space in the manger of your heart where he can rest his head this season. What interior preparations will you undertake — as costly as they may be — to prepare a suitable place for the Christ Child to lay his sweet head?



Merry Christmas

State Office Directory

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North Dakota CDA Welcomes Barb Ward, National Director/Supervisor



Hello my fellow North Dakota CDA Sisters!

Let me give you a brief background on myself. I am Barb Ward, your new National Director for the 2022-2024 term. I was so happy that Emily appointed me as your new Director! Many years ago, a few of my CDA friends and I went to your National Convention for Fun Night. If I remember correctly, I came home with a kerchief and cowboy hat. I had a wonderful time, and those two items were used in our Nebraska skit to welcome you to our National Convention in Omaha in 2012.

I grew up around the Broken Bow, Nebraska area and lived there until a year ago. Broken Bow is a small town of 3500 people with three stop lights. It is in the middle of Nebraska, in corn and cow country, surrounded by farms and at the beginning of the Sandhills. The Sandhills are grass covered sand dunes and only good for pasture grazing of cattle. So, we have a mixture of crops and ranching. I joined Our Lady of the Plains #2098 of Broken Bow in 1977 and have been a Catholic Daughter since. I have been through all the local offices, and like so many of you, more than once! I was regent three different times and enjoyed it all three times. I moved on to the state level in 2009. Buffalo, New York was my first national convention experience. I was a state officer for twelve years, holding all offices but State Secretary. I was State Regent for only one two-year term so that I could devote all my time at the National level. I was voted in as a National Director in 2020. This is my second two-year term as a National Director. I now also supervise the states of Idaho and Montana. I am on the Bylaws committee and am the National Newsletter Chairman for this two-year term.

I have three grown sons, two daughters-in-law, and four grandchildren ranging in age from six to nine. After 25 years of being single, I married Mike

Ward in November of 2021. He has been a wonderful supporter of me with my “CDA” endeavors and recently helped me start a new court here at our home parish in Longmont, Colorado. I have given him the title of “husband of the year”! That is a little background of myself.

The one thing we all need to work on is membership. Each and every one of you only need to bring in ONE new member. Please remember this—only one! I also want to remind everyone as we approach the frantic part of the year, to remember what the holidays are really about. Be thankful as you gather with your families and pray for one another. Pray for your courts that we may continue God’s good works. You are all a blessing to me, and I am thankful for that! Until next time, peace and may God’s goodness and glory be present in your lives! Happy Advent!

Barb Ward, National Director



Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

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Thelma, handles all PayPal orders, new courts, state officer lists, reprieves, disbandments and charters
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Dearest Sisters in Christ,

Do You want to get involved on the State level?

We would love to introduce you to the next level of learning about CDA, outside of your local Court. Do you like to work with others, brainstorm new ideas and visit other courts? Let's see if you qualify.

To be eligible on the State Level you must be:

- * A member of good standing (dues are current)
- * Available to your State (able to attend meetings, workshops, etc.)
- * A current or past State Officer, State Chairman, local Court Regent or a local Court Officer who has held an office for not less than 2 terms.

Do you qualify by this criteria? Then by all means, apply for an office position on the State Board. Talk to your Local Court at a meeting as they must endorse you with a letter signed by a majority of the court officers by a vote of your membership. Choose an office to run for, write up a statement of qualifications with a current photograph and a consent to serve signed by you. Make 5 copies and send to the Nominations Committee Chair (Bonita Erickson) postmarked by February 1, 2023.

Bonita Erickson
1420 11th St
Langdon, ND 58249

Confusing? One can always ask the help of any past or present State Officer we would be happy to answer any questions!

As the season of Advent gives us the time to reflect on what God has done for us, let us be thankful and pray for the grace to love as Christ loves in our journey to be closer to him. May you all experience the miracle of Christmas with your family.

A Blessed Christmas to you all!

Deb Johnson, 1st Vice State Regent

Happy Advent my Dear Sisters in Christ
Merry Christmas,

I hope this finds you well and getting ready for our Lord's coming at Christmas. It is such a wonderful time of the year. I love listening to the Christmas carols over the radio as they give me the joy of anticipating the holidays with family and friends.

But now on a different note, I would like to invite you to consider and pray about joining us for the North Dakota State CDA Convention May 5-7, 2023, in Belfield. Why you say?

Well, first, I believe it is a great opportunity to learn more about Catholic Daughters and what Catholic Daughters is all about. Second, it a wonderful time to meet new sisters in Christ and develop friendships within our organization across the state. Third, what a chance to be in a room full of like-minded sisters, who love Jesus, and want to grow more with Him and be of service to one another for Him. Fourth, we have the fabulous opportunity to get new ideas for our courts from sharing with one another about the different things we are doing in our courts. And last, but not least, we are able to grow spiritually with special Masses and prayer times. What?? All those things happen at the State Convention?? Yep!! It does!! And that's not all, we also have lots of laughs and fun, great food, and even time for some entertainment!!

Now doesn't that sound like a place everyone would want to be at?? So, please pray and really give it some thought about how you can make it work. I believe you won't regret it and will be very glad you did!! See you all in Belfield in May!!

Love and prayers,
Your Second Vice State Regent Sue Judd-Dyrness

Merry Christmas from your Newsletter Editor

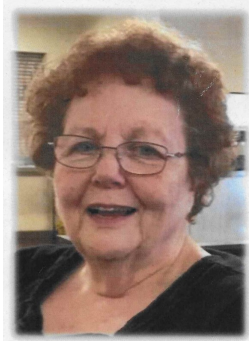
My gift to each of you is my prayers, asking God to keep you and your families and friends under His protection and love. As we celebrate the Birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ may we remember those who are less fortunate than ourselves and pray for our deceased family, friends and CDA members. God bless!!!

Laurel Ann Dukart



In Loving Memory

Celeste Elizabeth Perdue
1942 - 2022



Celeste Murphy was born November 1, 1942, in Detroit, Michigan to Cecil and Esther Murphy. Celeste was the oldest followed by three brothers. In 1946, the family moved to Coleharbor, ND where she attended school from 1st through 10th grade. In, 1958, the family moved to Minot. Celeste was very excited to attend Bishop Ryan as a junior the first year the school opened and graduated in 1960. She then attended the Minot College of Business for one year.

In the summer of 1961, Celeste met the love of her life, Edward Perdue, on a blind date setup by her best friend, Barbara whom she had known since 1st grade. Even though she spilled her coke in his lap, they continued dating and were married on October 6, 1962. They made their home in Minot and raised their six children, Michael, Brenda, Barbara, Katherine, Nathan & Patricia.

Celeste began her working career at Educators National Life Insurance Company, which was started by her father Cecil Murphy, working there until 1968. Celeste worked for many years as a clerk for Burlington Northern Railroad. In July of 1984, Celeste began working for Ward County Social Services as an Eligibility Benefits coordinator until she retired in May of 2008 following 23 years. Celeste was very devoted to her job and to helping her clients.

Life in the Murphy home always centered around music. From a very young age, Celeste would travel with her family to Minot and surrounding towns to sing in the Marion Choir directed by Father Fred Nelson. Celeste loved to sing and later in life joined the Red Hat Society. She continued sharing her love for music by playing piano and singing for her fellow residents at Wellington Assisted Living facility. There she was frequently found playing cards or bingo in the afternoon while enjoying cookies and coffee.

Celeste was an active member of St. Leo's Catholic Church and for many years served as the treasurer for the Catholic Daughters Association. She was also a proud member of the ND National Guard Women's Auxiliary.

Celeste is survived by her sons, Michael (Penny) and Nathan (Deb) Perdue; daughters, Brenda (Donn Fry) Woiwode, Barbara Bost, Katherine (Jim) Reichel, and Patricia Eaton; grandchildren, Kevin (Jennifer), Benjamin, Erin, Mikiah, Tilmon, and Evelyn Perdue, Mitchell (Lindsey), Brian (Jennifer), and Patrick (Amber) Woiwode, Amanda (Alex) Bosque, Edward Fry; Whitney (Kyle) Quist, Erica Bost, Grace (Brandon) Wall, Joseph Reichel, Kerrie (David) Engstrom, and Tyler and Tyarah Eaton; great-grandchildren, Tyson, Carson, Hiccup, Arlo, and Maive Perdue, Arianna and Avery Bosque, Emmy and Elise Quist, Tristan Bost, Theodore Wall, Makenna, Ethan, and Kason Woiwode, Christopher Swartout, Collin and Robert Wible, Dontae St. Claire, and Brody Inskeep; brothers, Cecil (Donna) and Patrick Murphy; sister-in-law, Cecilia Murphy; and many in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Celeste was preceded in death by her parents, Cecil and Esther Murphy; husband, Edward Perdue; infant daughter, Mary B. Perdue; brother, John Murphy; sisters-in-law, Karen Murphy and Priscilla Taylor; son-in-law, Dwayne Bost; father- and mother-in-law Tilmon and Berdine Perdue.

In Loving Memory



Ct. St. Elizabeth #170

✠ Celeste Perdue

Ct. St. Catherine #323

✠ Caroline Heidt

✠ Betty Ott

✠ Rose Filipi

✠ Irene Hoff

Ct. Marquette #677

✠ Rita Phelps

Ct. St. Therese #958

✠ Mary Jane Huck

✠ Bernadette Larson

Ct. Sacred Heart #1919

✠ Angela Volk

Ct. Queen of the Prairies #1965

✠ Doris H. Borho

*“Eternal Rest
Grant Unto Them
O’ Lord!”*





Merry Christmas from Rita!

SAVE-THE-DATES

**May 5, 6 and 7, 2023
for the**

**53rd North Dakota State
CDA Convention**



***“Mother Mary,
Our Perpetual Help,
Our Refuge and
Our Hope”***

**Hosted by
Court #2148
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
in Belfield, ND**

Advent is upon us and soon it will be Christmas. Recently, I heard two hosts on Catholic radio discussing when Advent begins. Confusion arises due to the common use of Advent calendars. Instead of starting on the First Sunday of Advent, they start on December 1 and countdown to Christmas. Classic calendars offer a piece of chocolate or other small gift each day. However, I have seen those with a variety of toys, puzzles, makeup, perfume, wine, coffee, and many more types of things. A friend of mine purchased one that offers a new type of cheese every day. I’m surprised by all the different kinds of Advent calendars available.

The commercialization of Christmas is well known. We have been hearing Christmas carols while shopping in stores for a couple of weeks now. Unfortunately, the commercialization of Advent takes away from the reason for the Season. According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), “The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s birth on Christmas. ...Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.” (from “What is Advent?” at <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/advent>). I try to remind myself of this and find ways to become closer to Christ through prayer and reflection. I encourage us all to consider the opportunity Advent offers to prepare for Christ in our lives.

May you have a Blessed Advent and
a Merry Christmas!



State Day of Sisterhood - September, 2022

Welcome New Members



ND CDA Day of Sisterhood

by Angela Scheett State Treasurer

The ND CDA Day of Sisterhood held in Mandan blessed all who attended. Thanks to the ladies from Court St. Gerard #2518, Valley City, who shared some of the pictures they took at the event. Here are a few highlights.

The theme was,
'Grow Together with CDA in Christ'.



Attendees took home several goodies, like this one that included mint candies.



National Supervisor Barb Ward (above & right) gave a presentation about membership.

As she told everyone,
"You get out of CDA what you put into it."



National Director (our previous National Supervisor) Nancy Bambenek, 2nd Vice State Regent Sue Judd-Dyrness, State Youth Chairman Renee Wert, and Court St. Gerard Regent Ina Ann Thomsen



The ND State Officers provided a colorful breakfast and tasty lunch. Lunch was homemade vegetable soup made by 2nd Vice State Regent Sue Judd-Dyrness.

Ct. St. Elizabeth #170

Amber Klein
Vicki Thiel

Ct. St. Catherine #323

Connie Dvorak

Ct. Marquette #677

Rena M Helbling
Margaret Hoeger

Ct. St. Therese #958

Teresa Anfinson

Rita Bodin

Narcel Clark

Sarah Delorme

Karen Farber

Sheila Gieske

Barb Jensen

Janette Monson

Barbara Pope

Terri Sorenson

Mary Margaret (Peg) Hagen

Michelle Fisher

Cheryl (Cheri) J Martin

Sandra Jorgensen

Selma Shackelford

Nora Monson

Kari Rustand

Ct. Elizabeth Ann Seton #2122

Emily Alm

Ct. St. Gerard #2518

Sophya Rose

Jackie Gow

Ct. Holy Cross #2718

Charlotte Feldman

Mary Kerbaugh

Sherry King

Amy Sandy

Brenda Schmitz

Julie Wilson

Brandee Albin

JoNell Hinnenkamp

Welcome to the Sisterhood!

Local Court News

#170 Court St. Elizabeth Minot

by Ali Coleman



On November 12, 2022, Catholic Daughters Court St. Elizabeth #170, Minot, North Dakota, shared many delicious favorite homemade baked goods with residents at Somerset Court Assisted Living facility and the Minot community. The bake sale was successful because of the generous time and talents of the Catholic Daughters. Goodies were also donated to Little Flower Catholic Church for the Knights of Columbus monthly Sunday breakfast. Thanks to all Catholic Daughters, please know that you are appreciated.

Photo above (right to left): Gloria Niess, Elaine Benson, Miranda Hager, Arlene Fiedler, Cathy Deckert, and Bonnie Brunner

#322 Court Immaculate Conception Bismarck

by Virginia Dolajak



Pictured is Bismarck CDA member Catherine Bergan (L) with a display of dresses she has sewn for orphan girls in Mary's Mission in Uganda. She has made over 300 so far. A couple from Bismarck started Mary's mission. They help care for several hundred children. Tillie Fischer is assisting her display the latest group of dresses.

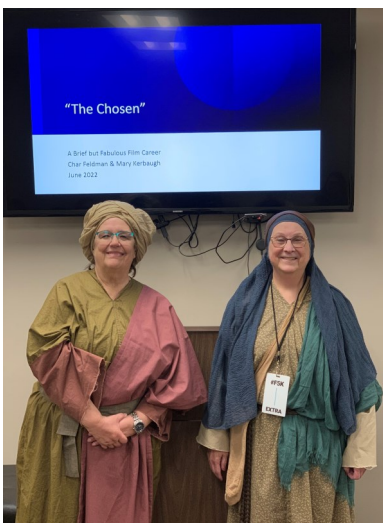
#2718 Court Holy Cross West Fargo

by Lisa Roeske

Members of Court Holy Cross #2718 in West Fargo attended the Women's Care Center Luxury Bingo fundraising event on September 22. Guest speakers shared about the Women's Care Center mission and future plans. Attendees enjoyed appetizers, socializing, playing bingo, and supporting our community's women and babies.

#2718 Court Holy Cross West Fargo

by Lisa Roeske



Court Holy Cross members, Mary Kerbaugh and Char Feldman, shared their amazing experience of being on the movie set of "The Chosen". Mary and Char were Jewish women cast members

during Season 3's episode of Feeding the 5000. At the October meeting, Mary and Char (pictured above) dressed in their authentic Jewish clothing, showed pictures of the movie set and actors, and told us all about their incredible adventure! Their story was also featured in the July/August issue of the New Earth, Fargo's diocesan magazine.



Local Court News



#958 Court St. Therese Williston

by Kristal Schmit

Our court organized a Rummage Sale and Farmers Market/Bake Sale this fall at the St. Joseph's School gym and parking lot. It was a huge success bringing in over \$9000. We also, organized and provided a social after Mass for Priesthood Sunday. There was pie and coffee and thank you cards given to each of our Priests in appreciation for all they do for our parish.

In November our guest speaker was Father Greg Hilzendeger. He gave a presentation on St. Therese of Lisieux. He shared his very personal devotion to St. Therese throughout his priestly formation. We also celebrated his birthday.

Lastly, our court is excited to welcome over 20 new members to our court this year!

Congrats on new memberships!!!

#2121 Court Father Tracy Bowman

by Agnes Kitzan

Court Father Tracy #2121, Bowman, passed a "Friendship Basket" around to all members. Each put in a gift and a donation and passed it to the next in line, who took out the gift and added her gift and donation. The money raised was to help a member's daughter who had surgery.

Katie Malescke celebrated her 100th birthday on November 13th with a party at Bowman Lodge, hosted by her family. Katie lives at Southwest Healthcare Nursing Home in Bowman.



**Happy
100th
Birthday
Katie!!!**



Court Officers L to R: Terry Walter, Jane Nelsen, Margie Russ, and Carol Foss



Christ is at the North Dakota State Capital

by Virginia Dolajak

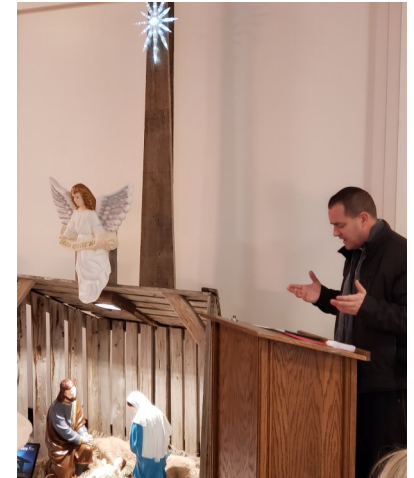
Julie Fedorchak, Public Service Commissioner, welcomed Christ to our State Capitol. Father John Paul Gardner, Chaplain Ct. Immaculate Conception #322, blessed the creche. Music was provided by Steve Harmon and Wayne Jundt. Little children enjoyed baby Jesus!



L to R: Delores Friedt, Mary Baer State Regent, Sue Judd-Dyrness 2nd Vice State Regent and Deb Johnson 1st Vice State Regent (photo by Bruce Baer)



Julie Fedorchak



Fr. John Paul blessing the creche

(Photos by Sue Judd-Dyrness 2nd Vice State Regent)



Mary Baer State Regent



Wayne Jundt singing & Steve Harmon on guitar



Fr. John Paul kissing Baby Jesus

**“Thank You” to Ct. Immaculate Conception #322, Bismarck for keeping Christ in Christmas at the North Dakota State Capitol by taking over organizing, setting-up and storing of this event!
“Special Thank You” to Margaret Sitte for suggesting this event in 2019 and continuing being a key person in the yearly planning to make sure it is successful!**



Leo Berger “getting close to Baby Jesus” (photo by Val Jundt) >>>

Junior Catholic Daughters

JCDA Ct. Sacred Heart, Harvey

by Kathy Kennedy

The Court Sacred Heart Junior Catholic Daughters have had a few meetings since they reconvened this fall. Since their October meeting was near the end of the month, they had a lesson on All Hallows Tide. They then proceeded to make Saint bookmarks which were distributed to parish members on All Saints Day. A fun activity at their meeting was to split up in teams and dress one girl up as a saint. The only materials they were allowed to use for the costume were paper towels, tape, and markers. Saint Mary Margaret and Saint Rita were the saints chosen.

At their November meeting, the lesson was on Advent and waiting for a blessed event. The girls then made Christmas decorations to be placed on the doors of each resident in the local nursing home. They also wrapped gifts they purchased for less fortunate people whose Christmas wishes were hung on the "Angel Tree" in a local business.

<<< Pictures to the left <<<

< Top picture: Saint bookmarks JCDA girls made to be distributed at All Saints Day Masses.

<< Middle picture: Holding a cross: Chloe Trosen as St. Rita (L to R) Kaylee Monge and Ayla Held

<<< Bottom picture: Mary Kennedy (advisor) and Piper Held with Cecelia Graumann as St. Mary Margaret (center)



St. Rita holding a cross



St. Mary Margaret (center)



Holding decorations they made for nursing home & gifts for the Angel Tree.
Front (L to R): Mara Felchle, Piper Held, Ella Roemmich, Aubriana Winegart
Back (L to R): Ayla Held, Kaylee Monge

Spirit of North Dakota

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Current Resident Or

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Catholic Daughters
of the Americas®

Merry Christmas North Dakota Catholic Daughters!!!

