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Faith Can Move Mountains

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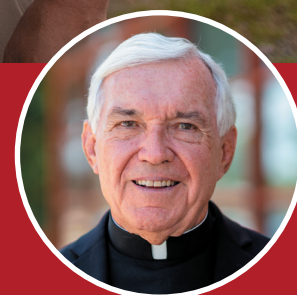
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Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change

National Chaplain's Message Father Shenan J. Boquet

"Renewing One's Love for God"



Father Shenan J. Boquet
National Chaplain

In Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 17, we learn that the nine disciples Jesus left behind when he took Peter, James, and John up the mountain failed in a critical task. They could not exorcise a demon from a boy who was suffering severely. Their failure prompted both an argument with some Jewish scribes, as well as an exasperated and sorrowful response from Jesus about their "faithless and perverse generation."

After healing the youth, Jesus' disciples approached Him, wanting to understand what went wrong. They asked Him why they could not cast out the demon. It was "because of [their] little faith," which was hindered by their presumption. For even a small measure of genuine faith, Jesus teaches, can accomplish great things: "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move."

The disciples either did not trust the power previously given them by Jesus (Mt 10:8), or they did not believe such power could be effected through them, viewing this situation as too difficult; even though Jesus tells them that in His name, "they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents [with their hands], and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." (Mk 16:17, 18)

Jesus reveals to His disciples that the key to that power is faith in Him, not in their own resolve. This is an important and powerful lesson, which these men not only would eventually understand, but also one that future disciples would embrace, offering themselves in complete devotion to the Master and love of neighbor. As an aside, it is important to remember that throughout the centuries saints have worked amazing miracles, but the greatest and most important of these were, and remain, the transformation and rebirth of souls dead through sin and ignorance.

Advancing the Faith springs from our interior life, a flame of love burning within us. And with our hearts aflame, we can overcome obstacles and difficult circumstances or personal shortcomings. To this end, we must seek to know Him more deeply. One way, says Pope Francis, is to grow in a greater "devotion to the Sacred Scripture." Let us, then,

pray with St. Paul in Romans 8, who invites us to embrace what God has promised us as believers in Jesus Christ. Let us also consider the lesson from 1 Corinthians 12 where we learn that within the Church there are differing gifts and differing functions, but every one of them is a gift of the same Spirit

and designed, not for the glory of an individual member, but for the good of the whole. And let us welcome the teaching of Galatians, where St. Paul helps us understand the "fruit of the Spirit," and how to "walk by the Spirit" (Gal 5:22-23, 25).

Infused with these God-given gifts, we respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and allow them to animate our lives with the power of divine love. Unreservedly, we trust that these gifts will help us meet the challenges and demands we may face as Christians, especially in a world that has become steadily more hostile to the Gospel.

One of these gifts is the gift of fortitude, which equips us with a never-depleted reservoir of God-given strength and perseverance, approaching life's challenges with faith, saying "yes" to God. Here, I am reminded of Blessed Cardinal August Clement von Galen, who was Bishop of the Diocese of Münster during the Second World War. Calling upon the gift of fortitude, Blessed von Galen courageously opposed the Nazis from the pulpit and even in the streets. His brave example of total fidelity to the doctrine of the Church and the defense of the dignity of human life earned him the title of the Lion of Münster. This heroic defender of truth and life is an eternal witness to the power of God at work.

By using the mustard seed to describe Faith, Jesus is directing our attention, not to the quantity or strength of our faith, but to the object of our faith. Our faith is only as strong as the object in which it's placed. In other words, if our faith, even if it's the size of a mustard seed, is placed in the all-powerful God, great things can happen, for "nothing will be impossible for you." (Mt 17:20).

Your brother in Christ,
Father Shenan J. Boquet
National Chaplain

SHARE

Catholic Daughters of the Americas



Fall 2022
Volume 52 | Number 4

National Chaplain

Father Shenan J. Boquet

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in Faith

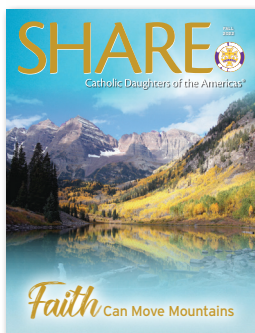
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Faith as small as a
mustard seed
can move mountains
(Matt. 17:20)



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Faith Can
Move Mountains



About the Cover

The picture on the front cover of a crisp mountain range under a blue sky above yellow flowers and a reflecting lake expresses the beauty of this issue's theme, "Faith Can Move Mountains." All that is required to move mountains, Jesus said, is faith the size of a mustard seed, which is the theme of National Regent Emily Guilherme's term. The stories in this issue express that faith from various viewpoints, reminding us in different ways that Faith can indeed move mountains - even when it is the size of a mustard seed.

www.catholicdaughters.org

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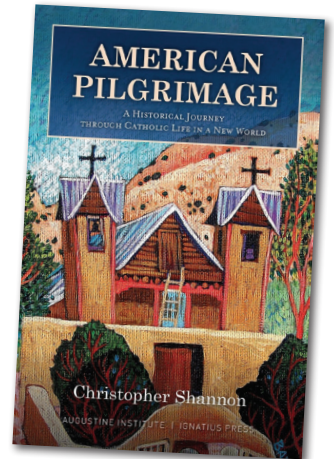
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Submission of materials for publication in Share: All articles, stories and items must be submitted electronically via email to Tom Panas at the following email address: cdashare@aol.com. They should be submitted in a Word document attached to your email or within the body of your email. Photos must be sent in JPEG format as attachments to your email. NO HARD COPY PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Be sure to identify individuals in photo, "from left to right." Deadlines for final emailing of materials for publication are: Spring issue - February 15; Summer issue - May 15; Fall issue - August 15; Winter issue - November 15. Due to limited space all material appearing in Share is evaluated for interest to readers, theme in keeping with the purpose of Share, educational, informational, and religious value to readers and date received. The publishers are not responsible for factual errors from information submitted by authors and readers.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas has approximately 60,000 members in 1250 courts in the United States, Mexico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

National Regent's Message

National Regent Emily Guilherme

MY DEAR SISTERS OF THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS,

If you have ever met me, you know that I have a decisive nature. I've never had an issue deciding which kind of dress I wanted to buy, which place I wanted to visit, or how I wanted to spend my time. Yet, when I was discerning what my National Regent verse would be for my term, I was plagued by second guessing and the thought that my theme had to be the perfect theme. The problem with that is that every word out of Christ's mouth is perfect. Then, in the midst of my frustration, I spotted a plaque on my cabinet in my kitchen that read, "Faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains." It was at that moment that I felt God was speaking to me. He was shining a light on the scriptural verse He wanted me to contemplate, reflect, and foster during my time as National Regent.

Faith is one of the trickiest things in our lives to maintain. We can lose faith in people, in the world, and sometimes we can even lose faith in ourselves. The mere idea of having our faith be diminished can send us into a downward spiral. But one of the things I love about this concept of faith, is its paradoxical nature: we cannot be certain about faith, or it ceases to exist. "Faith," as St. Paul tells us, "Is what is hoped for, things unseen." (Hebrews 11:1) If we are certain about faith, it is considered to be "knowledge," and that's not what Christ said will move mountains.

So, if your faith in God has ever been plagued by doubt, riddled with insecurity, I



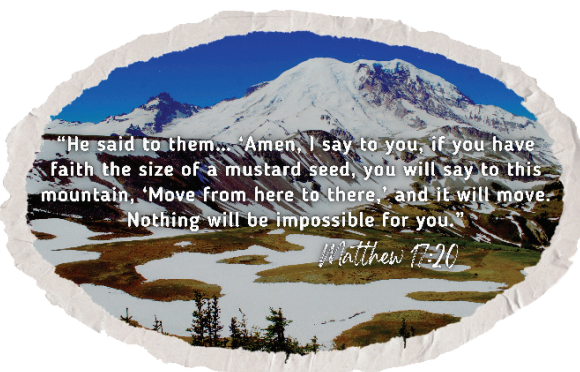
Emily Guilherme
National Regent

encourage you. In those moments you are right where you need to be. Clinging to your faith in times of hardship and trials emboldens our belief. It is in those times of doubt that we must tell ourselves, "Doubt is essential to faith."

In those moments, when we press forward in our faith, we reinforce our devotion. When we reinforce our devotion, those mountains will move. Nothing will be impossible for us, because to the rest of the world, having confidence and faith in things that cannot be seen or proven is unbelievable; faith astonishes, and many times inspires unbelievers. It was the blood of the martyrs in the early church that brought unbelievers to be baptized. It is by the courage of our convictions that new believers are being brought into our faith now in this digital age.

I pray that during my time as your National Regent, my faith may inspire others to be bold and ask great things of the Lord. There are over eighty verses in scripture that talk about faith – may you be emboldened to pursue the paradox of faith and have the courage to move mountains.

To learn how to be strong in one's faith takes a lifetime, but armed with the faith, we have the fortitude to undergo the hardships and trials that can surprise us. My faith journey has not always been easy, but clinging to my mustard seed of faith helps me know that God is real. He is providing for me, and He has never left my side.



Your Love for Your Daughter

WILL ALWAYS SHINE



Forever
MY DAUGHTER
DIAMOND EARRINGS

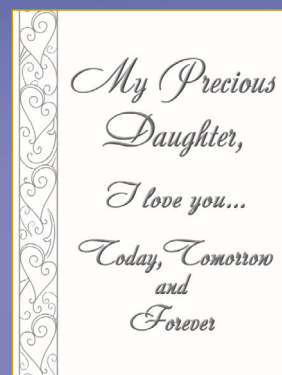
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Habitat for Humanity

Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow



Essie Walker
First Vice National Regent
National Habitat for Humanity Chairman

Let us take a moment to review the history of Habitat for Humanity and how it came about. In 1976, Millard and Linda Fuller had a vision. Their vision was to help establish a program for the poor offering them decent and affordable housing.

Millard Fuller became a self-made millionaire at the early age of twenty-nine. He and his wife felt they needed something more fulfilling in their life. They sold all their possessions and went searching for a new focus in their lives. Now, just outside of Americus, Georgia, there was a Christian community. Members in the community were looking for practical ways to apply their Christian teachings. This is where the Fullers came in. It was at this time they founded Habitat for Humanity. The idea was built on partnerships and volunteers who wanted to give a helping hand to those in need of housing. Working side by side, decent and affordable houses were built.


Habitat and their partnerships have continued to help families build and improve places they can call home. Since 1976, Habitat for Humanity has grown into a worldwide organization that operates across the United States and in approximately seventy other countries. In the third millennium, Catholic Daughters was one of the first women's organizations to complete a house in the Habitat's Seven Day Blitz Build. During that period Catholic Daughters had a working relationship with Habitat for Humanity internationally in building affordable homes for the poor.

Beginning in 1995, donations made by members contributed to the first CDA home to be built in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Other CDA refurbished or sponsored homes include the following locations:

Albany, New York
Riverside, California

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Lakewood, New Jersey
Dilworth, Minnesota
Port Jervis, New York
Corpus Christi, Texas
Weston, West Virginia
Diocese of Gunther, Indonesia
Brockton, Massachusetts
Williamsburg, Virginia
Owatonna, Minnesota
Lake Charles, Louisiana
Wichita Falls, Texas
Eagle Lake, Texas
Pahuacan, Mexico
Marana, Arizona
Haiti
Eagle Lake, Texas
Columbus, Texas
Twelve partial sponsorship houses from funds raised with
Gummi Bears in Minnesota
Pasco, Washington
Victoria, Texas
Redwater, Texas
New Orleans, Louisiana
Porterville, California
Edinburg, Texas
Fergus Falls, Minnesota (this home had a national as well
as a state grant)
Corpus Christi, Texas
Richland, North Carolina
Northfield, Minnesota
Middleton, New Jersey (Pending completion)
Angleton, Texas (Pending Completion)

Think about adding your state to this list.



Catholic Daughters have assisted with thirty-eight builds and refurbished homes. As a whole, we continue to have a working relationship with habitat in various states. What an impact, we as Catholic women have made from donations to hands-on volunteering. As of today, members continue to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Have you thought how your state or court can become more involved in our CDA National Project? At your next meeting, list Habitat for Humanity on the agenda. Collect ideas and suggestions from members on how to raise funds to build, sponsor or to refurbish a home in your area. Prior to the meeting, contact your local affiliate in the area for handouts to give members. A better discussion can be held if members have more detailed information

Join the New Jersey State Board on their next build. The New Jersey State Board and members have gone through the application process and have been granted a build. This build will be located at Ideal Avenue, in Middletown, New Jersey. The state contributed \$50,000.00 toward this build and was granted \$10,000.00 from the National Funding for Habitat. States can request funds up to \$20,000 if funds are available. The New Jersey State Court was awarded \$10,000 which was their asking amount.

The state contribution of \$50,000.00 was in place prior to submitting their Application for National Funding. The “Habitat for Humanity Application for National Funding” can be found on our CDA Website.

The Catholic Daughters of New Jersey were invited to the opening ceremony for an upcoming Habitat for Humanity event which will benefit twenty-seven houses on Ideal Ave in Middletown. This is the 7th Annual “House that Rock Built” to be held in partnership with WRAT Radio and Monmouth Mall. The frames are built in the parking lot and then transported to the site where the houses will be located. Not only were the New Jersey members invited to participate, the State Regent Audrey Spenard and First Vice State Regent Loretta Zimmer were asked to perform the event’s opening blessing. It’s true that hard work pays off. What an honor for the Catholic Daughters in the state of New Jersey!

We thank all courts for continuing to support our National Project, Habitat for Humanity. It is true when they say, “Your dollar can make a difference!”

Please check out the CDA Website for more information on how to start your Habitat for Humanity build. 🙏

The Family

A Domestic Church



Connie Dronette
Second Vice National Regent
National Family
Circle of Love Chairman

Growing up in a strict Catholic home, I thought of home as home and church as church. I realized that our home life was structured by what we heard at Mass on Sunday, but I didn't see it as an extension of church. A Catholic School education afforded me the teachings of the Catholic Church and how to live my faith inside and outside of the family. Momma took us to Mass every Sunday, where we sat in the same pew every week. My parents taught us the true meaning of charity and how to share our blessings with others. After much thought, our home was a domestic church, I just never thought about it in that light.

According to the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, "The family, is, so to speak, the **domestic church**." (*Lumen Gentium* #11) This means that it is in the context of the family that we first learn who God is and to prayerfully seek His will for us. The Catechism states "The Christian family constitutes a specific revelation and realization of ecclesial communion, and for this reason it can and should be called a *domestic church*" (CCC 2204). The Catechism points to this reality when it adopts the teaching of the Apostolic Constitution on the Family, [*Familiaris Consortio*, n. 21] To see the family as the Church "in miniature," and to call the Church itself the "family of God," are ideas that have been present from the early centuries of Christianity.

St. Paul first taught about the mystery of the Church in reference to marriage and family when he wrote his *Letter to the Ephesians*, in which he urges that the relationship between husbands and wives imitates the self-sacrificing love of Christ for the Church. The family has a high vocation in the Church. The Catechism says that because it is a "communion of persons," it is "a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit." In addition to this Trinitarian image, "in the procreation and education of children it reflects the father's work of creation." Moreover, the Christian family "is called to partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ," and it "has an evangelizing and missionary task." (CCC 2205)

Living out the vocation of a "domestic church" is surely no easy task. Momma mostly did it on her own. Dad came

to church when we made our sacraments, but, other than that, he was absent. When we would ask my dad to come to church with us, he would say that he prayed at home when we went to church. Momma was very patient with him. I never heard her make any demands. Momma taught us to "partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ." We said nightly prayers, sometimes the Rosary. We sacrificed every Wednesday and Friday by not eating meat. Now you might say that since I live so close to the Gulf of Mexico and my dad went shrimping at least once or twice a week during shrimp season, that meatless meals were not much of a sacrifice. What you might not know about me is that I do not like seafood. I don't eat any kind of seafood except fried shrimp that my Momma cooks. Well, now that she is gone, I have learned to fry it almost as good as she did.

Like most Catholics, after the Vatican Council, we started eating meat on Fridays. It wasn't until about ten years ago that our Bishop asked the faithful of our Diocese to consider abstaining from meat on Fridays in reparation for the sins of abusive priests. My husband David and I started this practice again. When the Vatican Council lifted the obligation to abstain from meat on Fridays, the intention was for Catholics to replace it with another sacrifice. That intention was pretty much ignored. I can remember that everyone was so excited that they could eat meat again on Fridays, but don't remember any conversation about what sacrifice would replace it. The spirit of the intention was lost. I am thankful to my Bishop for suggesting that we make that sacrifice again. I think that our society as a whole has lost the meaning and benefits of sacrifice. Why make life any harder than it has to be in this "all about feeling good" world?

When we married and began having children, it was important for David and me to teach our children the faith that meant so much to us. We sought to live out the church in our home. Even though we sent our children to Catholic School, we recognized that it was our responsibility to teach them at home as well. We celebrated the seasons in the church, especially Advent and Lent with special prayers. We prayed as a family at night and made our week revolve around Sundays. I am sure that many of you



did the same and share those fond memories.

Now that our children are grown with families of their own, our dynamics have changed. At first, this was kind of difficult. When you pray the Advent wreath prayers with five people, there are lots of ideas exchanged, but when it is just two praying, it is a little different. We have had to learn to adjust, but now we have many grandchildren for whom to pray. Maybe this year we can invite some of those grandchildren over to pray during Advent and experience what their parents did as children.

If we are truly called to live as domestic churches, what do we do? The USCCB gives the following ideas on their website:¹

- Begin praying as a family and reading from Scripture daily, certainly before meals, but also first thing in the morning or before bed. Find a time that works for your family. Use the liturgy of the Church as a model for prayer and try to include heartfelt unstructured prayer as well.
- Pray a Family Rosary (each member leads a decade, and everyone shares intentions).
- Have a crucifix in a prominent place in the home, and in every bedroom.
- Make the Sacraments a regular celebration – take the whole family to Confession and Mass!
- Begin family traditions based on the seasons celebrated in the liturgical calendar.
- Make your vacation a holy pilgrimage by visiting the shrines and saints of our land and the world.
- Make worshiping God a priority. Never miss Mass,

even while traveling.

- Teach stewardship and charity to your children through word and example.
- Demonstrate love for your spouse, your children, your neighbors, and the world. Remind their children that they are loved by God and have been given gifts to serve others.
- Talk freely about the presence of God in the joys and sorrows of your life.
- Welcome into your home and support priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, and lay ministers in the Church.
- Participate in the lay ministries and activities of your parish community.
- Allow your children to witness you in private prayer. Encourage your children to pray daily on their own, to listen for God's call, and if heard, to respond.
- For more ideas on how to build your home as a Domestic Church, visit *The Family Fully Alive*, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

I hope this article gives you an opportunity to think about your family as a domestic church. What prayers, projects, or activities do your families share? I would love to hear how your family prays and celebrates as a domestic church. Please send me an email at conniecda@yahoo.com. With your permission, I will share them on the National Facebook Page. 🙏

1. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops USCCB [Internet] Available from: <https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/parents/tools-for-building-a-domestic-church>

All Aboard!

Can you hear that Train Horn Blowing?



Ivone da Silva
National Secretary-Treasurer
National Membership Chairman

I am inviting all of you to join me on the CDA Membership Train along with my membership team: First Vice National Regent Essie Walker and National Director Brenda Anderson. We are excited and are ready to get to work on one of the most important issues currently facing our organization -- MEMBERSHIP!! The activities on the CDA Membership Train involve working together with Unity and Charity, serving our Courts, and the needs of our communities. Let us "Blow Our Own Horns" in our communities like the Big Beautiful Trains passing through town. People in our communities will know who we are and that we are on a Mission of Service, and nothing is going to stand in our way.

It goes without saying that membership is the principal issue facing the Catholic Daughters of the Americas organization – not only nationally but also on the state and local levels. All of us need to work together in recruiting and in retention of membership for our beautiful organization to continue to serve the vital needs of our communities as we have done for over 100 years. The Catholic Daughters not only need to maintain our numbers, we must also GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP. Our National Regent's theme "Faith as small as a Mustard Seed Can Move Mountains," (Matthew 17:20) is so fitting for the task at hand. It is with this deep faith and love of our sisterhood that I know we will not only move but climb the Membership Mountain. It is the goal of our committee to not only get back on track with our membership numbers but to GROW in numbers over the next two years. The CDA Membership Train is going to head up this mountain and work hard climbing and mastering it. It will take faith and hard work, but CDA members are On Board and Ready to not only conquer that

mountain, we are also going to pick up new and excited CDA members along the way to help make the task easier.

Scheduled train stops include membership goals, recruitment, retention, and key membership benefits. The destination is the Membership Contest for 2022- 2024. And the purpose of the trip is to increase the number of CDA members who are working in our communities doing all the charitable deeds that need to be done leaving a path of love and service along the way.

Activities aboard our Membership Train include membership drives, membership socials, fun nights, court spiritual events, and any activity that spreads the word and can cultivate more passengers that can help us establish more CDA train stops along the way.

This tour of the CDA train will run from August 2022 through June 2024. The cost of being on the CDA Train is simple; it's membership in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. The benefits include: CDA sisterhood, fun and prayerful activities, and monetary prizes for courts that go above and beyond participation in the train's activities.

Along with our National Regent Emily Guilherme, the National Board and I are pleased to be your conductors on this amazing journey. All of us are looking forward to your participation and visiting with you along the way. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, Essie, or Brenda. We will be easy to find: We will have on our conductor's hats and will be happily in the locomotive (Steam Engine) blowing our large, loud and proud CDA train horn!!!!

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LEADERSHIP

Faith can move mountains

Stronger Together in Faith



Brenda Anderson
National Director
National Leadership Chairman

At our earliest age, we were taught to take our life forward one-step at a time in faith knowing that our parents were there to help us. As we held our mother's hands, we were hesitant to take that first step, then the second and perhaps falling. But we got up. We had faith. Leadership starts with this same faith; taking one small step at a time. We may fall or stumble as we learn, but we get back up and try, having the faith to continue, just as we did as a toddler.

Our faith and belief in self, needs to grow like the tiny mustard seed grows into a large tree. Each of you, our cherished Catholic Daughter members, is on this same path to leadership, and we need that faith to take those steps. We can all move forward taking the hand of another, showing the path we must follow but we need to be doing it together.

I know that leadership is truly about team building, each of us, taking a serious look at the goal we want to accomplish and working towards that. Some of you may be hesitant to consider what a blessing it is to step forward to serve our membership. What we often think about is the negativity that so many assume leadership is: the paperwork, the phone calls, the additional time, the self-doubts, that little voice that says, "someone else can be a leader, not me," and yet we need to ask ourselves, where is our faith? Where is the trust that Jesus gives us every day in choosing what

we can do? He will not fail us, as He knows our heart, our abilities, and our goals; you just need to trust, spend time in prayer, have the faith, and become who you are meant to be. It might not be comfortable, but you are not walking alone. You have taken your office with faith, maybe had the encouragement of another before you, but now take those first steps and become a better leader.

I now ask ALL of you, to take the hand of another, be there as a role-model and companion or mentor to help other members step into leadership roles. Many courts cannot get officers, but I ask past officers to assist, help, and show true faith in our new leaders. By encouraging change and growth, CDA will move mountains. We will grow as better leaders when we ourselves help lift others up and forward. The mountain looks rugged at this point, but we are all 'stronger together.' Be the difference to become a better leader. Have the faith to move that mountain; I know we can do it together. Someone saw something in me many years ago and always had faith in me although I had doubts. Through prayer and faith, I now encourage each of you. Remember, God knows our abilities and walks with us daily taking our hand just as our mothers did as we took those first steps. Have faith my friend, take that step, and move the leadership mountain. You can do it; I have faith in each of you.



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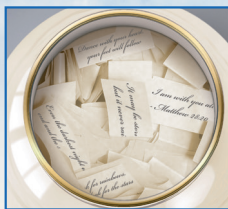
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Faith Can Move Mountains



Nancy Bambenek
National Director
National Quality of Life Chairperson

“We are called to reach out with compassion and support, to be helping hands when there is pain, poverty, sorrow and suffering.”

Definition of Quality of Life from our national CDA website.

Our members do AMAZING charitable works in the Quality of Life, Circle of Love program. It is WHO WE ARE and our response after spending time in prayer at home, at Mass or in an adoration chapel. Those of you who are more seasoned than I could write this article, but bear with me and perhaps there is a new thought, idea or action the Holy Spirit wants you to hear. Many of us have fond memories that moved mountains after an event we did in this program. There is still more that needs to be done.

HERE ARE THREE PEOPLE THAT MIGHT ENCOURAGE US ON OUR JOURNEY.

Saint Matthew the disciple of Jesus.

When Jesus called him, “Come follow me,” he was at his post. Can you picture this scene: well-dressed, money all around the table, people everywhere. This well-to-do tax collector has a comfortable lifestyle. Matthew left his post, the table, to follow Jesus. Matthew exchanged the gold of this world for the gold of God’s word - the Gospel. That’s Faith. Faith that moved mountains in Matthew’s lifetime. We know Matthew was called by Jesus as we are by our baptism. We need to stay close to Jesus to follow in his footsteps.

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Well-known Mother Teresa was not afraid of sickness, sorrow, poverty or pain with her “Jesus-like compassion.” She went to teach children, and God put a leper in her path to change her life forever.

She moved many mountains in her time. We might not see lepers today, but we see the marginalized. What can we do?

Blessed Julia Rodzinska

Not so well-known Blessed Julia Rodzinska was born in Poland. She was orphaned at the age of ten. Taken in by Dominican Sisters, she grew up to be one herself, taking on the name Sister Julia. As a teacher, she showed a special tenderness for orphans in her classes, making sure that they had clothing comparable to their classmates and slipping sandwiches to children in need of extra food. Think of the mountains she moved in her lifetime, and this is just the beginning of her story.

We are blessed to have the Corporal Works of Mercy to guide our efforts. Remember them? My new Bishop, at his installation a couple months ago (Bishop Robert Barron) reminded us of the importance of making the Corporal Works of Mercy a Priority. Here is a gentle reminder with some helpful hints.

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

To feed the hungry.

Everyone needs food for their body. It is an act of love to help others to obtain their bodily nourishment, especially those in greatest need. [Examples: Bringing food to the poor, donating money to buy food for the poor, sharing your food or candy, helping to shop for groceries, helping with the cooking, doing dishes, waiting on company.]

To give drink to the thirsty.

What is said of food also applies to drink. [Examples: Giving someone a drink on a hot day, giving the baby his/her bottle, pouring drinks at the table, lifting up a young child to get a drink at a water fountain.]



To clothe the naked.

Everyone needs clothing for warmth, protection, modesty and dignity. It is an act of love to help others obtain clothing, especially those who need help. [Examples: Bringing clothes to a family in need, sharing outgrown clothes with another family, bringing clothes to a clothing drive, helping a young child get dressed, helping with laundry at home.]

To visit the imprisoned.

Those in prison and many other persons and their families suffer hindrances or dangers to freedom. Helping them, visiting them or protecting them is an act of love. [Examples: Visiting prisoners, fighting for humane treatment for the imprisoned, helping to care for the families of the imprisoned, taking care of and protecting the baby.]

To shelter the homeless.

Everyone needs shelter. Some people live in cardboard homes; some people live in homes made of discarded materials; many people are homeless. To help the homeless obtain shelter or to preserve it is an act of love. [Examples: Bringing others to your home in times of fire, flood, or other disasters. Working at or supporting

a homeless shelter. Helping to take care of the house, dusting the furniture, making the beds, cleaning the floor, and cutting the grass.]

To visit the sick.

Helping sick people in any way is an act of love. [Examples: Visiting someone in the hospital or nursing home. Visiting someone who is sick at home or the elderly who are shut-ins. Running an errand for an elderly or sick person. Reading to the sick or elderly.]

To bury the dead.

It is an act of love to show respect for the bodies of the dead, since during life, they were temples of the Holy Spirit and received the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion. [Examples: Going to funerals and wakes. Treating cemeteries with respect. Cutting the grass on a grave. Putting flowers on it.]

Since we, like Matthew, Teresa and Julia are also called to Sainthood, let us, by our humble examples, live out these opportunities and watch as we move mountains! That is exactly what our faith can do! Faith Can Move Mountains! 🙏



FAITH AS SMALL AS A MUSTARD SEED

can move mountains

(Matt. 17:20)



Yvette Griego
National Director
National JCDA Chairman

This passage chosen as a theme by our National Regent Emily Guilherme, got me thinking of holding a mustard seed. It is a little seed that will grow to be one of the largest trees. It is unbelievable, but it is true. In thinking of this passage in reference to our Junior Catholic Daughters, I question how can this passage encourage even our youngest members to grow in faith? How will we enable them to become faithful servants of the Catholic Church?

In 1919, two years after Our Lady appeared at Fatima, Portugal, to three young children, our National Board of Directors sanctioned the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA). The directors traveled across the United States to encourage Catholic Daughter Courts to initiate small groups of young women. The focus would be PRAYER, FAITH DEVELOPMENT, and CHARITY PROJECTS while enjoying FELLOWSHIP with other young Catholic girls. So here we are, 103 years later, how much progress have we made?

Reading about the apparitions at Fatima and the three visionaries, Our Blessed Mother was very specific as to what she wanted the children to do. Could we expect a 7, 8, and 10-year-old to carry out such a mission today? One hundred years after the Fatima apparitions, we have a worldwide apostolate, and we have two of our youngest saints, Francisco and Jacinta, and the Feast of the Most Holy

Rosary. They were not canonized saints because they saw Our Lady; they were canonized because they fulfilled their mission. Our JCDA has grown, and one of our newest courts is in my own little town. In my own State of New Mexico, we did not have a JCDA court until 2018, and now we have five! Many Catholic Daughters have invested many hours and money to promote and strengthen their courts. JCDA is the future of Catholic Daughters. We share our love and belief in Our Lord Jesus and Our Blessed Mother by modeling for these young girls through our faith, by attending Mass more than once a week; through PRAYER, praying the Rosary privately and publicly; and through FAITH DEVELOPMENT by being good role models of modesty, motherhood, and respect for ourselves while providing opportunities for the girls to increase in faith. CHARITY PROJECTS are always fun, however in today's world, the word SERVICE has become almost extinct. Nonetheless, it can be done. Even if we have faith as small as a mustard seed, we plant, we water, and it will grow.

As our Lady of Fatima asked the visionaries to do, I ask of all of us to do the same: to pray the Rosary daily, penance, devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and observe First Saturdays.

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us. 🙏

FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS



Brenda West
National Director
National Spiritual Enhancement Chairperson

Faith is the personal belief that Jesus Christ is Lord of all. That God is three persons in one, The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit, and we are made in His image as His children.

What is keeping you from moving forward in your faith and beliefs? What is your mountain that you want to move?

Remember, faith can move mountains. When said out loud, it is a hard thought, but is it? Christ used the parable, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, move from here to there, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you" (Matt 17:20) Let us look at how we can break it down in easier terms to understand as we move forward in our faith and beliefs.

F is for **free** to believe in Him who has power over all but gave us free will to make our own decisions.

A is for **accepting** the unknown for we walk in faith and believe that He is there always.

I is for **inspiration** which gives us the option (willingness, desire and incentive) to do good things.

T is for the **time** he has given us to make good choices.

H is for **humility** so one does not think they are better than others.

C is for **calm** and keep one's strong emotions under control.

A is for **admiring** the process of learning who He is.

N is for the **need** to take the steps to move forward and follow the process of getting to know Him.

M is for taking the time to **meditate** and listen to Him.

O is for **opening** your mind to the blessings that will come your way.

V is for the **vibrant** enthusiasm that comes with knowing Him.

E is for the **eagerness** to believe in the process.

M is for the **All-mighty** maker of it all.

O is for the **omnipotence** of the Divine Almighty who knows all.

U is for the **unbelievable**, unceasing eternal everlasting life in Him.

N is for **naïve** so that we can open our minds and hearts to the Holy Spirit.

T is for **transcending** your current limit of belief in Him to the fullness of faith.

A is for **addressing** your need to grow in the Catholic faith.

I is for **innocent** so be like a wide-eyed child to hear his words.

N is for **nurture** so that you keep growing and help others to grow.

S is for **saved** by the blood of Jesus.

As we venture into this journey for the next two years, let us remove the mountain of doubt, so that we can be effective in the process. Growing more in our faith will allow us to know Him on a new level. As we increase our prayer life and better understand the Bible's teachings, we will increase our ability to put it into practice. We know that this will take time, and as we remove one obstacle at a time that mountain will become smaller and smaller, and it will move with ease.



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FOR NEBRASKA COURT

Court St. Jude #2053 Scottsbluff, Nebraska, celebrated its 50th Anniversary with Mass and a reception. Pictured are court members, back, left to right, Jeanette Fitzgerald, Jane Pieper, Lucille Koenig, Barbara Pieper, Mary Hascall, JoAnn Nash and Joan Watson. Front, left to right, Beth Esselstein, Beth Lonowski, Twilla McCarthy, Shea Brost, Sr. Vera Meis and Susan Lessert.



FIFTY YEARS HONORED BY VIRGINIA COURT

Members of Court Regina Coeli #2032, Colonial Heights, Virginia, celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a dinner at Anthony's Italian Restaurant. Regent Chit Peters greeted the nearly 100 guests, offering special thanks to co-chairs René Weiser and Shawne Kaesar. She also recognized past regents Shirley Blotkamp, Mary Blakely, Kathy Wilusz, Diane Flanagan, Jeaninne Beden and Karin Mitchell. Patricia Blaszk and Mary Giebel gave an overview of the court's history, and Carolyn Spalek recognized charter members. Shirley Blotkamp said the blessing, and Chit Peters led a prayer ceremony. Guest speaker was National Director and Virginia State Regent Brenda West. In the photo, front row, seated, Shirley Blotkamp and Mary Blakely. Back row, standing, Chit Peters, Kathy Wilusz, Diane Flanagan, Jeaninne Beden and Karin Mitchell.



LOUISIANA COURT CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Court Regina Coeli #2063, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, celebrated 50 years of service with an inspirational journey shared by keynote speaker Wade Berzas, the single surviving passenger of a private plane that crashed as he and five others were headed to the National Championship Football Game in Atlanta, Georgia. Barbara Franklin, recipient of the 50-year pin and the court's only surviving charter member, was joined by family members to share fellowship, memories, a delicious meal and inspiration from Mr. Berzas with the court. In the photo Barbara holds her gift bouquet with court members. Left to right, Regent Sylvia Waits, 50-year pin recipient Barbara Franklin, Susanna Franklin (Barbara Franklin's daughter-in-law and court member.)



TEXAS COURT CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Court Queen of the Rosary #2368, McAllen, Texas, proudly celebrated its 30th anniversary with Mass followed by a brunch reception. It was attended by 110 members, including eight Rio Grande courts, Texas State Treasurer Dela de la Garza and Past Regents. A city proclamation honored five past regents and five charter members. Court Chaplain Reverend Monsignor Gus Barrera, Past Texas State Regent Rosie Stockwell and District Deputy Terri Contreras addressed the gathering. In the photo are court officers Regent Melissa Gonzalez, Vice Regent Velma Esparza, Recording Secretary Carmen Delgado, Financial Secretary Marcelle Mickunas and Treasurer Veronica Boghs.



CONNECTICUT COURT CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Court St. Cecelia #735, Stratford, Connecticut, celebrated its 100th Anniversary with a luncheon and installation of new officers at the Courtyard by Marriott. Family and friends attended, as well as members and guests of sister territorial courts Court St. Augustine #1104, Court All Saints #1435 and Court St. Matthew #2640, who were invited to install their new officers as well. Past Connecticut State Chaplain Fr. Matthew Mauriello and First Vice National Regent Essie Walker celebrated the installation of new officers and new Territorial Spiritual Advisor Sister Arlene Vannie. Essie Walker also presented the court with a commemorative plaque and congratulatory greetings from Immediate Past National Regent Sherry Nilles and Pennsylvania State Regent Shirley Hall. Guests were able to view the original Charter, Papal Blessing, numerous scrapbooks and memorabilia highlighting Court St. Cecelia's long history. Pictured in the photo, front row left to right, Vice Regent Doris Berke, Gretchen Rich, Christine Biesadecki, Financial Secretary Theresa Palmiere and Irene Kostzewski. Back row, left to right, Regent Lorraine Faiella, Carol Potts, Claudia Balogh, Fr. Mauriello, Diane Fekete and Recording Secretary Amy Stavola. Not pictured is Treasurer Germaine Workman.



CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY FOR PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Members of Court Joan of Arc #716, Cresson, Pennsylvania, celebrated their court's 100th Anniversary and honored a long-standing court member. In the photo, are Court Joan of Arc members, Pennsylvania State Officers, Deacon Justin Treon, Father Leo Arnone, members of the Knights of Columbus honor guard, and members of Court Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Hollidaysburg. In the center, front row, in blue sweater with white carnation is Catherine Iapalucci who received a citation presentation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in recognition of her seventy years of dedicated and distinguished service to the court and the Catholic Daughters.



NINETY-NINE YEARS CELEBRATED BY LOUISIANA COURT

Court Isabella #809, St. Ann, Morganza, Louisiana, celebrated its 99th Anniversary at Mass celebrated by Reverend Babu Nalkara Vareeth. Regent Carolyn Serio McCalip said, "I am thankful that despite the challenges we have faced for the past two years, our court has continued to remain active, supporting the CDA motto: Unity and Charity." In the photo, Father Vareeth is front and center holding the CDA Banner surrounded by attendees.



NORTH CAROLINA COURT CELEBRATES TEN YEARS

Court Ave Maria #2650, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, honored its tenth anniversary with Mass celebrated by Court Chaplain Reverend Steven DiMassimo followed by a dinner celebration. Gathered in the sanctuary after Mass in the photo are, front row, left to right, Mary Mocsary, Annette Sisti, Rebecca Balderas, First Vice National Regent Essie Walker, Debbie Del Corro El-Cheyab, Debbie Mozgala, Father DiMassimo, Past Regent Kitty Felton, Past Regent Carol Sutton, Bonnie Fox and Carolann Horvat. Second row, Secretary Robin O'Connor-Semmes, Barbara D'Zan, Joan Kachel, Eileen Sanchez, Pam McCausland, Joanne Pucak, Regent Peggy Mattei, Financial Secretary Julie Slocum, Vice Regent Cathy Serex, Brenda Spizzo, Treasurer Kathryn Olive, Karen Lewis and Sue Wolf. Third row, Rose Mary Palermo, Rita Bergevin, Barbara Brucato, Susanne Jackson, Cheryl Filpus, Stacy-Ann Searle and Genine Scott. Back row, Karen Holmgaard, Joyce Loeb sack, Kerry Lane, Barbara Ann Caudill, Patricia Amitrano, Wendy Santana, Jeannie Coffey and Mary Jane Lewis.



TEXAS COURT CELEBRATES 105 YEARS

Members of Court Our Lady of Perpetual Help #296, Windthorst, Texas, gathered to commemorate the court's 105th anniversary. The day began with Mass celebrated by Court Chaplain Reverend Michael Moloney for the intentions of CDA. A luncheon followed in the parish hall with the court's JCDA members helping as hostesses. Court memorabilia and old photos were on display for everyone's viewing enjoyment. Pictured left to right, Tessa Yates, Caroline Yates, Joyce Wolf, Bonnie Schlumpf, Whitney Schreiber, Jean Berend, Florence Anderle, Diane Zott, Rev. Michael Moloney, Linda Haynes, Vivian Wolf, Cindy Carlton, Julianne Gregory, June Schroeder, Melinda Schneider, Scotta Schroeder, Jamie Anderle, Nancy Reynolds. Second row, Trissa Berend, Ann Veitenheimer, Mary Ann Schroeder, Lillie Wolf, Mildred Lindeman, Mary Lou Schroeder, Elizabeth Hoff, Kendall Gregory, Lexi McLemore, Valerie Anderle, Jenna Veitenheimer, Brenna Anderle, Adley Reynolds, Morgan Reynolds and Leah Anderle.



TEXAS COURTS HELP SINGLE MOM HAVE A HOME

Habitat for Humanity joined with Texas Catholic Daughter Districts 17, 35 and 37 to hold a fundraiser to build a home for a single mother and her children in West Columbia, Texas. Regent Blanca Ochoa explains, "There was music, vendors and food. District 35 held a Bake sale during the event. A great time was held by all!"



NEW JERSEY STATE SUPPORTS HABITAT BUILD

New Jersey state officers and local regents met with the Monmouth County Director of Development of Habitat for Humanity, Felicia Levine, and other Habitat for Humanity volunteers, to present state and national checks toward a Habitat home. Middletown Mayor Tony Perry came to offer the town's good wishes, as the site was donated to Habitat by Middletown. "All CDA courts of New Jersey are involved in this venture," New Jersey State Regent Audrey Spenard said, "we are in it together."



SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS BY IOWA COURT

Court Mary of the Assumption #1976, Manchester, Iowa, reported that their annual Lifesaver project was a great success this year. All proceeds went towards domestic violence and abuse programs. Shown presenting a check for \$1477.16 to Waypoint representative Autumn Paine are court members Jacque Lahr, Shirley Schlichte, Janice Loecke and Julene Smith. Also, a check to the Iowa state project for \$984.78 was issued.



MINNESOTA COURT DONATES TO FIGHT FAMILY ABUSE

Court Joan of Arc #691, Blue Earth, Minnesota, donated to Southern Minnesota Women of Worth (WOW), whose mission statement says that WOW "shall be for the good and betterment of families of rural Southern Minnesota. Through continuing education about abuse, neglect and violence that takes place in the rural area, along with financial support of programs designed to help all victims of abuse." The court raised the \$701 donation by hosting a weekend bake sale. In the photo of the check presentation, left to right, WOW Vice President Kristin Woodwick, WOW President Sonja Willmert, Regent Ruth Kastner, Treasurer Lee Mikoia and Shirl Maher.



NEW JERSEY COURT SUPPORTS MOMS

Members of Court Stella Maris #288, Atlantic City, New Jersey, one of the oldest courts in New Jersey, continued with their charitable works. The court recently held a baby shower in support of the "Walking with Moms" program in the South Jersey area donating baby blankets, crib sheets, diapers and new apparel for both infants and toddlers. Court members can be seen in the photo with some of the gifts gathered.



NORTH DAKOTA COURT HELPS UKRAINE

Court Our Mother of Perpetual Help #2148, Belfield, North Dakota, worked with Knights of Columbus to give aid to the Ukraine Solidarity Fund. K. of C. Council #6310 held a fish fry on March 25 with all the proceeds being donated to the Ukraine Solidarity Fund, and the court helped. Mary Baer explains. "Our court held a bake sale in conjunction with the fish fry. Many court members brought baked goods and stayed to help. Our court raised \$2158 with one donor generously giving us a \$1000 check. Between our two organizations a check for \$25,590 was donated to the fund." Mary added, "What a blessing and a picture of God's goodness when people come together to help others!" Seen in the photo with some of the delicious baked goods they prepared are, back row, Kathy Krebs, Mary Baer, Robbie Obach, Debra Hutzenbiler and Elaine Johnson. Front row, Erin Hauglid, Rosie Decker, Kelly Obrigewitch, Kelli Kessel and Ericka Hutzenbiler.



BABY SHOWER BY CALIFORNIA COURT

A baby shower was held by Court Guardian Angel #1520, Montebello, California, to benefit The Guadalupe Pregnancy Services/Center in Rosemead. Many baby items were gifted and delivered to the center. In the photo, court members can be seen gathered around a table filled with the many wonderful gifts donated from the baby shower.



TEXAS COURT HELPS TEEN MOMS

Members of Court Anna Poth #1178, Poth, Texas, presented \$1931.45 to Seton Home in San Antonio. Seton Home is "a nurturing residential facility for homeless pregnant and parenting teens ages 12-19 who have chosen to keep and raise their children and rebuild their lives." The court held a "Savior Change" baby bottle coin drive to raise the funds to support the pregnant and parenting teen mothers. In the photo, left to right, Diane Pape, Joyce Labus, Seton Home representative, Regent Carol Dziuk and Margie Crosby.



SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Loving Mother of Mercy #2689, Brownsville, Texas, awarded scholarships to three high school seniors. Pictured with court members, Deacon Noe Longoria, left, and Father Robert Moreno, right, are scholarship recipients Sophia Verduzco, Breanna Moyar and Priscilla Longoria. Sophia received the \$500 CDA Scholarship; Breanna received the \$500 LDM Scholarship (these are small grants based on academic merit and financial need for Study Abroad and Certificate Programs) and Priscilla received the \$200 Service Scholarship Award. All three recipients are very active in the church and the community. "We wish them a very successful college experience with God's blessings," Emma Martinez said.



IOWA COURT ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Court Our Lady of Good Counsel #216, Fort Dodge, Iowa, announced scholarship award winners: Alyxis Mericle, \$1,000 scholarship recipient; Emma Alstott, \$500 Outstanding Catholic Female Leadership Award; Jonah Mosier and Grace Fuller, \$500 Ninth Grade Tuition Assistance Scholarships. In the photo Jonah and Grace smile as they proudly show their award certificates.



CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED BY PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625, Altoona, Pennsylvania, Most Rev. Mark Leonard Bartchak, Bishop, Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, and Court Chaplain Father D. Timothy Grimme acknowledged and presented award certificates to winners of this year's education contest at a morning Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. Pictured, front row, left to right, Father Grimme, Jacob Pochak, Dean Pochak, Christian Haddock, Jack Singer, Michael Nardoza, Johna Taylor and Regent Carol Galieto. Back row, left to right, Brandon Dawson, Ian Lieb, Seth Lieb, Skylar Irwin, Grace Camberg and Bishop Bartchak.



TEXAS COURT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Court Daughters of Our Lady of Lourdes #2630, Corpus Christi, Texas, presented scholarships to two senior JCDA members and one past JCDA member at a Senior Mass held at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church. The court sold raffle tickets that raised \$1359.00 and received two donations that brought the amount to \$2000.00. Current JCDA President Lily Espinosa, who will be attending Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, received \$500.00. JCDA Second Vice President Alexandra Perez, who will be attending Texas A&M, received \$500.00; and Past JCDA President Abby Chaney, in her second year at Texas A&M, received \$1000.00. In the photo, front row, left to right, Treasurer Alicia Martinez, Lily Espinosa; Abby Chaney; Alexandra Perez; Regent Mercedes (Sadie) Gonzales, and Financial Secretary/DD#36 Cindy Doxey. Back row, left to right, Deacon Brian Holden and Pastor Fr. Raju D. Thottankara.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Our Mother of Peace and Unity, #2487 Livingston, Texas, was proud to be able to award a Memorial Mass Scholarship to Kaitlyn Livingston, seen in the picture with her parents Jason and Jennifer Livingston. Also in the photo are Memorial Mass Committee Members Georgie Hughes and Mary Ann Wilson.



IOWA COURT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Court Our Lady of LaSalette #1585, Milford, Iowa, awarded two \$500 scholarships during the senior breakfast at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Milford. Recipients were Kayla Kollasch, daughter of Joe and Amber Kollasch, and Alissa Wittrock, daughter of Rick and Heidi Wittrock. In the photo, left to right, Alissa, Patti Scott (from court Our Lady of La Salette #1585, Milford) and Kayla gather following the scholarship presentation.



NEW JUNIOR COURT IN CALIFORNIA

It was a proud day for the ten charter members of newly instituted Junior Court Mother Lupita who were installed on June 4, 2022, at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Compton, California. The Ceremonial Coordinator was California First Vice State Regent Maria Santos-Silva. Father Domingo Rodriguez, S.T., Associate Pastor, served as Court Chaplain. Court Mother Lupita Chairperson Maribel Lara swore in the members along with JCDA Advisors Patty Gutierrez and Linda Wilson-Davis. Yvette Manard, Regent of Court Compton #942, Compton, California, swore in the four JCDA officers: Miranda, President; Bella, Vice President; Fuamaifegauiai, Secretary; and Bethany, Recording Secretary. More than 70 members, family and guest attended the beautiful reception. The new Juniors can be seen in the photo wearing their JCDA sashes and holding their beautiful white roses.



CONTEST WINNERS HONORED BY FLORIDA COURT

Court St. John Vianney #1944, St. Pete Beach, Florida, is very involved in the CDA Education Contest. Past National Regent Joanne Tomassi explains. "Chairman Dr. Catherine Wilkins contacts schools throughout the five-county Diocese of St. Petersburg. This year we received more than 500 entries. A celebration was held prior to our April meeting. All students receiving awards were invited along with their family to join us for a light breakfast and awards ceremony. More than 75 people were at the event. A membership information table was provided and Catherine spoke of the many things Catholic Daughters do and invited the visitors to take some literature and come to our next meeting." Pictured are some of the students who joined the celebration. Many of the winning entries and copies of the first-place entries were on display.



SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED BY IOWA COURT

Court Queenship of Mary #1806, Waucoma, Iowa, sponsored two scholarships for graduates of Turkey Valley Community School. Recipients are Tess Franzen, daughter of Jim and Laura Franzen and Lance Schmitt, son of Mark and Desideria Schmitt, both residents of Waucoma. Both students started college this fall. In the photo, left to right, Lance Schmitt, Carole Burke and Tess Franzen.



OREGON COURT ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Court Our Lady of Perpetual Adoration #2481, Gervais, Oregon, congratulates the 2022 Vivian Duda Memorial Scholarship winner Isabel Contreras. Isabel, who has been awarded \$2,000, is a graduate of Gervais High School and has completed her freshman year of college at the University of Portland, Oregon. She was on the fall and spring Dean's list and will continue studying toward her Nursing Degree this fall at the University of Pennsylvania.



EDUCATION CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED BY PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Students in Indiana, Pennsylvania, excelled in the Pennsylvania State Catholic Daughters Education Contest. Pictured are first place winners Bella Cribbs (poetry), Rachel Cribbs (photography) and Breanna Cribbs (photography). Bella is the daughter of Danielle and Kevin Cribbs, and Rachel and Breanna are the daughters of Stephanie and Jeff Cribbs. The girls are members of Church of the Good Shepherd in Kent. Also pictured is Barb Minor, a parishioner at St. Bernard and Regent of Court St. Bernard #339, Indiana, Pennsylvania, who won a third-place award in the adult division for poetry.



WEST VIRGINIA STATE HOLDS WORKSHOP

With the theme “Springtime of Faith,” the West Virginia State Court held its first in person workshop in over three years in Morgantown, hosted by Court St. Ursula in Morgantown. Thirty-six members from six of the seven courts in the state participated. Members were introduced to the state officers and were grateful for the opportunity to see old friends and make new acquaintances. Each attendee was given a colored index card with their name and contact information. They were asked to find someone in the room with a different color to exchange cards with. This person is their designated “State Prayer Buddy” from another court until the state convention in April of 2023. They were asked to keep in contact with their Buddy to share what is happening within their courts as well as say a prayer daily for that person and call them on special days – birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas, etc. Members from each court were asked to share their activities for the past three years, how they coped with COVID, their successes with fundraising, membership and events of charity. Workshop attendees can be seen gathered on the Sanctuary for a photo.



IOWA COURT SPONSORS HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRESENTATION

Court Our Lady of the Assumption #1550, Churdan, Iowa, sponsored a program on Human Trafficking presented by Sister Shirley Fineran, O.S.F. Sister Shirley is the founder and president of Lila Mae’s House, a trauma-informed, residential home for adult women survivors of domestic trafficking. She talked about the various ways that young people are recruited into sex trafficking, indicators of vulnerability and exploitation, and how to safely respond to possible victimization of children and youth whether they are attending school, while under the control of a trafficker, or being transported on a circuit throughout the Midwest and beyond. Sister can be seen in the photo during her presentation.



TEXAS COURT HONORS MARY

Court Father Thomas Buegler, OSB, #2433, Corpus Christi, Texas, held its Annual Women’s Conference honoring Blessed Mother Mary at St. Theresa Church. After Mass, participants proceeded to the hall where breakfast was served. The theme was “Mary: Mother of Silence.” Presenters were Court Chaplain Deacon Stephen Nolte and diocesan employees Monica Gatlin and Tammy Romo Alcala. Presentations focused on understanding the necessity of following Jesus’ invitation to seek rest in a quiet place and how Mary, the Mother of Silence, serves to help us today. There were 125 attendees from throughout the diocese representing twenty-four parishes and four non-denominational churches.



PRIEST APPRECIATION DAY CELEBRATED BY TEXAS COURT

Court Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic #2282, Hostyn, Texas, celebrated Priest Appreciation Day at the Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church with a social gathering in the Narthex. Court Chaplain Father Felix Twumasi was honored with a decorated banana cake, which is his favorite flavor. Members also served home baked goodies, coffee and punch to everyone after the Sunday Mass. There was sadness after the wonderful event, Regent Brenda Fietsam explains. “This was the last CDA event at the church because just four days later it was completely destroyed by fire. This picture will truly be a precious memory to us in many aspects.”



ARIZONA WELCOMES NEW COURT

Court St. Mary Magdalene #2779, Gilbert, Arizona, was instituted on May 14th. As can be seen in the photo, many attended to show their support for the new members, including National Regent-Elect Susan Moné and Past National Director Irene Gramza in the front row, surrounded by the new members in white and officers in their beautiful robes from surrounding courts in Avondale, Surprise, Tempe, Mesa, Casa Grande, Safford and Phoenix.



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BREAKFAST BY ILLINOIS COURT

Court Champaign County #1070, Champaign, Illinois, held a Membership Drive Breakfast at Holy Cross Parish Center. Court members invited women from Champaign County by distributing handmade invitations, inviting them personally and placing notices in the bulletins of all parishes in the county. There were 40 women in attendance with half being potential members. Court Chaplain Fr. Leopold Mushobozi ("Fr. Leo") spoke to the attendees encouraging them to join the Catholic Daughters as a way of serving their parishes, communities and most importantly God. Regent Debby Wagner presented a slide presentation with information and pictures depicting the Catholic Daughters both nationally and locally. Court members prepared the breakfast and guests were presented with gift bags of handmade items from court members and Marian prayer cards. "The breakfast was a huge success," Debby Wagner said, "as many of those guests in attendance have since joined." In the photo, left to right, are members of the Planning Committee, Margaret Doyle, Chairman Cheri Rakers, Julie Primmer, Gloria Fellers, Cheri Carlson and Linda Knox. Not pictured, Joyce Amacher.



DAY PILGRIMAGE BY IDAHO COURT

Court Our Lady of Victory #1348, Nampa, Idaho, went on a day pilgrimage to Silver City. Mary O'Malley, a local historian, gave information about the old mining town and its buildings. Fr. Jerry Funke celebrated Mass in Our Lady of Tears Catholic Church, which, the court learned, was originally built by Episcopalians in 1898. After the miners left, the building was sold to the Catholic diocese in 1928. Pictured in front of the altar are court members and guests, front row, Deb Tillotson, Marilyn Boehme, Takako Cuttlers, Louise Troup and Mary O'Malley. Back row, Elli Gerichs, Fr. Jerry, Mary Ann VandeBrake, Jennifer Senn, and Marie Vetsch.



SUMMER SALAD LUNCHEON BY IOWA COURT

Court St. Anthony #330, Council Bluffs, Iowa, held its annual Summer Salad Luncheon with homemade salads, desserts and beverages served to over 110 guests. Ticket prices included two free raffle tickets which could provide the lucky winners with donated gift cards, a Scentsy candle basket, doggie basket, free haircuts, discount cards or centerpiece arrangements. Community businesses were very generous. "The court has held this fundraiser at the same location for many years," Regent Carol Hollenbeck said, adding, "Member Kathi Markel brought two of her grandchildren to help with serving and clean-up. They were so helpful and kind to the guests. Both youngsters were given a free meal and the gratitude of our court. They had such fun that they were anxious to come back next summer with their grandmother. Our future community volunteers!" Kathi and her two grandchildren can be seen in the photo.



TEXAS COURT SUPPORTS THE BIBLE

Members of Court St. Ann Mother of Mary #2649, La Vernia Texas, volunteered and helped with various stations at the Vacation Bible School at St. Ann Catholic Church in La Vernia. Pictured, left to right, Publicity Chairman Bettie Trainer, Linda Tucker, Joyce Madden, Patricia Quintero, Cynthia Kirby, Doris Cormier and Gloria Garza.



BACCALAUREATE MASS BY MINNESOTA COURT

A Baccalaureate Mass sponsored by Court St. Rita #409, Perham, Minnesota, was celebrated by Parochial Vicar Father Tom Skaja assisted by Deacon Randy Altstadt. Northern Cross Area Catholic Community class of '22 graduates processed into St. Henry's Catholic Church in their caps and gowns followed by the Mass servers, Catholic Daughter officers, and clergy. Lectors were graduating senior Austin Aanenson and his CDA member grandmother Denise Schornack. Carrying the gifts were seniors Isabella Pazdernik, Jaxson Rohde and Connor Kostynick. Communion distributors were Regent Dianne Rohde-Szarke and Vice Regent Janel Altstadt. The organist was court member Gina Cavanagh. The graduates were given a special blessing by Father Tom and the parishioners, sending them off to a new beginning in their young lives. Chairmen for the event were Karen Hammers, Judy Christopherson and Mary Schumacher. In the photo on the steps are Class of 2022 members, Dianne Rohde-Szarke, and top row far left Father Tom Skaja and far right Deacon Randy Altstadt.



IOWA COURT WALKS/RUNS FOR LOVE

"Many of us from Iowa could not attend the Biennial National Convention in Puerto Rico due to time, distance or financial reasons," said Vice Regent Diana Stewart of Court St. Rita #321 Oelwein, Iowa. "But we still wanted to be part of it and show our support for Iowa-born-and-raised National Regent Sherry Nilles. So, while our CDA sisters participated in the Walk/Run for Love at the National Convention members of our court held their own small-town-Iowa style Walk for Love." Festivities began at 8:30 A.M. with Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart Church. Like the National Walk for Love a \$25 entry fee was requested, offering the option to get a t-shirt with the logo on it, thanks to National Walk/Run Chair Julia Juarbe. In the photo participants gather in the church proudly displaying their court banner.



TEXAS COURT AND GUADALUPANAS UNITE IN MAY

May being the month of our Mother Mary, members of Court St. Francis of Assisi #1887, San Antonio, Texas, joined the Guadalupanas of St. Leo the Great Church to pray the Holy Rosary for world peace. In the photo are the Guadalupanas, front row, left to right, Yolanda Salinas, Maria Y. Gil and Nieves Soto. Back row, left to right, Gloria Mora, Lucy Rios, Martha Zorola, Teresa Valdez and Mary Garcia. Court members, front row, left to right, Treasurer Janie Belletz, Frances Leija, and Financial Secretary Helen Gutierrez. Back row, left to right, Amelia Torres, Regent Leticia Flores, Lydia Hernandez, Isabel Gonzales and Elda Bigler.



HIGH TEA FOR NEW YORK COURT

English High Tea was held at Court St. Anne #833, Piermont, New York on May 10. Simultaneously, the court also had a baby shower for Birthright at the tea. Court members in the photo, left to right, Maryann Beckerich, committee member; Barbara Volpe, chairperson for High Tea; Kathy Mahoney, committee member; and Regent Lucille Zuccaro.



LOUISIANA COURT HOLDS MARIAN TEA

Court Most Holy Trinity #2734, Covington, Louisiana, held its first annual Marian Tea on May 15. Seen in their purple aprons surrounding an attractively laid out table with teacups and delicious pastries, left to right, Paula Henderson, Cindy Ledet, Chairman Deborah Rivault, Carol Becnel, Linda Wetzel, Mary Vorenkamp, Jeri Ferrara, Cindy Manger, Holly Brady, Regent Ellen Marino, Lori Puissegur, Mary Ellen Guillory and Ann Marie Mumford.



PENNSYLVANIA COURT CELEBRATES MOTHER'S DAY

Court St. Mary #95, St. Mary's, Pennsylvania, held its annual Mother's Day Dinner and May Crowning. Forty-six members and twenty-six guests gathered to honor our Blessed Mother. Each member brought a baby shower gift that was given to representatives from Catholic Charities and the Maternity Closet. Court members made homemade quilts and crocheted blankets and clothing, some brought clothing and other needed items and the court made a financial donation to the Maternity Closet, which is designed to help mothers with children up to age three who can visit once a month to receive free items for their child. The group also sang happy birthday and presented a flower bouquet to Rita Herbstritt who is turning 99! Rita enjoyed the evening as she has for many years. In the photo are court members with Catholic Charities representatives on the left and Maternity Closet volunteers on the right.



TEXAS COURT UNVEILS OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Court Daughters of Our Lady of Fatima #2596, San Antonio, Texas, at their Annual Patriotic Rosary and Ice Cream Social, presented the unveiling and blessing of the picture of their court's namesake, Our Lady of Fatima, donated by Mr. Nello Rosania. "Our court is most grateful for this picture of our patroness," Regent Maria Juarez said. "Thank you, Mr. Rosania." In the photo, left to right, charter member Gloria "Laly" Rosania, Nello Rosania, Spiritual Advisor Rev. Alex Pereida and Regent Maria Juarez.



FIFTY YEAR MILESTONE HONORED BY PHILADELPHIA COURT

Court Holy Trinity #1336, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, recently honored 50-year member Regent Alice Woodford. "Alice has the distinction of being a Catholic Daughter for 50 years," Recording Secretary Janet Bradley explained. "With her dedication to Mary and the Rosary, Alice joined CDA in 1972 when her family was young. Since then, she has shown her commitment on a daily basis through both joys and tragedies. Alice is an inspiration to the members of the court who are blessed to have her support and guidance."



TEXAS COURT INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

New officers for Court Our Lady of Peace #2489 Converse, Texas, are seen in the photo following their Installation Mass, left to right, Treasurer Natalia Lopez, Recording Secretary Melisa Carrasco, Regent Janet Swanson, Vice Regent Eloisa Peralta and Financial Secretary Chrysta Colwell.



NEW YORK COURT CELEBRATES MEMBER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Rita DiCarlo celebrated her 100th birthday at Mass on May 29, 2022. Rita has been a member of Court Joan of Arc #604, Haverstraw, New York, for 75 years. Seen in the photo celebrating with Rita are court members Dian Cifuni, Amelia DiCarlo and Regent Maureen Bonanno.



NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED BY IOWA COURT

The Eucharistic Liturgy for the Installation of Officers for Court Our Lady of Fatima #1492, Manning/Manilla, Iowa, was held on Wednesday, June 8, at the Sacred Heart Church in Manning, Iowa. Father Michael Cronin, who celebrated Mass, was installed after his homily as the new court chaplain by District Deputy Kaye Stock Arndorfer. District Deputy Arndorfer then presented each of the newly elected officers to Fr. Cronin, who installed them and presented them to the membership and parishioners attending Mass. After Mass and the installation all were invited to a reception of coffee and rolls followed by the court's June meeting.



FLORIDA COURT HONORS MEMBER BIRTHDAY

Flora Rueda of Court Star of the Sea, #634, Key West, Florida, turned 102 on Thursday, July 14th. A group of her court members got together with Flora on her patio to celebrate with white grape juice champagne and CDA cookies. In the photo, left to right, Iris Bernreuter, Clara Moore, Maria Slavik, Joyce Benavides, Sandy Higgs, Connie Tree, Margaret Gil and Roxie Pierce surround their beloved 55-year member



TEXAS DISTRICT INSTALLS OFFICERS

Officers installed in District 28, seated, left to right, Vice Regent Erin Kulhanek and Regent Candy Russell; Vice Regent Iris Orellana and Regent Carolyn Ritchey; Vice Regent Emily Hillsman and Regent Cathy Ondruch. Standing, left to right, Treasurer Cheryl Engelhardt and Financial Secretary Robin Hanzelka; Financial Secretary Cindy Konesheck and Treasurer Betty Marusik; Deacon Ben Munguia and Recording Secretary Diane Bartlett; Treasurer Doris Sodolak, Recording Secretary Cindy Gassner and Financial Secretary Emma Reichardt and District Deputy #28 Cynthia Grigar.



NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED BY ARIZONA COURT

Court Daughters of St. Anthony #2651, Casa Grande, Arizona, installed new officers with the ceremony officiated by National Regent-Elect Susan Moné. Pictured from left to right are District Deputy Jordan Taillon; National Regent-Elect Susan Moné; Past National Director Irene Gramza; Regent Carolann DiMuzio; Financial Secretary Connie Grijalva; Treasurer Anita Copeland; First Vice State Regent Lynn Wilson; Arizona State Regent Lorrie Holland; District Deputy Margaret Hennessey. Not pictured are Vice Regent June Nunnick; and Recording Secretary Bernadette Smith.



IOWA COURT MEMBER SHARES POETRY

Kay Reynolds of Court Ave Maria #269, Sioux City, Iowa, uses her talent of writing poetry by printing and distributing her poems at her Sacred Heart parish. Cleo Harder explains. "Kay is a poetic person, which is described as one who actively focuses on the details of the world around them and uses words to describe that focus. Before and after Mass, Kay can be seen zooming around the church handing out copies of her latest literary piece. We wanted to share a few verses from one of her spiritual writings." A sample of Kay's poetry is below and she can be seen in the photo holding her verses.

THANKS FOR IDEAS

Please Lord allow me to reach others
To spread ideas and gain new thought;
Inspiring others to do the same
Sharing YOUR WORD as we ought.
I often see ideas in new ways
So that YOU Lord make the wave;
That ripples thru each heart around
And thereby souls are saved.



TEXAS COURT INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

New officers for Court St. Bernadette #1108, East Bernard, Texas, were installed in Holy Cross Catholic Church. Front row, left to right, Financial Secretary Wendy Hurta, Vice-Regent Joey Pitman, Regent Karen Rejsek, Recording Secretary Sandy Valigura and Treasurer Karen Riley. Back row, left to right, Father Samuel, Chaplain Father Charles Otsiwah, Father Michael and District Deputy Nancy Zurek.



NEW OFFICERS ANNOUNCED BY COLORADO COURT

New officers of Court Sacred Heart #1606, Cortez, Colorado, pictured, front row left to right, Regent Mary Helen Ganir, Msgr. Jim Koegnisdorf and Vice Regent Margie Dove. Second row, left to right, Financial Secretary Rita Russell, Recording Secretary Mary Sparks and Treasurer Laura Hampton.



CALIFORNIA COURT INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

Members of Court Our Lady of Shasta #2312, Redding, California, attended a special Mass celebrated by Father Jossy at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Redding. Knights of Columbus members Ed Grinton and James Taylor served as ushers. Front row, left to right, Ruth Smith, Patty Ostrowski, Father Jossy, Treasurer Judy Franco, Regent Amy Mello, Financial Secretary Geri Leeka, Cheryl Taylor, James Taylor and Mary Ellen Maddox. Second row, left to right, Knight Ed Grinton, Carmen Lojewski, Peggy DiNardo, Yvonne Ayres, Kathy Peters, Julie Van Der Volgen, Barbara Kovacik, Maria Stahlman, Diane Welsh, Bonnie Romero and Jennifer Hernandez. Third row, left to right, Sandy Van Loan, Carole Grinton, Lynda Pittman, Sylvia Langford and Carole Adams. Top row, left to right, Recording Secretary Joanna Roberts and Vice-Regent Theresa Mason.



NEW OFFICERS INTRODUCED BY PENNSYLVANIA COURT

Court Bellevue #655, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, held its installation of new officers. The ceremony was led by Pennsylvania Second Vice State Regent Lisa McCann. In the photo, left to right, Vice Regent Karen Smay-Brown, Regent Maria Faller, Lisa McCann, Treasurer Mary Jo Pallott, Recording Secretary Marlene Unverdorben, and Financial Secretary Alice Havics.



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BY FLORIDA COURT

Members of Court Our Lady of Hope #2389, Stuart, Florida, can be seen in the photo at morning Mass in their beautiful white following a very successful membership drive. The new members were treated to a Scavenger Hunt at the court's beautiful St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Jensen Beach, Florida, after which they enjoyed a delicious lunch at a local restaurant.



NEW YORK COURT ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS

Court Mary Immaculate #479, Plattsburgh, New York, held their installation of officers at St. John XXIII Newman Center in Plattsburgh. The installation was paired with the court's annual priest appreciation dinner thanking parish priests for their commitment to God and to the court's parish. Mary Skillan was installed as new regent and three of the officers returned to serve another two-year term, including Recording Secretary Judy Baski, Financial Secretary Patricia Amore and Treasurer Kristine Portal. All can be seen in the background in the photo taken as a "selfie" by a smiling Father Tojo.



NEW COURT OFFICERS INSTALLED FOR IOWA COURT

Court Joan of Arc Court #524, Muscatine, Iowa, completed their officer installation ceremony on June 13. In the photo, new court officers, left to right, Financial Secretary Alice Jones; Treasurer Michelle Spellman; Recording Secretary Kathy Johnson; and Regent Michelle Almandinger (Vice Regent Sherry So not pictured).



PENNSYLVANIA COURT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Court St. Veronica #111, Renovo, Pennsylvania, welcomed five new members and simultaneously installed their new officers during noon Mass. In the photo are the new members and newly elected officers, first row, Financial Secretary Dorothy Costulas, Vice Regent Deb Clary, Regent Pat Kowalski, Treasurer Judy Kurutz, District Deputy Janet Osterling and Angela Lavelle. Second row, left to right, Erica Dorman, Mary George Rhone, Recording Secretary Maryann Kennis and Court Chaplain Reverend Joseph Orr. A reception was held after the festivities for the new members and officers and their families in the church basement. Not pictured are new members Sarah Jane Rathmell and Sue Fantazier.



NEW OFFICERS ANNOUNCED BY IOWA COURT

Court Castile #49, Waterloo, Iowa, announced new court officers in the photo, left to right, Vice Regent Sue LeQuatte; Treasurer Nancy Hart; Regent Shirley O'Connell; Financial Secretary Diane Boyle; and Recording Secretary Julie Thomas. "We are all excited to have this group of ladies lead us in our mission of Unity and Charity for the next two years," Vice Regent Sue LeQuatte said.



TEXAS COURT ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS

Court Sacred Heart #829, West, Texas held its Installation Mass at St. Mary's Assumption Church in West. Newly installed officers in the photo, bottom row, left to right, Financial Secretary Agnes Timmons, District Deputy Mary Ann Trojacek, Regent Evelyn Petter and Recording Secretary Nancy Polasek. Top row, left to right, Treasurer Andrea Sulak, Father John Boiko and Vice Regent Marcella Sinkule.



NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED BY NORTH CAROLINA COURT

New officers for Court Immaculate Heart of Mary #2715, Waynesville, North Carolina, were installed. Court Chaplain Pastor Fr. Paul McNulty and District Deputy Gwen Parrish were present to assist in the installation. In the photo, Fr. McNulty is shown with Gwen Parrish installing new officers, left to right, Janet Geronime (standing in for Regent Carolyn Graham), Vice Regent Mary Harrah, Recording Secretary Susan Miller, Financial Secretary Judith Boggs and Treasurer Christina Allred. Seated on Fr. McNulty's right is Seminarman Joseph Yellico.



NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED BY OKLAHOMA COURT

Court St. Jude #2166, Lawton, Oklahoma, announced the installation of new officers. In the photo, left to right, Vice Regent Laura Hamilton, Regent Jolene Schonchin, Recording Secretary Maria Rodriguez, Financial Secretary Renata Rudd and Treasurer Rosa Estrada-Cruz.



WHITE ORCHID GIFT BY MISSISSIPPI COURT

Court St. Paul the Apostle #2762, Tylertown, Mississippi, presented Father Alwin Samy with his favorite flower, a white orchid, for Priest Appreciation Day. Father Samy is seen in the photo holding his beautiful white orchid during the presentation ceremony with, left to right, Vice Regent Hermes McNulty, Regent Sondra Broussard, Father Samy, Financial Secretary Karen Kinler and Recording Secretary Cindy Rome.



MINNESOTA COURTS INSTALL OFFICERS

Several Minnesota courts including Court Santa Maria #247, Adrian; Court St. Bernard #886, Lismore; and Court Madonna #839, Wilmont; held a joint installation of officers at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Lismore. Minnesota State Regent Mary Pufall and State Secretary Jeaneen Nelson represented the Minnesota State Board. Fr. Richard Colletti celebrated Mass, installed the officers and bestowed a blessing upon them. District Deputy Lisa Diekmann and Regent Deb Lutmer coordinated the ceremony. Fellowship followed in the lower hall hosted by Court St. Bernard.



JOINT OFFICER INSTALLATION BY OREGON COURTS

Exhibiting true CDA Unity, Court Klamath #1295 and Court St. Pius X #2335, in Klamath Falls, Oregon, held a joint installation of officers. The Very Rev. Rogatian Urassa, Court Klamath Court Chaplain, and Court Klamath member District Deputy Lynh Pohl, officiated at a special Monday Mass. Court members received communion together and afterward shared fellowship at a reception. Since their parishes are just five miles apart, the two courts have held joint Christmas parties as well as other installations. Seen in the church holding their beautiful yellow roses are Court Klamath officers Regent Doreen League; Vice-Regent Sara O'Connor Merck; Recording Secretary Maureen Jespersen; Financial Secretary Anne Hartnett; Treasurer Carlye Woodman; and Court St. Pius X #2335 officers Regent Cathy Noble; Vice-Regent Mary Ross; Recording Secretary Christina Danforth; Financial Secretary Sherry Harper; and Treasurer Terri Pang.

AMERICAN PILGRIMAGE:

A Historical Journey Through Catholic Life in A New World

By Christopher Shannon, PhD

(Augustine Institute, Greenwood Village, CO/Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA 2022)



Reviewed by
Peggy Eastman

Many of us have taken pilgrimages; this book offers a sweeping new kind of pilgrimage, a journey in print. The author, an associate professor of history at Christendom College, takes us from early missionary efforts in North America in the 15th century through the settlement of Catholic colonists in America all the way up through Vatican II and the papacy of Saint John Paul II.

Any pilgrimage is filled with moments of inspiration and bravery, as well as trials and hardships. Thus this book recounts triumphs and successes such as the establishment of parishes, churches, Catholic schools and Catholic universities, and it also recounts acts of persecution and hard times, including strife within the Church. Its breadth shows the enduring value of persistence and strong faith.

Most of us know the jingle “In 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue,” which we learned as children. The author writes that “the pilgrimage of Christian life in America begins with Christopher Columbus.” Columbus sailed to the new world for Queen Isabella of Spain; his was not a religious voyage, even though he was Catholic and the queen “saw the salvation of her subjects as part of her responsibility as a Catholic queen.” Columbus was seeking a passage to Asia, to give Spain access to Asian trade.

This thoughtful and fascinating book, which runs to more than 550 pages, is divided into three parts: Seeds, Fruits and Seasons. It recounts how Catholic missionaries worked to convert indigenous peoples, sometimes facing violence and paying the price with their lives. For example, one missionary, Jean de Brebeuf, was hoisted on a stake by hostile Iroquois and burning bark was shoved into his mouth to stop his preaching. His heart was ripped out, roasted and eaten by his attackers, who hoped to gain some of the great courage he had shown.

As a Marylander, I was particularly interested in reading about the Catholic Carrolls of Maryland in colonial America; the name of Carroll is well known in the state. As author Shannon

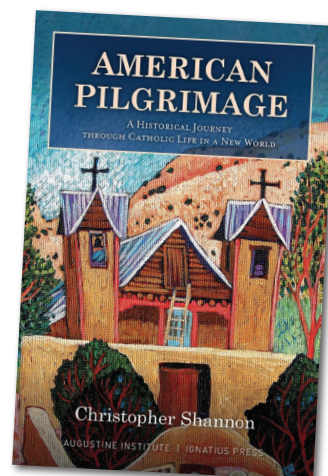
writes, the first 20 years of the 18th century saw the Maryland Assembly pass a series of anti-Catholic laws instigated by England including a 1704 act designed to “prevent the Growth of Popery within this Province.” One of the distinguished Carrolls, Charles, survived this anti-Catholic broadside with his faith intact, and he also prospered.

Shannon’s sweeping written pilgrimage in the new world takes us through the lives of well-known Catholics such as Dorothy Day, a Catholic convert who founded “The Catholic Worker” newspaper with Peter Maurin. During the 1930s both were strong proponents of social justice in America, and advocated for the rights of workers.

We also learn more about Thomas Merton, a Catholic convert and the author of an influential autobiography, “The Seven Storey Mountain.” First published in October 1948, it became a best-seller. As Shannon writes, Merton embraced the simplicity of Trappist monasticism, and his views were so appealing to so many that he became a celebrity monk.

With the advent of television, Catholic Bishop Fulton J. Sheen also became a celebrity in the 1950s through his popular TV program “Life is Worth Living,” which I have seen replayed occasionally on the EWTN channel. With his magnetism, Bishop Sheen showed how television can be an influential tool for evangelization.

Ultimately, I found Shannon’s book to be one of hope. It shows that deep faith, which is worth suffering for, preserving and sharing, will endure. How to get this message across today? Shannon writes, “As in all things, Jesus Christ shows us the way. His ministry did not consist solely, even primarily, in hard sayings. He offered himself to all without preconditions; his open, generous manner offended only the Pharisees. He preached mostly of God’s merciful love for man, and man’s duty to love God and neighbor.” Shannon writes that even though Jesus’ friends betrayed, denied and abandoned him, he called them friends and trusted them to evangelize the world. “He trusts us, too,” the author concludes. 🙏



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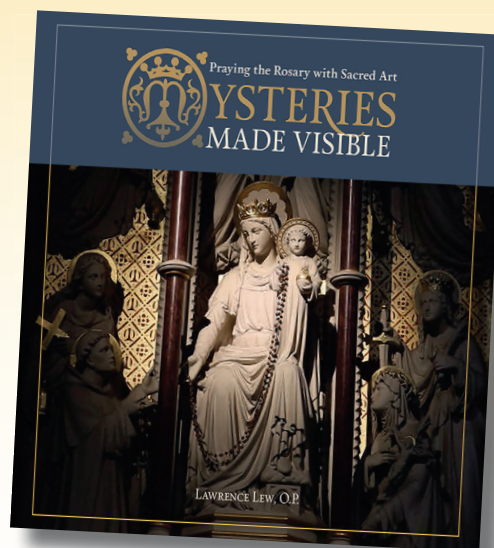
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The Ascension of Our Lord

◆ IN THE STARS THE GLORY OF HIS EYES

Tales of an Irish Tour Guide in Rome

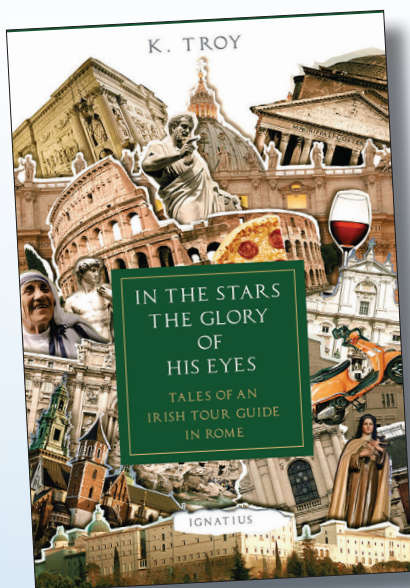
After 25 years of leading pilgrim groups to Catholic shrines across Europe, Irish tour guide **K. Troy** has seen it all. Crafted with wit and charm, this book gives a first-hand account of Christ's hand at work in all the beautiful messiness of pilgrimage.

His stories unfold in the most evocative Catholic settings: Vatican City, Holy House of Nazareth in Loreto, St. Padre Pio shrine in San Giovanni Rotondo, Carmel of St. Thérèse in Lisieux, Cathedral of Wawel in Krakow, the magnificent Abbey of Montecassino, and many other sacred places. Traveling alongside these pilgrims, you will experience these glorious shrines.

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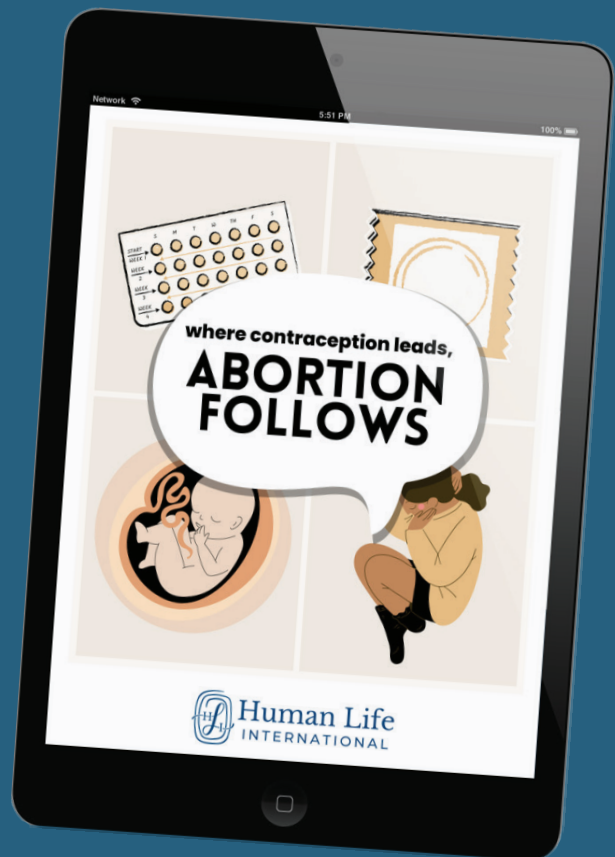


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