



Spirit of North Dakota

State Regent—Laurel Ann Dukart

March is the month that Local Courts elect their nominating committees. “Thank you” to all who are serving on these committees. Your task is important for the future of your courts.

Members – Please consider running for one of the five local offices. You may be asked by the nominating committee, nominated from the floor, or volunteer your name. If you have any questions about an office/it’s duties, please feel free to contact any of the State or Local officers to answer them or guide you to the National website, a great resource. The fall workshop will include officer training. In the local and state offices I have served, I have received much more than I put into them.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, . . . John 3:16. Wow! What could be more humbling, than to know God did this for each and every one of us. Each Lent I try to be mindful of what I do for and how I treat others. I don’t so much ‘give up’ things like food or drink. Rather, I



give a little more of my time – to God, to family, to friends, to CDA [so it might mean longer letters], etc. It takes getting up a little earlier, going to bed a little later, spending less time watching TV or on the computer.

I challenge each and every CDA member to become more CDA mindful, long after Lent is over. Participate in your court’s activities, attend meetings [keeping side-conversations for the social part], consider running for office, say “Yes” when asked to chair something (if you can), volun-

teer, and pray that CDA continues to be strong in North Dakota and elsewhere. Let’s show the ‘Joy in CDA’ – get the word out about our great organization. As Kathy Kennedy, Immediate Past State Regent, often said, ‘CDA is the best kept secret’ – it’s time to tell that secret!

Rejoice! He is Risen! Happy Easter!

In Unity and Charity,
LaurelAnn



The Lent Lilly
A.E. Housman

‘Tis spring; come out to ramble
The hilly brakes around,
For under thorn and bramble

About the hollow ground
The primroses are found.
And there’s the windflower chilly
With all the winds at play,
And there’s the Lenten lily
That has not long to stay
And dies on Easter day.

And since till girls go maying
You find the primrose still,
And find the windflower playing
With every wind at will,
But not the daffodil,

Bring baskets now, and sally
Upon the spring’s array,
And bear from hill and valley
The daffodil away
That dies on Easter day.

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State Chaplain—Fr. Franklin Miller



Dear Catholic Daughters,

The holy season of Lent is a blessing from God for all his children; “come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life” (Is 55:3). The Lenten season provides us with practices that will, if done sincerely and for the right reasons, assist us in overcoming the challenges we face in becoming “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Peter 2: 9). The holy season of Lent is a means to sanctify our life in order that all aspects of our life will be pleasing to God. The necessary sanctification of our life entails the regular practice of the use of the sacraments. “The purpose of the sacraments is to sanctify men, to build up the Body of Christ and, finally, to give worship to God” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1123). The sacrament of penance and reconciliation during Lent is a proper preparation for the celebration for Easter. “According to the Church's command, ‘after having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year’” (CCC, 1457). Our Lord continuously calls us to conversion so that our hearts are united in love and we have the understanding and knowledge of Christ himself. “It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).

Our blessed Lord spent forty days in the desert, “where ... he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished” (Lk 4:2). As disciples of the Lord, we strive to imitate him our Lord during the forty days of Lent with fasting and penance. It is our goal to strengthen our faith and have the firm commitment to persevere on our pilgrim journey in purity of heart. “*See and contemplate* the face of Crucified Love, who today from the cross

continues to bring us hope, his hand held out to those who feel crucified, who experience in their lives the burden of failure, disappointment and heartbreak” (Pope Francis, *Ash Wednesday Homily*, 14 February 2018).

May you have a blessed Lent and a joyful Easter!

Fr. Franklin Miller

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Melinda Miller

St. Cecilia #362

Kayla Zent

Bishop Wehrle # 1919

Maggie Oakland

St. Gerard # 2518

Sue Eggl

Holy Cross # 2718

A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE TREASURER DEB JOHNSON

Greetings to the Catholic Daughters of ND, I am hoping you're enjoying your Lenten journey with the promise of Easter right around the corner. Our journey is a daily challenge to be Christ to others around us and to help others in any way we can. With this thought, there has been a great response in courts giving to our State charity: St. Ann's Catholic Mission. If sending to the state it should be NDCDA on the check with the state charity as a memo. That way we can keep track in the two-year period a total that we as ND Catholic Daughters give to the state charity. If it is written to the Mission it will be sent on but won't be a part of the totals reported on the state level. This may delay the check getting cashed which is not our intent but happens as everything goes through Sue and then on to me. May we continue to be a helping hand to this Mission! Prayers and Easter Blessings to all of you!

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Chaplain,

Second Vice National Regent—Vickie Feist



North Dakota National Representative Article

As we move through lent, one of the focuses is on sacrifice. It can be easy, I think, to overestimate the depth of my sacrifice. To begin to count the cost of what I give up for the good of others- the time and effort, the setting aside of my wishes for another, the things I give up while offering of my time or strength or material offerings for another.

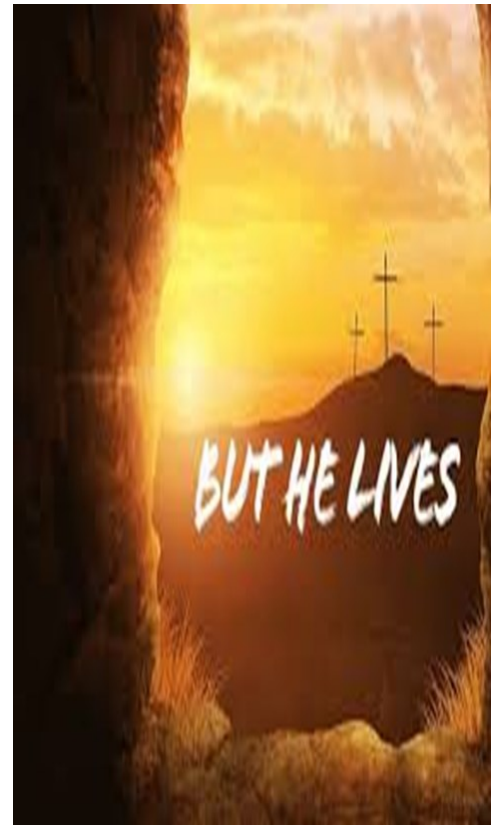
I think sometimes maybe, we can begin to even do that as CDA members? To compare what I have given for the court compared to the sister sitting next to me. To consider before saying “yes” how taking on a task will inconvenience me, or make me nervous, or challenge me. To think that I am being asked to give too much.

But, when I find myself in that frame of mind, I try to remember that while I may

be asked to give of myself, He gave His LIFE in sacrifice for you and me- for our very salvation. That reflection puts things into reflection and helps me remember what following Jesus calls me to abandon myself to allow God to use me in service of others.

I invite each of you to consider the opportunity to be of service to your Catholic Daughter sisters by serving as a local court officer or a local court chairman for the upcoming term. There are tools to help you - including a procedure manual, liturgical and circle of love manuals, bylaws, and training for officers that will be available from your state officers. You will certainly find blessing in any sacrifice you offer to your CDA sisters.

God love you, Vickie



State Vice Regent —Mary Baer



What a great day to start our 2018 Calendar Raffle – Easter Sunday! It seems as though, all my articles are focusing on the raffle. I do apologize for this but we had some difficulties with getting the newsletter out so

hence we got a little bottle necked. Hopefully we will be able to stay on schedule now. If you haven't purchased a ticket yet it is not too late. It is very helpful to me if you could state what court you are from when returning your ticket stubs and or unsold tickets, this saves me the time of looking through multiple court listings to find your name. Just a reminder that the money raised from the raffle is used for the donations and expenses of the State Court. We will be listing the winners weekly on our face book page “ND Catholic Daughters of the Americas” and on our web page

www.northdakotacatholicdaughters.org.

Full names will not be listed for privacy reasons but a first name and the city and state of their address will be listed. A full list of the winners will be printed as always in the state newsletter.

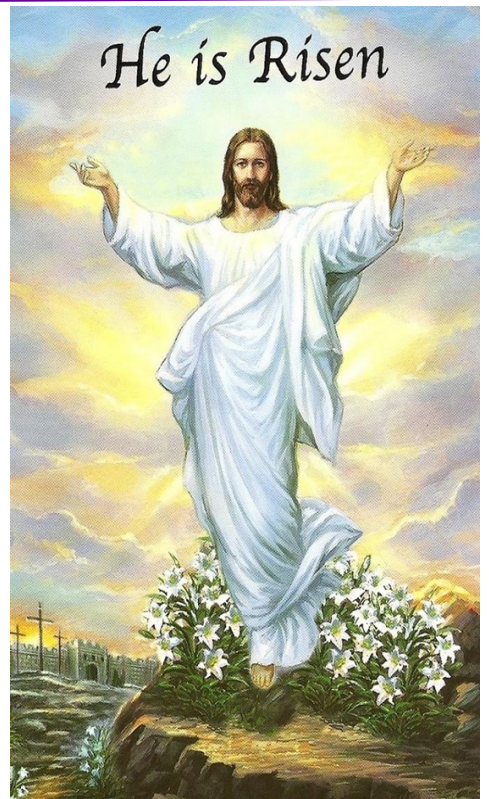
I hope your Lenten journey has been enriching and that you have a joyous Easter Season. I would like to close by sharing this Easter prayer with you:

An Easter Prayer

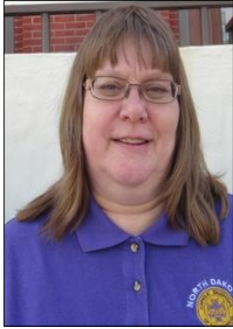
Of all of God's gifts
Easter shows us our fate
Forgiven we will rise
And pass through Heaven's gate
This Easter remember
The sacrifice of a Son
And through His resurrection
Eternal life we have won
This Easter I pray
That the love of God
Is resurrected
Reborn, renewed
Inside your heart
God Bless You!

~anonymos~

Mary Baer



Second Vice State Regent—Bonita Erickson



I recently saw something about habits to grow closer to God. It got me thinking about what Catholic Daughters could do to grow closer to each other.

Catholic Daughters, our very name reminds us that divi-

sion has no place in our courts because Catholic means one and universal.

Our motto "Unity and Charity" reminds us that its not enough just to be united but to be united in love for God and one another.

We all must work together to become one. Each member must learn to maintain that love for one another during the good times and the difficult times. Working together as one will enhance the life of your court. We need to be courteous to each other. To be flexible and willing to listen to each other's

ideas. We need to be open to new ideas or changes especially from a new member. We need to be generous and willing to give help and time to others. We might need to refresh our memory of what a Catholic Daughter actually is.

Praying for each other and also for our courts is another good habit to develop. We could pray the rosary together. Collect food for the food pantry. Send out cards with little notes to shut- in members or nursing home residents to let them know that we haven't forgotten them or that we are thinking of them.

Attending Catholic Daughter events together also makes the bonds among us stronger. The national Catholic Daughter convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in July 2018 and the state fall workshop are good places to start to grow closer to each other.

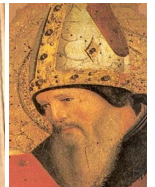
PRAYER FOR UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

Bless us, Divine Father, help us to find unity with each other, to work together to deliver your word, Oh Lord, for we know man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.

Help us to be a blessing to others, help us to be like Jesus, Oh Loving Father; kind, caring, compassionate, loving, giving, forgiving and humble.

In essentials, unity;
in non-essentials,
liberty; in all things,
charity.

Augustine Of Hippo



State Secretary—Sue Judd



This is a friendly reminder that all money sent to the State Board needs to be sent to me.

We are trying to update our database for our newsletter and other mailings and would like either the

financial secretaries or regents from each court to request a roster for their court from the National CDA Office (Gloria at cda-roster@aol.com). Please review the roster and make sure everything is correct – name, address, phone number, and email address. Make corrections on your roster and return a copy to the National Office and a copy to me. I am hoping you can all have these done by the middle of May.

All additions, deletions, name changes, address changes, email addresses, and etc. need to be sent to me, along with the National Office. The National Office keeps the official records for all. Thank you and God Bless you! I hope you have a spirit-filled Lent and a joyous Easter!!!

Election year reminder on political activity Margaret Sitte, North Dakota Legislative Chair

As North Dakota Legislative Chair, I have been hearing from courts who want to send a collective message from Catholic Daughters to Senator Heidi Heitkamp regarding her "no" vote on the bill banning abortions after 20 weeks, also known as the Pain Capable Awareness Act.

One member wrote to me, "Her NO vote did not and does not represent our position and we need to respond to her with a loud voice of concern for the most helpless, the unborn. We cannot stand by silently. We must let her know how much we disagree with her NO vote."

I applaud this member's righteous sentiment, but urge you to remember that Catholic Daughters is a tax-exempt organization. We can take positions on bills and we can remind members of elected representative's votes on certain bills, but we cannot as a group send a message to an elected official. As an organization, we cannot support or oppose any candidate or political party, or we might risk losing tax-exempt, charitable status.

We can and should become involved as individuals when we see injustice. The most powerful response is to ask each member to write a letter to the editor as an individual. If we are to make any difference in the current culture war, we need to be courageous as individuals and take a public stand as individuals. After all, we vote as individuals, not as a group.



Local Court News

CDA Court St. Catherine Dickinson celebrates 100 years

On December 8, 1917, 50 members of the Daughters of Isabella and Catholic Daughters of the America instituted Court St. Catherine #323, in Dickinson, North Dakota.

The court was at its largest 425 members, when Irene Schafer was Regent, 1985-87. Present Court has 183 members, with Linda Meyer as Regent.

Our court is honored to have in its membership a National Catholic Daughters Regent, Claudia Bosch! She joined the court 47 years ago, and was National Regent from 2006-2008.

Caroline Heidt joined in 1984, and has lead the rosary at St. Luke's Home during Lent , for the past few years.

Rena Sticka joined 27 years ago and helped in the planning of mass and reception for the 100 year celebration. She is a past regent of Court St. Catherine #323.

Our oldest member, Mary Mann who joined in 1945, was celebrated earlier this year with a cake and punch reception at Country House in Dickinson.

Marie Wax, Vice Regent became a member in 1979. She compiled a history of the court, which was presented at our dinner reception on December 9, 2017, at Lady J's .

The court celebrated with a mass at St Wenceslaus church, with Monsignor Patrick Schumacher at 4:00pm ,followed by dinner reception, at Lady J's . Approximately 65 members were present, to celebrate 100 years is service, spirituality and friendship in " Unity and Charity". *Submitted by Cheryl Brooke*



Ct. St. Catherine Anniversary Mass



Living Rosary at Queen of Peace Church on CDA Sunday



(left) Claudia Bosch

Claudia Bosch past National Regent and MC at 100 year celebration of Court St Catherine Dickinson



ROSARIES FOR PEACE/CONVERSION

Members of Court St. Gerard #2518, Valley City, ND lead all four Rosaries, along with Scripture reflections, in St. Catherine Church, Monday night, October 30, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:30, for peace in our hearts and the world and for conversion of sinners. Rosaries were as follows: Joyful Mysteries at 6:30 p.m., Luminous Mysteries at 7:00 p.m., Sorrowful Mysteries at 7:30 p.m., and Glorious Mysteries at 8:00 p.m.



In Loving Remembrance

† Barbiece Ness

† Rose Gustin

† Alice Schiele

† Monica Dykema

† Irene Voeller



Local Court News

Court Immaculate Conception #322



Court Immaculate Conception, #322, Bismarck, North Dakota, celebrated its 100th Anniversary December 10, 2017. The court was instituted October 9, 1917. The Most Reverend David D. Kagan, Bishop of Bismarck, celebrated Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit with Court Chaplain Fr. Gregory Luger concelebrating. Among those attending were Past National Regent Claudia Bosch, Dickinson; Second Vice National Regent Vickie Feist; North Dakota state officers; local court officers and members. A luncheon and program followed Mass. *Photo taken by Deacon Joe Krupinsky.*



Pictures and content submitted by Elizabeth Gemmill, Regent Court Marquette #677

Court Marquette #677 celebrated our January meeting with a baby shower for our local women's pregnancy center in Grand Forks, ND.

Court Marquette #677



Angela Scheett pinning corsage on Laurel Ann

Court Marquette #677 celebrated Laurel Ann Dukart becoming the State Regent for our Catholic Daughters of North Dakota. We enjoyed an open house with cake and coffee. We are all so proud of Laurel Ann and we are thankful for all of her hard work.



Therese Linnertz presenting Laurel Ann with installation scrapbook

Congratulations

Court Sts. Anne & Joachim #2638



L-R: Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, Ron Smith, & Sharon Beauclair, Regent, Sts. Anne & Joachim #2638



Court Sts. Anne & Joachim Daughters hosted a Wine Experience for parishioners, family and friends. The evening was filled with education on various wines including some found locally. Catholic Daughters Harlene Hatterman-Valenti partnered with Ron Smith, wine expert and retired NDSU professor in the presentation and sharing knowledge.



Spring into Action: Embracing Lent Like A Child

Sarah Gratton State Quality of Life Chair, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Court, Wilton, ND

When asked to contribute to the state Catholic Daughters of North Dakota newsletter, I immediately asked myself, “What does one write about? What insight could I possibly offer?” I must admit that; though I know the stories of the bible, I am the worst for quoting scripture. When it comes to books, chapters, and verses I seem to be at a loss when put on the spot. So I did what any newbie would do, I called Laurel Ann, State Regent.

After our hour or so long conversation, it was determined that my passion would surpass my knowledge and that the power of one childhood memory would set the stage for this Lenten inspiration. Now most of you never knew that while growing up my first aspiration was to be, not a nun, but the first female Catholic priest. There was a remarkable beauty in the mass and I was enthralled with the infinite wisdom that came from Fr. Charles Leute’s homilies. Then I found out marriage was out of the question and things changed a bit, but the point is I was devout in my faith for my young age.

The only time my faith seemed to waiver was when the season of LENT came along and I became the difficult spirit that most children are when they’re reminded it’s time to give up that one thing you just can’t live without. No Hershey chocolate bars! No more bag of chips. No more soda. What do you mean I can’t have hotdogs on Friday? The list goes on forever and we’re expected to do this for the next 40 days. Who is this Jesus and what does God have against me that I have to purge myself of Sour Patch Kids candy for the next month and a half? Sound familiar? Though our vices may have changed over the years and with each generation, we still wrestle with how to be more involved in the spirit of Lent.

It was until the one Sunday I was sitting in one of the front pews of Seven Dolors Catholic Church, Ft. Totten, ND, with classmates from my Catechism classes. Deacon Tony MacDonald just scolded one of the boys for eating chips during mass and educated the parish on the importance of fasting before mass that we may receive the precious Body and Blood of Christ. It was then Fr. Charles Leute, better known as Fr. Chuck, who rose from his chair and approached the pulpit for his homily. His words were not harsh. He didn’t ask me to give up chocolate or Pepsi and chips. Oh my goodness! He didn’t even tell me to abstain from my Sour Patch Kids. He asked all who were present that day to not give up something, but to be more giving, more intentional in our thoughts, words, deeds, and prayer. He offered a challenge.

I remember going home that day feeling inspired and motivated. I gave more of Sarah. I was more helpful around the house, respectful of my mother, and offered more Hail Mary’s... just because. The blessing in the giving more of me was that I actually gave up the things that were otherwise so difficult before. This Lenten season I ask all my sisters in Catholic Daughters of North Dakota to spring into action and embrace Lent with childlike enthusiasm. Think not what you have to give up, but how you can be giving of yourself.

I usually create a living Advent calendar to prepare myself for the birth of Christ and Christmas. Several weeks of daily tasks from reading from the Bible, baking goods for the elderly, doing something in memory of my loved ones passed, listening to a religious CD, to attending a mass, etc. I have since discovered tools and resources that help individuals of the Catholic faith and their families do the same for Lent. Real Life at Home (www.reallifeathome.com/40-lenten-activities-for-catholic-families/) is one resource. So let me leave you with a few ideas or fun tasks to execute this Lenten Season:

- ◇ Thank someone who has been influential to you
- ◇ Complete a chore or task usually done by someone else
- ◇ Pray for those in RCIA classes preparing to enter the church
- ◇ Send a card with a word of encouragement
- ◇ Watch a religious film as a group or with your family
- ◇ Attend a mass
- ◇ Hold a foot washing with your family
- ◇ Attend the Stations of the Cross or read at home with your family



Whatever you do, do it intentionally, prayerfully, in unity and charity.
Respectfully yours,

Sarah E. Gratton

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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Current Resident Or



Happy 2018! Please remember to send Sue Judd and myself any email or address changes. We

have several bad email address. Also, when sending pictures, please let me know who is in the picture (we love pictures!!!) As usual, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns with the newsletter (or any ideas you may have). I use publisher for the newsletter and then transfer to a PDF. You may need to download the PDF program if you are unable to open. We will try again to get 4 out this year.

I hope to meet many of you at the National Conference in July! The State Conference in Bis-

marck last year was so enjoyable. I can only imagine what the Nationals will be like!

Our next newsletter deadline will be May 18. Please share what your Court is up to.

My blessings to you,

Becky

