



“THE VOICE OF CDA”

Spirit of North Dakota

State Regent—Kathy Kennedy

As I sit down to write this, I have babies on my brain. Baby Miriam, who will be one month old tomorrow is sleeping on my couch. She is the daughter of my oldest son, Alexander, and his wife Haven. Elizabeth and Devin’s baby, Shaun, will be 4 months old tomorrow and Damian and Renae’s baby, Caleb, turns one year old this week. We are eagerly awaiting Katherine and Dustin’s baby on January 1. In this season of Advent, my mind is constantly remembering the most important baby ever to be born...Jesus Christ, who would change the world and still saves our souls today.

I consider the North Dakota Court to be “my baby” as well and want to nurture it, do what’s best for it, and watch it grow. All of you are on my mind as I write this also. I hope you are enjoying your identity as a Catholic Daughter and doing the best to



be a Christian example as you do your good works through CDA. If you are not able to be as active as a member as you once were due to age or health, please know that your support and gift of prayer sustains us all.

As you know, the National CDA Convention is in Billings, Montana, this summer July 16-19. If you have never attended the national convention this one is a good one to consider going to as it is probably the closest to us that it will be for a while. Attending a national convention is educational, uplifting, fun and really makes you proud to be a

Catholic Daughter. Marie Wax is trying to organize a chartered bus trip to the convention. There is more information about this in a separate article.

Recently I addressed a group and mentioned that leadership is not a one-person job. It is through the cooperation and support of members and guidance of the officers that one is able to function to the best of their ability. I have experienced your support and cooperation in the few months that I have been State Regent of North Dakota Catholic Daughters and I definitely couldn’t serve my office without the help of the other state officers, Father Miller, and the Holy Spirit.

Know that you are all in my prayers during this holiest of seasons and if you have an extra prayer I wouldn’t mind if you threw it my way.

God bless all of you.

Inside this issue:

Chaplain’s message	2
National Supervisor’s message	3
First Vice Regent’s message	3
Second Vice Regent’s message	4
Treasurer’s message	4
Secretary’s message	5
State Project	5

Next deadline for

“The Voice of CDA”

March 1, 2014



State Chaplain—Fr. Franklin Miller



"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors" (Lk 2:14)! A multitude of angels sang the praises of God to the shepherds in the fields. They were "living in the fields and watching over their flocks" (Lk 2:8b) as shepherds had done for centuries. However, in this one night the world would be changed forever. The God-man would be born in a humble stable in Bethlehem as the child of Mary and Joseph. He came to establish a kingdom in the hearts of those who are willing to believe in him and to accept him as savior. However, "to become a child" in relation to God is the condition for entering the kingdom. For this, we must humble ourselves and become little. Even more: to become 'children of God' we must be 'born from above' or 'born of God'. Only when Christ is formed in us will the mystery of Christmas be fulfilled in us. Christmas is the mystery of this 'marvelous exchange': 'O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of the Virgin. We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share our humanity'" (Catholic Catechism of the Catholic Church, 526). Our hearts and minds become transformed as we allow the Lord Jesus to lead us from a life of sin to a life of grace.

verse, they share in his kingly mission and are called by him to spread that Kingdom in history. They exercise their kingship as Christians, above all in the spiritual combat in which they seek to overcome in themselves the kingdom of sin (cf. Rom 6:12), and then to make a gift of themselves so as to serve, in justice and in charity, Jesus who is himself present in all his brothers and sisters, above all in the very least (cf. Mt 25:40).

May you have a Blessed and Joyous Christmas!

“Grace is a participation in the life of God. It introduces us into the intimacy of Trinitarian life ...” (CCC, 1997). It is an invitation of life and love. A love expressed to us by the Incarnation, “and the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth” (Jn 1:14). The kingdom of truth and grace is entered into in a great and mysterious way by our acceptance of the new born king. Blessed John Paul II wrote in *Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People*, (*Christifideles Laici*) “because the lay faithful belong to Christ, Lord and King of the Uni-

verse, they share in his kingly mission and are called by him to spread that Kingdom in history. They exercise their kingship as Christians, above all in the spiritual combat in which they seek to overcome in themselves the kingdom of sin (cf. Rom 6:12), and then to make a gift of themselves so as to serve, in justice and in charity, Jesus who is himself present in all his brothers and sisters, above all in the very least (cf. Mt 25:40).

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR !



From your
State Board:
Kathy
Laurel Ann
Mary
Bonita
Deb
Father Miller

National Supervisor—Vickie Feist



Greetings my dear Catholic Daughters! I hope this finds all of you doing well. This time of year often becomes a whirlwind of activities for a couple months with the various hunting seasons that are so much a part of our prairie states, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, New Years and all the planning and intentions it involves. I think it

would be wise for us all to read the National Chaplain's article in the latest SHARE magazine frequently to remind us to Cherish Each Day and not let ourselves get caught up in the whirlwind.

Having said that, once you have turned the calendar to the New Year, it is time to begin considering the wonderful opportunity to participate in the shaping of our future through your participation in our Biennial National Court Meeting- the National Convention- as a voting delegate. With the July 2014

convention being held in Billings, Montana many from our areas may consider driving there with a group which makes the convention a more affordable trip that may allow more to attend. Iowa is even working on plans to take bus(es)! Courts will be electing their delegates to National Convention at either their January or February court meeting so be sure to let your local court officers know if you are interest in serving as a voting delegate at the upcoming national convention.

First Vice State Regent—Laurel Ann Dukart



Hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving. I shared mine with most of my family – honoring family traditions, starting new ones.

Thanksgiving shouldn't be the only time we pause to *'give thanks'*. When at Perpetual Adoration last Wednesday, I noticed few lines were added to the "Thank God board" [a board to write how God has blessed you] after the two I wrote two weeks prior. It saddened me a bit, that those (myself included) who passed by didn't take the time to write something they thanked God for. I promised myself to add at least one blessing each week. Please remember to daily *'thank God'* for all His blessings.

As we are now in the hope, faith, joy and peace of Advent (one of my favorite times of the year), I'd like to mention CDA's newest charity, Misericordia.

Misericordia offers a community of care that maximizes potential for more than 600 children and adults from diverse racial, religious and socio-economic backgrounds. All of the residents have developmental disabilities, and many are also physically challenged. Twenty percent of their residents either come from poverty families or have no families and are wards of the State of Illinois. Misericordia is operated by the Sisters of Mercy in Chicago. The Director, Sister Rosemary Connelly, was the 2012 CDA Catholic Woman of the Year.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas endorses and supports ten National Charities.

- ◆ The North American College
- ◆ Morality in Media
- ◆ Catholic Relief Services
- ◆ Apostleship of the Sea
- ◆ Covenant House
- ◆ Mother Teresa
- ◆ Tutwiler Clinic
- ◆ Project Handclasp
- ◆ LaBoure Society
- ◆ Misericordia

Sometimes 'giving' is more than a gift (present or money), sometimes it's giving of ourselves – our time and our talents.

Second Vice State Regent—Mary Baer



In addition to the work done on the local level by our courts, Catholic Daughters of the Americas supports the five Special National Charitable Projects which are: The Disaster Relief Fund, Habitat for Humanity, Holy Cross, Smile Train, and SOAR! Through combined giving, each court and member gets an opportunity to support the worthwhile programs. I thought since this is the season of giving it would be a good time to explain a couple of these projects.

Holy Cross Family Rosary

“The family that prays together stays together” is the motto of the Holy Cross Family Ministries. Faithful to Mary, the Mother of God, The Family Rosary encourages family prayer, especially the Rosary. Founded by Servant to God, Father Patrick Peyton, CSC, Family Rosary seeks not only to fulfill the need to share the message of prayer with those who are unfamiliar with the Rosary but also to strengthen the prayer life of the devout. Since Catholic Daughters has the Blessed Mother as our Patroness and we have a strong devotion to her, we have supported this worthy cause since 1977.

Smile Train

The Smile Train is an interna-

tional charity dedicated to helping the millions of children in the world who suffer from cleft lip and palate through free surgery for children, free training for doctors, and research to find a cure. This life-changing surgery is truly a modern day miracle. It gives these children a new smile and a second chance in life. 100% of the donations go for the program and 0% to overhead. The average cost per surgery is presently \$250 and takes about 45 minutes.

We can be very proud of all that we do. Every contribution makes a difference. I hope all of you have a very Blessed Christmas and remember that Jesus is the reason for the season.

State Treasurer—Deb Johnson



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

As 2013 is winding down and a new year is just around the corner, may we reflect upon the blessings in

our life over the last year. There is always so much to be thankful for.

Does your court have Standing Rules in place? Standing Rules are rules that your court runs by as long as they don't conflict with our National Bylaws. They are adopted or changed at

any business meeting by majority vote. They remain in effect until changed or rescinded and should be reviewed yearly. What do they consist of? When and where you hold meetings, yearly dues, whether gifts are given to new members, mass offerings, what is expected following a members death, what is done for your Chaplain, Regent, or State visits, etc.

An outline is available in the Tools of the Trade section 5, pages 14-16 for an example for your court to revise for your own needs. If your court already has them in place, super! If not, please look to the Tools to get

started. These should be passed to each newly elected officer so they know what is expected in their court. No one likes “unwritten rules”. If it is reviewed yearly then your new members will also be informed.

May God continue to Bless each and everyone of you for all you do as Catholic Daughters! “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

May you have a Blessed & Fruitful New Year!!

State Secretary—Bonita Erickson



The Bible tells the Salvation Story. How are the Catholic Daughters telling THEIR story? The Catholic Daughters have a wealth of history that needs to be told and shared with others. We need to tell women and others about OUR story. So where or how do we start? While it might seem like such a major task, it could easily be started by sharing the reasons why we ourselves joined Catholic Daughters. We were created to know God, to love God and to serve God. Isn't it amazing how Catholic Daughters help

women to fulfill this purpose! Deeply spiritual, together Catholic Daughters share faith, love of God and a distinctly feminine spirituality alluded to by Pope John Paul II when he spoke of the necessity of "feminine genius" in today's world.

Catholic Daughters are women who live their faith in work and action. We are women of prayer. We are the hands that do God's work. It is a special blessing to be a Catholic Daughter and we should want to share this with others. Please consider sharing YOUR CDA Story in the New Year ahead.

I want to share with you six things we were encouraged to do at a parish mission in the next

year. It is a good way and a reminder of how to start our new year.

- 1) Pray the rosary daily, even if it is just one decade.
 - 2) Commit to Eucharistic Adoration weekly.
 - 3) Add an extra Mass to your week.
 - 4) Make a monthly confession.
 - 5) Read scriptures ten minutes a day.
 - 6) Pray for one person for a whole year. After the year is over, invite them to be closer to God.
- God's blessings to you!



State Project—Project Ignite Light

By Casinda Langseth Quality of Life State Chairman

In the midst of this giving season, I would like to share with you some details about our State Project that the North Dakota Catholic Daughters are supporting over the next two years. Those of you who attended the state convention may recall voting to support "Project Night Light."

This summer the group had a bit of a transition and is now known as "Project Ignite Light" (PIL). Project Ignite Light is a ND based organization through which children are provided important items needed when they



are examined by their local advocacy center or hospital for physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect.

In 2008, over 4000 children were seen around the state of North Dakota for abuse or neglect. It is the goal of Project Ignite Light to equip each child that enters a hospital or advocacy center to be seen for these reasons with a "Bag of Hope." Each "Bag of Hope" includes: Fleece tie blanket, pajamas, socks, underwear, shampoo, conditioner,

toothbrush, toothpaste, water bottle, flashlight, and a book, "You are Special" by Max Lucado. Often children in these situations are left feeling insecure and unsure of themselves and the people around them. Through Project Ignite Light, they receive a small piece of security. Because so many of the hurting children feel used, only new items are placed in the bags.

Project Ignite Light moved their headquarters to a new location this summer. Pebbles Thompson and her family now live and run the non-profit on a

Continued on pg. 8

Court Highlights



Court St. Therese #958 honors 65-year members

By Sandra Brendsel

Court St. Therese #958 of St Joseph's Catholic Church in Williston honored the courts two 65-year members. Kathleen Hagan received her 65-year member pin from Rev. Russell Kovash and Catholic Daughter Regent Sandy Brendsel at the CDA Sunday Mass on Nov. 3. Genevieve Hagan was presented her 65 year pin by private visitation by Brendsel. Members participated in the ministries and promoted membership to Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Hagan receives 65-year pin

L to R: Sandy Brendsel, Regent, Rev. Russell Kovash, Chaplain and Kathleen Hagan.

Bus Information for 2014 National CDA Convention

The Dakota Trailways chartered bus company has been contacted about the possibility of taking a chartered bus to the 55th Biennial National CDA Convention in Billings, Montana. The convention dates are July 16-19.

The dates, times and places for pick-up of CDA members across North Dakota have been set. The date of departure for the convention if you ride the bus would be Sunday, July 13.

The first place to board would be in Fargo at the Petro Serve USA Truck Stop at 8:00 a.m. CDT. The next stop is scheduled for Stamart at 12:30 p.m. CDT in Bismarck. The last stop scheduled is the Law Enforcement Center in Dickinson at 2:00 p.m. MDT. Additional stops at Valley City or other places along I94 could be scheduled if requested.

The bus would leave on July 20 from Billings for the return trip home.

The cost for the chartered bus ride is \$200 per person which must be pre-paid by February 15. No refunds will be given. Forty passengers are necessary to be able to charter the bus.

For more information, contact Marie Wax, 2441 10th Ave. West, Apt. 1, Dickinson, ND 58601-2778. Phone # 701-483-9028.

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

Quinquagenery celebrated by Ct. Sacred Heart

By Susan Waldoch

Court Sacred Heart #1908 Harvey, ND became a quinquagenery organization on November 17, 2013. We celebrated our 50th Anniversary with Mass, meal and a program.

State Regent Kathy Kennedy & State Chaplain Father Franklin Miller presented 50 year pins to Alice Lorz, June Prom, Angie Rudnick, Elvina (Beanie) Schaan, Ramona Schmitz and Kathy Werlinger. These ladies also received a blessing from the congregation.

A meal was prepared by the Harvey Knights of Columbus and served by St Cecilia's Catholic Youth Organization. Claudia Bosch, past National and State Regent, inspired all present and motivated new members with her keynote address. June Prom, one of the Charter members, shared her memories of their charter initiation and projects she enjoyed. State Regent Kathy Kennedy congratulated



Charter members receiving their 50 year pins and a blessing were: L to R—June Prom, Alice Lorz, Beanie Schaan, Angie Rudnick, Ramona Schmitz and Kathy Werlinger.

the Court and recognized the Junior Catholic Daughters that were present. Six new CDA members were initiated and received purple ribbons along with a letter from the National Chap-

lain and Local Court Regent.

Incorporated with the 50 year Anniversary, was a reception for our State Regent and State Chaplain. Coffee & Cake were served after the program.

40 Days for Life

Catholic Daughter's Court Queen of the Prairie #1965 led rosary every Monday during the 40 Days for Life campaign in the little park south of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in Langdon.

A rosary path had been made in the park. A grotto was built in which an outdoor statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary was placed. This statue was donated by Ct Queen of the Prairies.



Queen of the Prairie #1965 donates statue. Standing L to R: Bev Otto, Elaine Hill, Bonita Erickson, Dorothy Kroetsch, Gerry Waltz and Marjorie Mikkelsen.

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State Project—continued from pg. 5

former school property near Rogers, ND (between Jamestown and Valley City). Their ministry is growing and evolving as they are able to reach more hurting children. Monetary donations are the greatest way to keep them in operation, but they also need fleece blankets (tie-blankets), and new pajamas. In our court, we plan to have a meeting in which we tie blankets and host a pajama drive for the cause. Their website is www.ndnightlight.org.

If your court would like to host a pajama drive or blanket making event, contact me for more details. 701.388.2835 or casindalynn@hotmail.com

Merry Christmas!



Hark the Herald Angels sing...
“Glory to the newborn King!”