



Spirit of North Dakota State

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State Regent - Mary Baer



2022 – Hard to believe 1/12 of the New Year is already behind us. This New Year still brings with it many uncertainties. I know you do not need reminding of this but continue with the prayers – that is what keeps me going and on track. Do take time to notice all the positives in the world around you and do not let even the tiniest positives go unnoticed. Maybe you can even be that extra little positive in someone’s day. An extra smile, compliment, or gesture can go a long way or be just what someone needs whose day is not going as planned.

I always use to think that January, February, and March were the “slower” months of the year, but I certainly don’t think that way anymore. January certainly flew by and looking ahead at what CDA has to offer; February and March will go by just as fast. Circle of Love forms can get filled out, you can enter the Education Contest, you can buy and or sell CDA calendar raffle tickets, and you can start thinking about perhaps taking a CDA officer position for the next term (it really can be a rewarding experience). I know your list was probably already quite full without adding the CDA items but remember it

doesn’t all need to be done at once – just take it one project and/or one day at a time.

At our Virtual State Convention in May we had as our keynote speaker Jean Gatz, who delivered two wonderful presentations about “Unwrapping God’s Gifts in Your Life.” In late December Jean sent me the following message:

“Hope all is well with North Dakota CDA women! I thoroughly enjoyed keynoting for your annual conference in May, so I’m writing to invite you to be part of my new project. In hopes of connecting during these challenging times, I’ve created a short weekly email message for a select group of women who know me personally, or who’ve heard me speak at their conferences, meetings and retreats. A two-minute read in your inbox once a week. No politics or controversy. Simply a brief message to inspire and engage ... to make you think, make you laugh, and help you “meet Life” with wisdom, confidence, and grace. (OK, that might take three minutes!)”

If you would be interested in receiving Jean’s weekly message, email me at marybaerndcda@gmail.com and I will forward her message to you and the info for you to subscribe for free. This just might be what you were looking for, for the New Year!

Know of my prayers for all of you in 2022!
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.

State Chaplain - Rev. Shane Campbell



If you are like me, it seems like it has been months since we celebrated Christmas. The wonderful celebration of Christmas gives way to other things such as return to work, school, and ministry. But the weeks after Christmas are rich in their own right. We have celebrated what we call the three Epiphany events — the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus by John, and the miracle at Cana. These are as Pope Francis has described them, “the three signs that the liturgy brings in these days in order to speak to us about the manifestation of God: God makes himself known.” As we know, the story of the Magi coming from the East reminds us that the child born in Bethlehem was born for all peoples, and the baptism of Jesus is the revelation that he is the Father’s “beloved Son.” So, then, what do we learn from the miracle at Cana? What truth is revealed?

To answer this question, we have to take in a broader view of salvation history.

Throughout the Old Testament, we read of how God continually called straying women and men back into right-relationship with Himself. The Hebrew Scriptures are filled with signs and stories that reveal God’s covenant-love — His relationship — with His Chosen People: the rainbow after the great flood (Genesis 9:1-17), Abraham’s star-filled sky (Gn 15), the giving of the Law to Moses (Exodus 15 and 24), and the promises made to King David and his descendants (1 Samuel 7:12-13). Each of these stories remind us that while the People of Israel violated this relationship time and again, God’s love and mercy remained constant.

But those signs and symbols of the Old Testament were only representations of God’s love. On that first Christmas night everything changed. In Jesus — who is the Word-Made-Flesh — God “made his dwelling among us and we have seen his glory” (John 1:14) and the miracle at Cana was the first time that Jesus manifested his own transforming power and his glory. Cana marked a beginning and in the transformation of the water into wine we discover that Jesus wasn’t simply another prophet or holy man. He was God’s “Beloved” and he holds the power to transform — to recreate and renew — the hearts, minds, and souls of his followers.

In the coming weeks of Ordinary Time, we will hear the stories of how this transforming and saving work, begun in Cana, changed the lives of Jesus’ disciples, as we’re invited to reflect on how that transforming power continues to shape us today.



New Local Court Chaplains

Fr. Jacob Degele

#170 Ct. St. Elizabeth - Minot

Deacon Terry Fischer

#261 Ct. St. Ann - Fargo

Fr. John Paul Gardner

#322 Ct. Immaculate Conception - Bismarck

Very Rev. Chris Kadrmas

#1421 Ct. St. Veronica - Mott

Rev. Michael Hickin

#1965 Ct. Queen of the Prairies - Langdon

Fr. Jared Wolf

#2121 Ct. Father Tracy - Bowman

State Office Directory

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Peace be with you.

A CDA friend/sister told me recently the greatest accomplishment does not come from me but from the other sisters in the courts. Mine or other courts. When I am visiting a court I can find these sisters fragile at times, tempted at times, even sinful at times. I may rant and rave about their abilities or inabilities or their exuberant or lack of enthusiasm but these sisters of mine have "never given up." They are connected to each other. What a beautiful testament to the grace and preservice in their faith journey, which is the Grace of Christ preserving them and bearing fruit in those who humbly accept His Grace. These sisters seek Christ in the Eucharist and in the gifts of the Holy Spirit in times of disappointment, discouragement and devastation. They come to meetings to feel apart of a prayer community, to be uplifted with fellowship and to love and be loved. Maybe even a little business gets done.

Please take a look at your gatherings or ask a small group of your CDA sisters to pray and take a look at your next meeting to see if you have the right balance of: Prayer, FUN, Fellowship and Community. If the answer is no, start with some small changes to make it more balanced. When asking the new member to join then you will be very proud of your court and what it has to offer. The business meeting should be the very last thing talked about.

Happy New Year & God Bless Each One of You,
Nancy

"Faithful Women set the World on Fire!"

National CDA Fall Retreat held November 12-14, 2021, at St. Benedict's Abbey and Retreat Center in Benet Lake, Wisconsin



Back Row (L to R): Nancy Bambenek MN, Vickie Keller TX, Barbara Wiechmann SD, Sue Judd ND, Rita Mastel ND, Irene Duda OR, Mary Baer ND, Brenda Anderson SD

Middle Row (L to R): Angela Scheett ND, Theresa Duran NY, Helene Shepard NY, Ivone da Silveira PR, Deb Johnson ND, Emily Guilherme CA

Front Row: Connie Dronette LA

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The First Call to the 59th Biennial National CDA Convention was sent out in December. Please read over the information and share with you members. Please consider attending the convention. (passports not needed) Join with Catholic Daughters from around the country/world to celebrate our faith. Our sisters in Puerto Rico are planning a wonderful convention.



Will you be a servant
of the Lord?
Romans 12: 3-8

By our Baptism we are made children of God. We were made to love and serve God and each other in all we do. Happy New Year may 2022 be a better year than 2021.

This marks an election year for our local courts in May. I am asking you now to think and pray about taking an office in your court. This is how we grow in our knowledge of Catholic Daughters, get to know members locally and across the state.

Now this may be a scary proposition, that's why we pray and ask the Lord if this is how he would like to see you serve him. Know that if you say yes to the Lord, the Holy Spirit will be there to guide you along with past officers, your State Representative and The Tools of the Trade.

At your March meeting you will be electing a Nominating Committee of 3 to 5 court members. No member can serve more than 2 consecutive terms on this committee. The 3 to 5 candidates with the most votes shall be elected with the others as alternates according to rank of votes. The one with the most votes is the chairman or the committee may select its own chairman.

What are the duties of the Nominating Committee?

1. They shall meet to consider possible candidates for all offices. Always checking with current officers willing to serve another term or another office.
2. They shall call each candidate and ask if they are willing to serve.
3. They shall submit to the local Court Regent the name of one candidate for each office.
4. If there is a vacancy, they can report that office open-please try to fill all offices.
5. The chairman shall report the slate of officers to the Court at the April Meeting.

So, if the Nominating Committee calls you, consider it an honor as they believe you are worthy of leading your Court in one way or another!

(continued on page 5)



Happy New Year,

I hope you all had a merry Christmas celebrating Jesus's birthday with family and friends. Now we are into a new year. The time goes by so fast! I pray that you all have a blessed new year and experience the love of Jesus throughout your day!! Jesus is always there for us, loving us and surprising us with new experiences and joys. We just need to be open to Him and what He has for us. He surprised me by putting a man in my life. It was the last thing I ever expected to happen, but it did. We have fallen in love and I am getting married on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima in May. Yes, I am very excited!

Well enough about that, I want to share with you about state dues. The state dues are set by the National office. The year is divided into two 6-month periods. Those 6-month periods run from April 1 through September 30 and October 1 through March 31. At the end of each 6-month period, we get a statement from the National Office as to how many members each court has. This is why it is very important to keep the National Office updated on your membership. When someone passes away or resigns from CDA you need to let the National Office and the State 2nd Vice Regent (me) know of the changes in your court, so you are not being charged dues for women who are no longer members. The National Office deadlines are September 30 and March 31 each year.

Usually, the National Office sends out the National Due statements in October and April and we (the state) wait a month or two later, before we send out our statements for the State dues. That is why there is so much time from the end of the 6-month period to when you get the dues statement from the State. All dues should be paid within 30 days of the statement date and they do not need approval from the court to be paid. When the Regent gets the dues statement, she should give it to the treasurer, so she can get it paid. By getting both the National and State dues paid on time, it allows your local court to be involved in the voting of National and State Conventions. I hope this helps you to understand about how the dues work and the importance of keeping the national and state offices know of any changes in your local memberships.

Love and Prayers, Sue

State Court News

2022 State April Calendar Raffle

by Mary Baer

Coming soon
will be your
2022
State April
Calendar
Raffle tickets.
The price of a
raffle ticket
will still be



\$10 but the payout has doubled.
The winning amounts will be \$50
each weekday, \$100 each day of the
weekend, and \$250 on the 15th and
the 30th.

The calendar raffle has been the pri-
mary fundraiser for the state for
many years without an increase in
the payout, so we thought that it
was time to reward your great par-
ticipation and support with a little
bigger payback.

In Loving Memory

Ct. St. Ann #261

† Kathryn "Kay" Morehead

Ct. St. Claire #1846

† Rosemary Wolf

† Alice Nauman

† Alice Schiele

Ct. Father Tracy #2121

† Dorothy Eldringhoff



*"Eternal Rest
Grant Unto Them
O' Lord!"*

Welcome New Members



Ct. St. Elizabeth #171

Sharron Bossert [R]

Alice Rendall [R]

Ct. St. Ann #261

Fran Gilroy

Ct. St. Mary #268

Kathy M. Kraft

Ct. Immaculate Conception #322

Rene'e Arasi

Sharon Wiederholt

Diane Weber

Diane Krupinsky

Ct. St. Claire #1846

Maria Bichler

Deborah Ibach [R]

Billie Schumacher

Janice Weniger

Ct. Sacred Heart #1908

Mary Jo Stafford

Ct. Holy Cross #2718

Madonna (Donna) Klein

Phyllis Knutson

Colleen Lund

Diane M. Olinger

[R] = renewal

Courts / Members: What can you
do to increase membership?

- Invite ladies to your meetings
- Have a CDA get to know us.
- Place brochures in churches
- Other ideas / events???

1st Vice State Regent (cont. from page 4)

Elections

Elections will happen at your May Court meeting.

1. A notice via email/ regular mail shall go out to all members at least 10 days prior to the election meeting stating:
 - Date, Time and Place of Election
 - slate of officers as submitted by the Nominating Committee
2. Nominations will be taken from the floor for all offices prior to the election.
3. Elections will be by ballot unless there is only 1 nominee for office, then the Regent may take a voice vote.
4. Each officer shall assume the office to which she is elected with or without installation 30 days follow-ing election.

Installation

Local Court installations shall take place no later than the regular Sep-
tember meeting. Remember to invite your State Representative in plenty
of time to get it on their calendars as they oversee 4 or more Courts.

Wow that is a lot of information! Wishing all the ND Courts a Blessed
New Year and Full slates of officers come May. May we all work to-
gether to be the hands and feet of Jesus to others in our Courts and be-
yond.

In Love and Prayer,

Deb

State Secretary - Rita Mastel



The Bismarck Catholic Daughters set up large beautiful Nativity scene at the State Capitol Building. Our chaplain, Fr. John Gardner blessed it and us and prayed over the manger. ND Lt Gov. Brent Sanford, addressed the Daughters. Del Ray Bergen, son of one of our members did the heavy work in setting up the scene. In closing we sang a few carols with Julie Ternes on the guitar. The manger was up for one month. As a member was taking it down, people walked by and told her how they really enjoyed seeing the manger there everyday.



I will also report on the Circle of Love there is a new revised and updated form. Please be sure to ask your Regent for the form and the name and address of the State Chairman to place on the form.

Happy Valentines Day!



Lt to Rt: Rev. John Paul Gardner, Julie Ternes, Lt. Gov. Brent Sanford, Sandra Sanford, State Regent Mary Baer

“Thank You Members of #322 Court Immaculate Conception for sponsoring the Nativity Event!”



State Treasurer - Angela Scheett

The ND CDA State Officers attended the 2021 CDA Fall Retreat, “Faithful Women set the World on Fire!” held November 12-14, 2021, at St. Benedict's Abbey and Retreat Center in Benet Lake, Wisconsin. We all met in Fargo and drove from there to the Retreat Center. Many thanks to Mary for the use of her vehicle as well as Deb and Sue for sharing in the driving.



To get ahead of a forecasted winter storm, we decided to leave on Thursday, November 11. This allowed us to take a side trip to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin, on Friday morning, November 12. We were blessed to visit this place, which is the first and only Catholic Shrine in America with a Church-approved Marian Apparition Site. Anyone interested in learning more about it can visit:

[The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help – The Grounds Where Mary Appeared in 1859 \(championshrine.org\)](http://championshrine.org) online.

We arrived at St. Benedict's Abbey in time to check in and have dinner Friday evening. The retreat was the third CDA Fall Retreat and was led by Connie Dronette, National Secretary-Treasurer. The others were held in North Carolina (September 17-19) and New Mexico (October 29-31). Each of those had around 50 participants. Due to the restrictions at St. Benedict's, our retreat was much smaller with only 22 of us, including Connie and four other members of the National Board who were present to act as facilitators, counting our National Director, Nancy Bambenek. I appreciated the smaller group because it made it a much more intimate experience.

Connie was a wonderful Retreat Director. She started by talking about the Blessed Mother and what has been said about her life through the insights of the Mystics. One point that struck me was that when apparitions of Mary occur, she is not telling us anything new. She is just reminding us of the Truth.

The rest of the presentations were about other female Saints and what they could teach us through their experiences. Their lives and devotion to Our Lord were very inspirational. Connie suggested that we give the advice of the Saints instead of our own advice. She also encouraged us to pray several times a day, even five minutes at a time. I am still working on that.

I felt fortunate to attend this retreat. We, the ND State Officers, were asked to lead the Rosary on Saturday afternoon. I found this a particular blessing. The whole weekend was a wonderful time to spend together as CDA Sisters.

**#261 Ct. St. Ann
Fargo**



by Lynette Knoll

Court St. Ann #261 of Fargo gathered at Deb Johnson's home to do some cooking and baking for Stepping Stones Resource Center (Homeless and at Risk young adults). We also tied a quilt as part of one of our projects this year and will do more at our February meeting. It was enjoyable and fun to share some CDA sisterhood time together!



Lt to Rt: Linette Knoll, Peggy Motschenbacher, Cathy Hanson, Deb Johnson, and Patsy Mathern



Lt to Rt: Patsy Mathern, Cathy Hanson, Peggy Motschenbacher, Deb Johnson, and Linette Knoll



Lt to Rt: Patsy Mathern, Veronica and Tacita Poletti, Deb Johnson, and Barb Grabar

**#1421 Ct. St. Veronica
Mott**



75th Anniversary

Established November 24, 1946

by Mary Baer

Members of Court St. Veronica #1421 celebrated their 75th Anniversary on November 16, 2021 with Mass at 4:45 p.m. followed by a pot-luck supper, short meeting and program.



Back Row (L to R): Mary Messer, Mary Pat Schwartz Regent, Kathy Kilzer, Fr. Chris Kadmas, Lois Rixen, Cheryl Olson

Front Row (L to R): Corinne Friedt, Maggie Banyai, Anna Tharaldson, Sherran Mayer, Rose Bond

**JCDA Court
Mott**



JCDA members displayed projects they are working on.



**#2518 Ct. St. Gerard
Valley City**



by Sue Judd

The Catholic Daughters of the America's Court St. Gerard #2518 held their annual Christmas Party/Baby Shower on Monday, January 10 at the home of Ina Thomsen. Instead of exchanging gifts within the court, we bring new baby items to donate to the Women's Care Center in Fargo.



L-R front: Nancy Orthman, Lila Harmsen, Dolly Hoelmer, Barbara Schierling, Elizabeth Hoeger, Virginia Zubrod, Berta Clement, Sharon Vanorny, Charlene Donohue.

L-R Back: Kiersten Baughman, Sue Judd, Karen Spenningsby, Amanda Mindt and baby.

We also presented member Lila Harmsen, a spiritual bouquet of 100 Rosaries for all the work she has done, along with her deceased husband, Bill, at the abortion mill in Fargo. She and her husband have gone to pray every Wednesday for many, many years at the abortion mill and work to try and save babies along with our good Lord.



Lt to Rt: Sue Judd and Lila Harmsen

Spirit of North Dakota

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Catholic Daughters
of the Americas®

North Dakota State Officers Leading the Rosary at the 2021 National CDA Fall Retreat

