



Spirit of North Dakota

State Regent—Kathy Kennedy

When asked what my article would be on this issue, I said it would be a ‘pep talk’ for people to run for officer positions in their local courts. I really don’t think I can say it any better than St. Francis did when he said, “Keep a clear eye toward life’s end. Do not forget your purpose and destiny as God’s Creature. What you are in His sight is what you are and nothing more. Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing you have received...but only what you have given; a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage.”

At this time, when nominating committees are seeking women willing to serve as officers in Catholic Daughters, you do



need to remember that God asks us to serve in a variety of ways, using the talents He has given us. Christ asked His apostles to step out in faith and lead even though they did not

you need to serve as an officer for two years in an organization formed on the premise of helping His people.

Just yesterday, some of my second graders were encouraging another student, saying, “You can do it!” I believe that you, too, can do it! Rely on your inner strength, help from former officers, officers you’ll be serving with, encouragement from fellow members, the CDA Tools of the Trade, prayer and the

Holy Spirit. As an officer in CDA, you do not serve alone!

If you need some time for reflection and

prayer on this matter, attending the Spiritual Retreat hosted by the ND CDA State Board on April 9 in Harvey may help. The theme is, “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.” Look to Mary for an example

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“Go out on a limb...that is where the fruit is.”

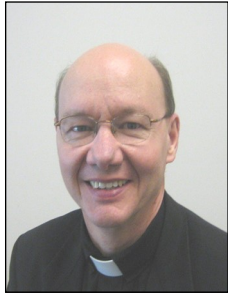
see themselves as qualified. If fishermen, tax collectors, common laborers, etc., could lead the Church (and set a foundation for it to stay alive over 2,000 years) you must have faith that the Holy Spirit will give you the tools

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State Chaplain—Fr. Franklin Miller



Dear Catholic Daughters;

There is an increasing expectancy, in the hearts and minds of the servants of our Blessed Lord for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Holy Week and Easter Sunday are the religious high point of the entire year. For each of us, Holy Week and Easter Sunday are a reliving of the mystery of the Lord's death and resurrection. "And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them" (2 Cor 5:15).

"The wonderful works of God among the people of the Old Testament were but a prelude to the work of Christ the Lord in redeeming mankind and giving perfect glory to God. He accom-

plished this work principally by the Paschal mystery of his blessed Passion, Resurrection from the dead and glorious Ascension, whereby dying he destroyed our death, rising he restored our life" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1067).

The Church's lived expression of the practices of prayer, fasting, and service/almsgiving are indispensable for in our quest for holiness. Our Lord said; "be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect". The practices of sacrifice are a means to self-governance, which leads to true freedom and therefore holiness. "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery" (Gal. 5:1). Our Lord is asking us to die to self so that we may be of great service to our fellow Catholic Daughters. "... Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?

When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you? Due to the pervasiveness of the secularization of our society today, it is more important than ever to see the face of Christ with great clarity so that we can be truly faithful to our Lord and of service to one another. "Purity of heart is the precondition of the vision of God. Even now it enables us to see according to God, to accept others as "neighbors" (CCC, 2519). The willingness of service/almsgiving to others is at the heart of living as Catholic Daughters. "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

May you have a blessed and glorious Easter!

Editor's Corner—Colleen Wipf & Mary Kennedy



Mary and I would like to wish all of you a Happy Easter and Happy Spring!

We would like to encourage you to submit your local court highlights and photos. As you

can see with this newsletter there were none. Let the other courts know what your court is doing. Submit a photo, it's your court history.

In order to save the state money, we continue to encourage you to submit your e-mail to to our State Secretary, Bonita Erickson if you have not done so yet.

Also, don't forget to check out the website at:

www.northdakotacatholicdaught

ers.org

The Board wants to keep you informed through the website and the quarterly newsletter. It is a way for Catholic Daughters to unite and share information, especially if they haven't been able to attend the monthly meetings.



National Secretary-Treasurer—Vickie Feist



Greetings my dear North Dakota Daughters of the Americas! As I sit to write my article, I truly am choked up with emotion as I think about my faithfully prayerful, compassionate, warm and loving CDA sisters in my home state of North Dakota. I want to express my deepest appreciation for all the loving prayers offered by you beautiful ladies during my November surgery and Myasthenic Crisis and lengthy hospitalization and rehabbing that have followed! When things were their darkest, I felt the loving thread of your prayers pulling me

along. Prayer definitely does make all the difference.

This Lent, like many of you I was thinking about what to “give up” or “take on” to grow closer to Jesus. In *Roses Among Thorns: Simple Advice for Renewing Your Spiritual Journey*, St. Francis de Sales tells us “In order to be devout, not only must we want to do the will of God, we must do it joyfully. If I were not a bishop, yet knew what I know, I would not want to be one. But being one, not only am I obliged to do what this annoying office requires, but I must do it joyfully, and I must take delight in it and accept it. To do so is to follow St. Paul’s saying, “in whatever state each was called, there let him remain with God”

(1 Cor. 7:24).”

And also, “I want to do this; I would be better there than here”: we are tempted by such thoughts. Our Lord knows what he is about. Let us do his will and remain where he has placed us.”

This Lent, I have sought to not only engage in fasting, sacrifice, and prayer but to do so joyfully and with delight. It is much more difficult than I thought it would be, but, it makes such a difference when I can embrace this deeply. As Lent comes to an end, and we continue in this Year of Mercy, I hope to carry this on past a Lenten practice- to accept that I am where He wants me and show His Joy in my service. ND CDA sisters, will you join me?

State Vice Regent —Laurel Ann Dukart



Opportunity to recruit new, returning, or transferring ND CDA members is knocking. Please open your doors and welcome these ladies to your Court. We need to be prepared for that chance encounter, when the subject of CDA arises.

Remember to use the recruitment tools available from the National CDA Store. Some of these are:

1. 10 reasons to join CDA post-cards
2. ‘Ask Me about CDA’ buttons
3. Carry CDA brochures
 - a. Invitation to Join bro

- a. church
- b. Unity & Charity brochure
- c. Spiritual Enhancement brochure
- d. CDA Info flyer
- e. Campus Court Brochure

4. Membership and Extension DVDs
5. Membership Drive Support Kits

Some recruitment ideas our Local Courts have tried are:

- ◆ pie socials & teas – specifically inviting non-members
- ◆ talk with Catholic women at church, work, social events, etc.
- ◆ invite Catholic ladies to meetings, hold a special ‘bring a friend’ meeting
- ◆ arrange retreats

- ◆ display CDA information at all CDA functions
- ◆ ask KC’s if you can display CDA information at their breakfasts, etc.

Recently, I chose to wear my CDA striped shirt for the KC’s 4th Degree Ceremony meal served by St. Mary’s Altar Society. Several Knights and a few of their wives commented on the CDA symbol – I used this as an opportunity to plant a seed for CDA. Maybe one or a few will blossom into a CDA membership.

Please continue to proudly wear/display your CDA: clothing, jewelry, badges, buttons/pins, stickers & decals, etc.

God bless you and C.D.A.!

Second Vice State Regent—Mary Baer



Ladies, by now you should have received your April Calendar Raffle tickets; if you haven't returned yours yet there is still time to do so, you can't win if you don't send in an entry. If you need more tickets or did not receive yours please let me know by e-mail mary.baer@k12.nd.us or by phone 701-260-3122. Please return unsold tickets, completed stubs, and payments to: Mary Baer PO Box 547 Belfield, ND 58622. Remember each entry is \$10.00 and checks should be

made out to ND CDA.

Please do not be upset that you were sent 10 tickets. You are not obligated to buy or sell them all – although that would be fantastic! We are no longer able to make copies of the entry forms and some members do sell quite a few tickets so the same amount was sent to everyone.

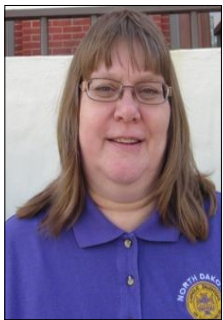
This year's raffle calendar has definitely been a learning experience. Trying to follow all the postal regulations and the gaming regulations has led us to doing it this new way. The expense is greater but we do want to be rule followers. We are very fortunate that Choice Financial Group offered to pay the cost of the tickets this year. I do apologize that

some are just on plain white paper – I used a wrong number when calculating the number of needed tickets and we needed to get the tickets out so the last 700 books had to be done on plain paper. Our expenses for the raffle will come to about \$2150. We need to sell at least 215 tickets to just cover our expenses. The fundraiser has great earning potential, even if everyone just bought one ticket, but in years past this has not been the case. Just think what could happen if everyone would buy or sell more.

Once again thank you to all the Courts that sent a donation to the

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State Secretary—Bonita Erickson



If you have trouble praying, then welcome to the human race. We are not alone in finding prayer difficult. The problem is not that we are exceptionally bad at prayer compared to other people. The problem is that we are normal. We are afflicted with the results of original sin.

God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. God not only calls us but brings us into friendship with Him and teaches us how to pray. Jesus taught us how to pray both by His example and His teaching. The very

desire that inspired the apostles to say "Teach Us to Pray" came from God. God desires our dialogue of prayer with Him more than we do. Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for Him. (ccc.2560)

God does not just teach us how to pray. His spirit empowers us to pray. What we need to realize is that we are never left on our own when it comes to prayer. Jesus gives us far more than a method of prayer. He gives us the means to pray through His spirit. We must always keep in mind that prayer is God's invitation to enter into an intimate relationship of love and life with Him.

We see the disciples speaking to Jesus, telling Him their hopes and their fears, pouring out their hearts to Him. That is half the dialogue of prayer. It is interesting to note that as it is often the case with our own prayer. We feel that God is far away and has abandoned us at the very moment when God is closest to us. The aim of all prayer is an intimate communion with Christ.

When you pray, you speak with God. Prayer is a conversation with God. Yet many of us live our lives short on prayer. As the Bible calls us to "Pray Without Ceasing," let us remember to PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!!!!

I am hoping that you will be having great conversations with God .

State Treasurer—Sara Torpen



Greetings!

As the state board we have been elected into this position as good stewards of the organization.

So what does it mean to be a good steward? Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 2402 states: “In the beginning God entrusted the earth and its resources to the common stewardship of mankind to take care of them, master them by labor, and enjoy their fruits. The goods of creation are destined for the whole human race. However, the earth is divided up among men to assure the security of their lives, endangered by poverty and threatened by violence. The appropriation of property is legitimate for guaranteeing the freedom and dignity of persons and for helping each of them to meet his basic needs and the needs of those in his charge. It should allow for a natural solidarity to develop between men.”

We all know that talking about money can be a sticky issue at times. A decision to make an appeal for money for the state board was not an easy decision. I thought I would give you a snapshot of some of the reasons we had for making the decision. The most obvious was the decrease in money coming in from a couple of factors such as decreased

membership and lower volume in fundraisers than in the past. Regardless of the amount of money coming in we still have the bills to pay much as we see in our own daily lives. ND CDA has standing rules that lay out to whom we have elected to donate to. Another big factor for the tight cash flow are the state conventions; we have not only been faced with increased costs to make the convention happen but have also seen a decrease in the number of attendees which has resulted in a deficit. Our hopes and dreams are to put on a great convention that accommodates all. With that in mind I encourage all to come to the convention where we can further discuss this important issue.

Rest assured we are being good stewards with this money entrusted to us. Just as the Catechism states as a steward I have been given a sense of solidarity within this organization. Even though we are made up of separate local courts we are all one organization committed to the principles of unity and charity. Immense amount of gratitude is the only thing I can say I have from the response we were given. Also would like all to remember as Kathy previously stated that the donations given were completely voluntary and we as a board are not weighing a court's worth on whether they donated or not.

In Loving Remembrance

Rose Mullarkey

Jeannette Fletcher

Judy Fisher

Darlene Hendershot

Kathleen Delvo

Doris Vader



In Unity & Charity



Important

The Spiritual Retreat Sat., April 9 in Harvey has been cancelled!

(The NDCDA Board will reschedule for a later date.)

www.northdakotacatholicdaughters.org

Second State Vice Regent cont. from pg. 4

State Court to help with expenses – it is very much appreciated and is being put to good use. It is very hard to keep up with the expenses. We (the State Board) hope you are enjoying the four editions each year of the State Newsletter and we hope that having three Fall Workshops instead of one was beneficial. The mailing of the raffle tickets will be a bigger expense this year since we cannot use the bulk mailing permit. We have other monetary commitments such as a University of Mary Scholarship and donations to the Reli-

gious Motherhouses. And of course we can't forget about our revitalizing State Conventions – there are more expenses involved when held at a hotel.

Keeping all these expenses in mind I hope you find it in your heart to buy a raffle ticket or as many as you can and perhaps ask a friend or two to buy some as well. I wish everyone could be a winner in the raffle but remember we are all winners being a member of the Catholic Daughters.

Future Events:

June 20, 2016—40th Anniversary, Ct. Our Mother of Perpetual Help #2148, Bel-field

July 20-24, 2016—56th Biennial National CDA Convention, Pittsburgh, PA

Oct. 16, 2016—National CDA Sunday



***WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS***

Caroline Lantz
Valois (Lois) Lantz
Mary Kay Starry
Catherine Buettner
Marisa Regan
Yvonne Kasqlek
Susan Morrison
Catherine Bergan
Betty Schumacher
Leona Feist
Virginia Michlitsch
Joanne Fix
Lisa Backen
Rebecca Larson
Harlene Hatterman-
Valenti
Karen Volk
Irene Binstock
St. Azucena del
Carmen Gonzalez Logo
Brenda Hernandez Valves
St. Rosa Areola
Desiree Johnson
Frances Benedict

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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Assistant Editor: Mary Kennedy
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Current Resident Or



State Regent cont. from pg. 1
in honest service, love, sacrifice
and courage.

If you've never been an officer in CDA, now is the time to try it. If you've served in one or two positions, it may be time to try another. Think positive about yourself. God does.

I started my article with a quote from St. Francis. I'm going to end it with a quote from someone who lived more recently. As Will Rogers said, "Go out on a limb...that's where the fruit is."

Next deadline for "The Voice of CDA"
June. 1, 2016 codewipf@gondtc.com