



Dear Catholic Daughters

It is the beginning of a new CDA Year and I wish to thank all of you for agreeing to step-up and serve your Court and your Church, as members and officers in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

We had a well-attended retreat and workshop in Wenatchee and the attendees were very positive about both days. We were extremely fortunate to have Fr. Pat Kerst, our State Chaplain, provide us the opportunity to reflect on God's mercy and His impact in our daily lives.

I wanted to share a bit about the National CDA Convention held in Pittsburgh. This was a rewarding opportunity to be with fellow CDA members and to share time together in prayer, friendship, fun and learning to better serve God's people through our many works of Charities. The theme of the Convention, which was Shirley Seyfried theme for the past 2 years, was "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do onto to me". There were 569 delegates out of a potential 2295 potential delegate, which included the National Board and Directors, State Courts and local Courts. I was reminded during this time that CDA offers us an opportunity to grow spiritually while serving our God who encourages us to use our gifts and talents in serving one another. During the Convention, a check for \$40,475 was presented to Fr. Peter Wamulwa, Court chaplain from Kenya in order for them to purchase a tractor and bus to be "hired out" by CDA for use in the community and to take people to doctors, etc. The tractor will be to work the garden in order to give free food to the villagers. Over \$340,000 was given to Charities over the past 2 years. Thank you for all of your works and activities for both the National and State Project as well as the good works you perform in your own Courts.

The Name of CDA was not changed but voted to go back for review/study. Helene Shepard, our new National Regent is asking for input! It was voted that a CDA member can now join a 2nd Court. This allows for participation in CDA functions for those ladies who travel in the winter and participate with another Court. However, you cannot be an officer in two courts and have to choose your primary Court to serve as an officer!

As Catholic Daughter's and Women of faith, we need to make time in our Courts for prayer. Our meetings should begin and end with prayers. We should encourage members to do corporate communions, adoration and Novena's. Always keep in mind: What is God calling us to do. This is my theme~ "What are you asking of me Lord? Where do you want me to serve?" Bishop Donald Kettler from St. Cloud Diocese Minnesota, spoke of God's mercy...How are we making God's mercy present in the World? We need to talk and practice MERCY—IT NEEDS TO BE FREELY GIVEN, WELCOMED, LOVED. We need to invite ladies with open arms and have them feel welcomed.

Works of Mercy are our expressions of our love with God.

Make your membership in and your Court something you want women to join. We are hoping to offer tools for you today to facilitate energy prayer and enthusiasm in your Court while also taking care of business.

Thank you for all of you do on behalf of our God and Church. I am humbled to be here as your State Regent.

## Marie Raschko-Sokol

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**The Washington State CDA Newsletter is** a publication of the *CDA Washington State Court* and is published four times a year~ Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer.

The newsletter is mailed-emailed to State Officers, District Deputies, State Chairmen, local Court Regents and Court Chaplains. If one of the listed above is not receiving his/her newsletter, please send in his/her name and address to State Regent, **Marie Raschko- Sokol.** 

With each issue, several newsletters are returned as undeliverable so please keep us up to date regarding address c h a n g e s .

The newsletter is also available free of charge at the Washington State CDA Website: <u>www.catholicdaughters-wa.org</u> or <u>www.catholicdaughters.org/states/WA</u>

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Life withers life. Change transforms change. But You God, are the replenishing light... Delivering life to my veins.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Mercy: Joy and Challenge

"Lord, have mercy." We are familiar with these words we repeat at the beginning of the Mass. This past August 12, many Catholic Daughters of the Americas and other women gathered in Wenatchee for a day of reflection on the theme of mercy during this Year of Mercy, which comes to a close on November 20. Of course, that doesn't mean that on November 21 we no longer are to be concerned with mercy. God's mercy has always been and will always be surrounding His people and His creation. Out of His love for us, He longs to help us respond to his call to a life of holiness, goodness and joy; He does this in a profound way by showing us His mercy—in the mysteries of the Incarnation and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of our sins, the healing of our emotional and physical scars, etc.

We depend upon the mercy of God; without it, there is no hope for salvation, which only comes to us as gift from God. "Lord, have mercy." I vaguely recall a presentation on the liturgy several years ago led by a priest from the deep south— Mississippi, I think. He reflected upon a common "catch-phrase" used by the Catholic women of that area in which he had grown up and still lived; it was used whenever something spectacular, extraordinary, truly commendable was done by someone. The phrase was, "Lord, have mercy." This is a spin in our liturgical usage of the phrase, which is in the context of our acknowledgment of sin and need for God's forgiveness;

but it is a beautiful expression of faith. That spectacular, extraordinary, commendable thing was done because God is merciful- treats us better than we deserve out of His love for us, and with that grace incredible things are possible! "Lord, have mercy."

As this Year of Mercy draws to a close, may we thank God each day for His mercy, acknowledging Him as the source of our life and hope, the One who enables us to love in big ways and small, and calling out for His mercy as we acknowledge our sinfulness and our dependence on Him for all that we have and are. He wants our lives to be filled with joy, peace and love; "Lord, have mercy." *Fr. Patrick Kerst* 









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# 2016 State Workshop!



Ct. Caruana #906, Ct. Our Lady Queen of Peace#2463, and Ct. St. Rita #957 Circle of Love Winners!





This past year, Annette Lee of Ct. St. Rita, #957, Everett received a National Award of Merit for Art. Camille Ostheller of Ct. St. Rita, #957, Everett received a National Award of Merit for Computer Art. Congratulations to the National and State Court winners.







## The Washington State CDA Newsletter - Fall Issue, 2016

# **News from around the State!**

# The Catholic Daughter of the Year Award Congratulations to Frances Bopp, Court Washington #196!



Frances joined Ct. Washington 196 in January of 2008. From April 2015-2016 she has served as our Regent. Frances works with the bereavement ministry serving luncheon after funerals. She also acts as a substitute for Adoration Hour. If any help is needed in the parish, Frances will be there. She is a member of the Purple Heart Foundation auxiliary. This group serves veterans who have been awarded a Purple Heart. They put on Christmas and Easter parties and provide gifts for these veterans. She also assists her husband in a group called Pheasants Forever which works to improve habitat for pheasants and to provide a pheasant hunting experience and gun safety to youngsters.

Frances Bopp had no experience as an officer of our Court yet she volunteered to take over as Regent when no one else would simply because she loves Catholic Daughters and didn't want the Court to fold. All this in spite of the fact she has failing evesight. During the last year she visited all the charities we usually support, gathering pertinent information as to their needs, and she attended card parties put on by Altar Societies in many parishes in our city talking about Catholic Daughters as she played. As a result of her tireless efforts, we have gained 12 new members under her tenure.

She gathered materials to make 50 baskets for children in the Ronald McDonald House—these children were siblings of those confined to a local hospital and are often forgotten in the trauma of caring for the sick one. After visiting the Women's Hearth, a drop in shelter for homeless women, she spearheaded a collection for the items they needed. When she gave a first-hand report on what was needed, it inspired the Court to be generous and they certainly were.

Francis also makes our meetings fun. Every month we have a theme and she does all the decorating for that. She promised the members the meetings would be 2 hours and no more. Sometimes we are all having so much fun we hang around even longer.

Frances exemplifies the caring, the sharing, and the camaraderie that is Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

50/50 winner. Lori **Holcomb of Court St** John the Evangelist, donated her 50/50 raffle winnings of \$190.50 back to the State Court. Thank You I ori!













Greetings to my Washington CDA sisters.

I hope that all of you have enjoyed a great summer whether you stayed in WA, traveled to other regions of our beautiful country or even beyond.

Our National convention in Pittsburgh was a busy and full week! Almost 900 Catholic Daughters gathered together to renew friendships, pray together, conduct business and make decisions for the good of our order. We elected our new National Board and also shared in some fun along the way. It was great to see and spend some time with your WA State Board. You are blessed with wonderful leadership for the Catholic Daughters in Washington. They returned from Pittsburgh with the knowledge they gained and of changes made to share with all of you.

Our new National Regent, Helene Shepard, has chosen a wonderful theme for her term, "Serve the Lord with Gladness".

As we get ready to get active again, after a refreshing summer break to enjoy family, friends and some R&R, may we continue to work together in Unity and Charity serving the Lord in gladness and following our Holy Father's works of Mercy. It is also important that we keep up our campaign of Shirley's to increase our memberships and look for possible locations for new courts and most important to maintain the members already part of our courts.

I was re-elected to serve another term as a National Director but have not to date received my new assignment. I will know soon what that assignment will be for the next 2 years. In case I don't get WA again, I want to take this chance to tell you how much I have enjoyed working with your State board, my trips to your beautiful state and to tell you that all of you will remind in my prayers for the success of Catholic Daughters in Washington.

Peace and blessings, Susan Mone', National Director

Postage Stamps for Mother Teresa

The Vatican has announced it will release a Mother Teresa on the occasion of her stamp shows two images of Mother Teresa, second of her greeting a small child. Only be sold.



postage stamp dedicated to the Bl.

canonization on September 4th. The one where she is smiling and a 150,000 of the sheets of stamps will

Did you remember that the U.S. Postal Service released a Mother Teresa stamp on September 5, 2010, the 13th anniversary of Mother Teresa's death, at a special ceremony held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Designed by award-winning artist Thomas Blackshear II, the 44-cent stamp honors the diminutive Roman Catholic nun and honorary U.S. citizen who served the sick and destitute of India for nearly 50 years. She founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950.

"Often, stamps are referred to as a nation's 'calling cards' because they reach a national, and even an international audience," said Postmaster General John Potter in dedicating the stamp. "They focus attention on subjects our country regards with respect and affection, and that is certainly true of Mother Teresa, who believed so deeply in the innate worth and dignity of humankind and worked tirelessly on behalf of the poor, sick, orphaned and dying."

## REGENT'S FALL CHECKLIST

(Feel free to print this)

- ✓ 1st Meeting~ Review your local court Standing Rules with the Court and have them approved. The standing rules should be approved annually.
- ✓ State and National Dues: Are your state and national dues up to date? They should have been sent in by May 1st, 2016 for the spring. Remember that National dues will send an invoice, but our state dues should be paid with your completed Financial Review, there is no Invoice from the state.
- ✓ Court Budget: Does your Court have an approved budget. It might be time to start reviewing your needs. Be sure to check the Charitable Contribution Report for ideas about budgeting items for the State and National Charities and Projects. Don't forget to include a budget line item for Workshops and Convention along with your Charities.
- ✓ October 15, 2016: National Catholic Daughter of the America's Day. Plan something special with your court, hold a membership drive or have an activity for all parish women to introduce them to the good works of CDA.
- ✓ November 1, 2016 Semi-Annual Financial Review: Financial Review forms for the prior year ending September 30, 2016 are available on the National Website. Contact your District Deputy to arrange for her to be at the review. Regents are to appoint 3 members, which are not officers, to serve on the Review Committee. Forms are to be returned to State and National by November 1, 2016.

# UPCOMING SPRING DATE! April 28-30, 2017: CDA

2017 CDA National Education Contest Themes

It is time to start encouraging our youth to enter the 2017 National Education Contest. The themes for this year are:

# • "Whatever you do for the least of my Brethren, you do for me". Matt.25:40

# • Helping the needy where I live.

Let's spread the word. Remember that there are monetary rewards for students at the state level.

State Convention, Red Lion Inn, Wenatchee, WA

April 28-30, 2017

# Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas 2016 State Workshop in Wenatchee







Holy Father's Intentions for September, October and November 2016

**September** \*Universal: That opportunities for education and employment may increase for all young people. \*Evangelization: That catechists may give witness by living in a way consistent with the faith they proclaim.

**October** \*Universal: That human trafficking, the modern form of slavery, may be eradicated. \*Evangelization: That with a missionary spirit the Christian communities of Asia may announce the Gospel to those who are still awaiting it.

**November** \*Universal: That we may be open to personal encounter and dialogue with all, even those whose convictions differ from our own. \*Evangelization: That pastors of the Church, with profound love for their flocks, may accompany them and enliven their hope.

Ct. St. John Evangelist #2105~ Vancouver, WA









Ct. Wenatchee #255

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## National Washington State Winners in our Circle of Love



# SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT

#### St Monica #2627, Regent Valorie Anderson

 Question 1.
 Describe the opportunities that your court provides for members to develop their relationships with God.

 \*\*Over half of our Catholic Daughter members are active helping in Mass as Eucharistic ministers, Lectors, user/greeters and RCIA sponsors. To help build spirituality we planned, sponsored, and put on a women's retreat at our parish. We asked our parish priest to

conduct the retreat based on a theme of "Women of the Bible". \*\*We conduct our meetings on Thursdays so those interested could come early and attend Mass and say the Rosary before our meetings.

\*\*Adopted a Seminarian, he is in his third year now and we send him money, encouraging notes and let him know he is always in our prayers.

\*\*It is now a standing rule to Support our Parish Priests by providing them both with \$50 gift certificates on Christmas and Father's Day.

\*\*We formed a prayer line and call down the line with names of someone in need of prayers.

**\*\*Conducted a candlelit Pro-Life Rosary after Mass on the anniversary of Roe Vs Wade.** 

**\*\*We handed out free religious books and movies after weekend Masses.** 

Question 2. What event / activity has your court sponsored in your parish or community to encourage spiritual growth in participants? \*\*To help build spirituality we planned, sponsored, and put on a women's retreat at our parish. We asked our parish priest to conduct the retreat based on a theme of "Women of the Bible". Father Simple, one of our priests, happily took us up on the idea and started gathering thoughts and prayers around the topic. We left the specifics of the program to him and started working on logistics and advertisement to our local parishes. We are a smaller community and our two priests serve 5 different parishes spanning more than 50 miles one way! The retreat consisted of an opening Mass; discussion topics with prayers; led meditations; and we capped the day off with individual confessions. What a great gift to provide our parishioners! Father Simple was great and the topics he chose were outstanding and thought provoking. All of the ladies that we talked to came away enlightened and wanting another one! We are in talks with some of the parishioners about joining our Court. Some are busy mothers and are interested in learning more about JCDA too! To help make this a memorable retreat, we planned and provided a wonderful lunch for the 50 ladies that attended.

Question 3. How has your spiritual program influenced or made a difference in the goals or activities of your Court and in the actions and interactions of your members? **\*\*We have increased our members, and grown closer together as we learn more about each other as friends and shared our ups and downs in our spiritual life.** 

## Valentines for the Nursing Home

# **QUALITY OF LIFE**

Describe fully ONE project in the Circle of Love program for Quality of Life done by your court this past year. What was the goal for the activity?

Two weeks before Valentine's Day, we ordered roses, baby's breath and ferns. We printed up small tag cards with "Love One Another, As I Have Loved You," on one side with "Catholic Daughters Court St. Monica is praying for you" on the back.

Ten ladies helped arrange the vases and delivered to applicative residents. We met after Mass and attached our tags to a single long stem rose bud, put those in a plastic vase (for safety), and then filled the vases with baby's breath and ferns. We put them in boxes and delivered them to 84 nursing home residents and some other home bound parishioners for Valentine's Day.

We took time to visit with each and explained some of the activities we do as Catholic Daughters of America members. They were so happy to see us and visit with us it was hard to get away and on to the next vase recipient.

## ~ WashingtonStateCourt~ CatholicDaughtersoftheAmericas

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In Unity & Charity





# Mission Statement of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The purposes of the organization are to participate in the religious, charitable and educational apostolates of the Church. Catholic Daughters of the Americas engage in creative and spiritual programs which provide its members with the opportunity to develop their God-given talents in meaningful ways that positively influence the welfare of the Church and all people throughout the world. Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive to embrace the principal of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, the advancement of human rights, and human dignity for all.