



THE LONE STAR MESSENGER

TEXAS STATE COURT

"We must not only give what we have; we must also give what we are." Joseph Cardinal Mercier

December 2005

www.cdatexas.org

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MISSION STATEMENT: *Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive to embrace the principle of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all.*

MESSAGE FROM THE STATE REGENT



My Dear Sisters in Christ,

What a joy it is to be entering this blessed season! It is the season of *Hope*. No matter how hectic our year has been or what troubles we have faced, this is the time of year when we are reminded of God's infinite love and of His mercy. No matter what our failures or weaknesses have been, this is the time of rebirth. As we shop for the holidays and decorate our homes, let us also remember that this is our time to "Prepare the way of the Lord, [and to] make straight his paths." This is our time to listen to His voice and immerse ourselves in His love so that we will be renewed and made fit for the New Year and for the work that awaits us.

It is with great joy that I announce that we have a new Missions of Mercy Project. Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity operate the Our Lady of Guadalupe Maternity Shelter for Homeless Women and work with the poor in the Dallas/Fort Worth Area. They rely solely on contributions, yet they never solicit donations. They count on Divine Providence to supply all their needs. More information on how you can help meet their needs and the needs of the poor in their care is found in Lillian Hansen's article in this newsletter. I know that this will be a project that the Catholic Daughters of Texas will take to their generous hearts.

It is my special hope that you will make time in January to listen to the Lord and to join in prayer with your CDA sisters at the State Retreat at the Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan, in San Juan, Texas. Let's start the New Year off right by putting ourselves in the presence of God. I hope that you will reserve your seat, today.

Finally, as you shop for that perfect gift for those who are special to you, remember that the best gifts that you can give cost nothing: the gifts of your time, your joy, your patience, and your love! Be God's hands and His voice on Earth this Christmas Season. Be the instruments through which He shows His love for His people. I wish you a joyful Christmas and a blessed and peaceful New Year!

Olga Samaniego

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Texas State Court**

Mission Statement

The members of the Texas State Court love Christ and His Church and are dedicated to leading others to Christ and to His service through The Catholic Daughters of Americas.

Goals

1. To be women of faith and prayer.
2. To bear witness to our faith through our actions and interactions.
3. To support our clergy and women religious and to foster vocations.
4. To promote the fact that CDA is a relevant, vibrant organization for today's church.
5. To increase membership.

Activities

- Emphasize that all courts are to implement the Spiritual Enhancement portion of the Circle of Love Program.
- Encourage courts to undertake all other aspects of the Circle of Love prayerfully.
- Provide two state-wide retreats to foster a deeper understanding of the Eucharist.
- Be highly visible in the state to encourage prayer and service.
- Encourage and suggest new area of service that are relevant to today's women and that meet the needs of a changing world.
- Institute more Missions of Mercy projects in different parts of the state.
- Provide more training and time for discussion at district and multi-district meetings.
- Provide more support for courts that are struggling through the Court Outreach Program.
- Encourage the study of the bylaws, parliamentary procedure, and protocol.
- Develop more women to undertake leadership roles in their courts.
- Encourage more courts to become more actively involved with our youth.
- Encourage more participation in our Circle of Love, newsletter, scrapbook, and membership contests.
- Encourage courts to become more visible and active in their churches and communities and to publicize their activities.
- Develop innovative ways to encourage women to join us in our work.
- Develop court incentives for increasing membership.
- Continue to work with technology so that it enhances the efficiency of each officer.

THE LONE STAR MESSENGER is a publication of the *CDA Texas State Court* and is published four times a year, in September, December, March, and June. It is mailed to State Officers, District Deputies, State Chairmen, Court Regents, Vice Regents, and Chaplains. If one of the listed above is not receiving a newsletter, please send in the form on the last page of this newsletter with his/her name and address. With each issue, several newsletters are returned as undeliverable, so please keep us up to date regarding this matter.

If there are other court members who would like to receive the newsletter in the mail, the member subscription price is \$7.00 per year, make the check payable to CDA. If, you already have a paid subscription, your expiration date is on the mailing label.

Rosemary Olson, State Newsletter Editor

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As a Catholic Daughter,
does your light shine?

“You are the light of the world...Let your light shine before everyone that they may see your good works, and glorify your Creator which is in Heaven.”

Matthew 5:14, 16



Give the Original Christmas Gift this Year “The Gift of Self”

A Message from
Father Don Ruppert
State Clergy Consultant

My Dear Catholic Daughters,

Since childhood, every December I sang “*I’m dreaming of a white Christmas just like the ones I used to know.*” I probably should have confessed that I lied, since I had never experienced a white Christmas in my lifetime: That all changed last year. As parishioners left the church after the 4 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve snowflakes were just starting to fall. The ground was soon covered with a blanket of white. The snow continued through mid-night Mass. This was a Christmas I will never forget.

Snow or not, Christmas is a special time. We join in holiday traditions, give thanks for our bounteous blessings, and remember the gift received on that first Christmas over two thousand years ago. God gave the gift of self when he gave us Jesus his Son. This was the greatest gift ever given. It’s one we can still give without spending “big bucks” and hours shopping. This is the gift that CDA members are most familiar with. They give it every day.

I was happy to be able to attend the October CDA Texas State Court Board Meeting. It was a wonderful meeting. There was no tension and, of course, we always have fun. The board seems to truly enjoy being together. Your officers unselfishly give the “gift of self.” They have the best interest of the members and of the State and National courts at heart. Every time I meet with this board I experience the CDA motto of “Unity and Charity.”

Have a most blessed and happy Christmas Season. Remember the greatest gift you can give is “The Gift of Self!” The Church is grateful for the work of CDA during the past 100 years and looks forward to what is yet to be accomplished. You know the old saying, “A woman’s work is never done!”

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Fr. Don Ruppert

Libby Ramirez

Third Vice National Regent

The holidays are fast approaching and we are already getting into the buzz of the holidays. Busy, busy, busy seems to be the only way we know holidays can and should be, or should they? We must take the time to reflect on all the wonderful things we have been given by the grace of God.

While I was sitting in my doctor's waiting room yesterday, a man, who was also waiting, commented that we are now jumping straight from Halloween to Christmas and we are completely neglecting Thanksgiving. He remarked that this is a shame because we have so much to be thankful for and we are not taking the time to do this. That really set me to thinking. We do have a lot for which we should be appreciative, and this year, especially, we must remember to be thankful. In September we thought we had a category four hurricane headed for our area. Thank God Hurricane Rita decided to go elsewhere. We watched television and saw the devastation this terrible storm caused. We pray for all the people affected by this storm and we thank God we were spared.

Congratulations! I am very pleased to have been given the opportunity by National Regent M. Joan McKenna to respond to a call from a student at Baylor who was interested in organizing a Catholic Daughter of the Americas Court at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. State Regent Olga Samaniego and I met with a group of young women there and they are indeed ready for a Campus Court. On November 28, 2005, Texas will organize the first Campus Court. Congratulations to Court St. Clare of Assisi # 2559 of Baylor University and the Texas State Court for the beginning of a wonderful venture together.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas offer membership for women 18 years old or older; they offer Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas for young girls 6 to 18 years old, but we have often neglected to offer programs for young women who leave for college and are away from home. Now, the National Headquarters is making a concerted effort to answer the call of these young women. These young women are ready to start working with other young women who share their faith. Carolyn Bachmann, State Membership Chairman, will work closely with the National Campus Court Committee on the campus courts. We look forward to many more Campus Courts in Texas.

On January 23, 2006, I will be taking part in the 33rd March for Life in Washington, DC. I will be taking pledges for the walk. Half of the money stays with the Education & Defense Fund in Washington, DC, and the other half comes back to the Texas State Court. State Regent Olga Samaniego has chosen Our Lady of Guadalupe Maternity Shelter for Homeless Women of the Dallas area, the newest Missions of Mercy project in Texas, as the recipient of the funds coming back to Texas. I will be taking pledges until February 15, 2006. If you or your court wish to pledge to the walk, please send me a check made payable to me, and I will send them one check. You will get a thank you letter from Nellie Gray of the Education & Defense Fund for your contribution.

Alfred and I wish you and your families a very Blessed Christmas and a very prosperous and Happy New Year. God bless you all and continue to do the work of CDA for the glory and honor of Jesus.

DID YOU KNOW???

Saint Nicholas was Bishop of Myra in the fourth century. Nicholas devoted himself to helping the poor, and works of charity. Tradition tells that he helped a father save his three daughters from being sold into prostitution because they did not have money for a dowry. Nicholas threw a small bag of gold into the man's window for three nights. Many more works of charity are associated with the generous St. Nicholas. He is a popular Saint and has been adopted as patron Saint by many countries. Germany associated him with Christmas, and he is the model for America's Santa Claus.



Messages From Your Texas State Officers



Court Development/Membership

Carolyn Bachmann- First Vice State Regent

As Court Development Chairman I have settled in and started the new term off with three new courts instituted. The Houston area has seen the institution of Our Lady of St. John at Our Lady of St. John Parish and Reina De La Paz at Queen of Peace Parish. Texas has also instituted their first campus court at Baylor University. Congratulations to all the new members.

Are there parishes or college campuses that may be interested in a CDA court? There are many Catholic women out there needing spiritual guidance, fellowship, etc., and a hand extended to invite them to share the many activities and projects Catholic Daughters have to offer them. Do not be selfish or quiet about the organization that all Catholic Daughters have come to love. Speak out and invite priests and women of all parishes across the State to join the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. It takes just a little energy and work on your part to establish a new court in parishes in your city or surrounding area that do not have CDA.

Campus Courts are the new future to our younger women. Do you have daughters, nieces, or granddaughters going to college needing an outlet to reach out to their faith? There are many organizations on university campuses, but those organizations do not give our young ladies a connection of working in and with their Catholic faith.

Regents share this with your membership. You may not know of any parishes or a campus that's interested in a CDA court, but there may be other members of your court who do. Your membership does not receive the State newsletter, therefore; you are our voice to them. Inform them and let them know what is in the newsletter.

Membership

In the last newsletter and the Regent's Packet the courts were told about the Membership Contest incentive that would earn their courts money. If your court was not able to have a membership drive this fall, then now is the time to start planning one for the spring. Do not let the other courts get a jump-start on your court to winning the first place prize of \$175.00. Remember you increase the working hands of your court with new members and a chance to win money just by asking women to join CDA. LET'S GET STARTED

Leadership

Sheila Martinka, Second Vice State Regent

What a wild hurricane season. Our first leadership/spirituality workshop was to be held in Victoria in September and even though all are always welcome, there was one lady in particular who was not—"Hurricane Rita." We were fortunate that "Rita" stayed away from some of us and the workshop was rescheduled for November 20.

Just a reminder that as quickly as the Christmas season has arrived, the New Year is right behind it, so District Deputies, get with your courts and officers and if you have not already, start looking at dates for new officers training. It will be here before you know it! Please contact me for available dates as there are a few districts that are already on the calendar. Please feel free to call me at 713-946-5847 or smartinka@earthlink.net

Memorial Scholarship

Sheila Martinka, Second Vice State Regent

Another reminder—the State Memorial Scholarship Application and essays for graduating seniors attending college in 2006 need to be sent to me and postmarked by JANUARY 31, 2006. All regents were sent a copy of the application in the regent's packet earlier this year. You may make as many copies as you need. If you are unable to locate your copy, please feel free to contact me.

Thank all of you for your continued support with this program and keep those requests rolling in for the Mass cards!

Court Dues and Assessments

Carolyn Malik, State Secretary

Statements for your state dues were mailed around the 15th of November. You should have received your statement from the national office as well by this time. I suggest you request a current membership list for your court from the national office yearly. You may do so by e-mail or regular mail service. Reconcile your list with the national office immediately to be sure your billing statements are correct. I have also mailed out past due statements to the courts that are in arrears. Please bring your dues up to date ASAP.

Concerning the JCDA Assessment – The majority of the courts in the State of Texas do not sponsor a JCDA court on the local level. However, each court in the state is assessed a "JCDA Assessment." This money is used for the overall state program to support the JCDA program

in the State of Texas. So, even if you do not sponsor a court on the local level, you are assessed \$.10 per member for the State program and need to pay this assessment. If you have a question concerning this, please give me a call or e-mail me.

CD NOTICES – Past due notices, for the CDs mailed out during the summer months, have been mailed. Perhaps some of you do not wish to keep the CD for some reason or other ----so-o-o please return it to me in order that someone else may avail themselves of this great speech by Bishop Aymond.

PLEASE NOTE – CHANGE IN MY E-MAIL ADDRESS – I have changed my e-mail address to cdacarol@sbcglobal.net. My old e-mail address is no longer activated.

The holiday season is fast approaching. The season has become so commercialized that many people do not realize what we are truly celebrating. Why don't we as Catholic Daughters of the Americas place our emphasis on the true meaning of the season. Include a religious theme in all your decorations, especially in your yards to show others what you believe Christmas is all about. Ask your neighbors to participate using religious themes. What a great proclamation we can make to others with our decorations and say "Jesus is the Reason for the Season" – Happy Birthday, Jesus. I hope you, your families and friends have a very safe and Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and the very best in the upcoming New Year.

Dollars and Cents

Peggy Rosales, State Treasurer

Holiday Greetings! I wish each and everyone a Blessed Christmas season. Thank you for the many invitations I have been receiving; I wish that I could have attended all of them. Thank you for the many court newsletters. Wow! It is so nice to hear such wonderful activities and works going on in our state. It reminds me of the saying, "If you want something done – put a woman in charge!"

Quarterly tips:

- All **court checks must have two signatures** on them. We don't want to have to send any checks back.
- Remember to get funds into the bank as soon as possible. There is no need to wait until the next meeting to get funds to the Financial Secretary or to the Treasurer.
- Spend those funds that you raise. This is how we keep our 501 (c) (3) designation and not-for-profit status with the IRS.

Happy Holidays and God bless one and all.



Parliamentary Tip

Lorraine Hilscher- State Parliamentarian

Do you know where your minutes are?

Unfortunately, some Courts have misplaced their minutes and have only current minutes. This should never happen. Minutes are permanent records and should never be destroyed. In addition to being a legal document minutes are the history of your court. Unless you have a place to store records, the Recording Secretary is responsible for keeping all minutes. The Regent should be given a copy of the minutes; however, it is the original approved copy that is filed by the Recording Secretary. Show the date of approval with the *Recording Secretary's initial* at the bottom of the minutes. Type as illustrated below:

Approved as read _____

Approved as corrected _____

Keep minutes in binders and **do not destroy or misplace.**

Quarterly Prayer Intentions



The following are the prayer intentions for the new quarter. Please share them with your courts. The intentions can be remembered in many ways such as in the opening and closing prayers of your meetings, at corporate communions, by your prayer ministry, and hopefully by each individual member in her daily prayers. Jesus tells us in Matthew 21:22, "Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive." Let us place our trust in Him as we lift up the following intentions:

- That the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and the Church of Christ throughout the world will receive abundant graces in this Holy Season and throughout the New Year.
- That those whose lives are a daily struggle will receive solace from God and care and support from those with the power to help.

Olga Samaniego, State Regent

Deadlines/Dates to Remember....

January 31	Memorial Scholarship Application
January 31	District Deputy and Local Court Reports
March	Election of Nominating Committee for Local Court Elections
March 1	NCEA-CDA Special Education Scholarship
March 1	Local Court Newsletter Contest
March 15	Education Contest – Local Winners to State
March 15	Web-Site Contest Form
March 31	Read Across America Report
March 31	Circle of Love Reports (Forms to be sent to Courts in January)
March 31	Missions of Mercy Report
May 1	National JCDA Scholarship
May 1	Father Leonard Bachmann Graduate Scholarship
May	Elections of Local Court Officers



Messages From Your Texas State Chairmen

Love Gifts, National Charitable Projects

Rosalinda Gutierrez, State National Projects Chairman

As we embrace the season of Christmas, I would like to wish for you and yours the "Heart of Jesus." What greater love can we have than doing for others.

This is where CDA comes in. We are a national organization and we have implemented charitable projects that will bring the "Light of Jesus" to others. This light must be strong and glowing to reflect, not only His great love, but our CDA motto of "unity and charity."

I hope that you have included the national charities in your budgets. If you have already done so, please send the \$80 check to the Texas State Court. On the check memo indicate that it is for the national charitable projects. There was an error in the last state newsletter. Please mail the checks to our State Secretary.

Carolyn Malik
State Secretary
P.O. Box 243
Shiner, TX. 77984

The state will then forward the donations to National. This way we will know the strength of the CDA courts in Texas. We are all about love, working in unity to extend a helping hand to those in need. Let's show the power of our love for Jesus, so that when Texas is called for a count, we can answer a strong 100%.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Rosalinda Gutierrez
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Continue....

Henriette Jalowy- State Public Relations Chairman

Continue to publicize your Court's activities. Prospective members may be ready to join when they see the positive publicity. Have a blessed and safe holiday.

Greetings...

Janis Wright- State Financial Review Chairman

Dear Ladies,
Merry Christmas! I hope this next month is filled with love and happiness for you and your family.

Shortly after Christmas will come the start of a new year and a time for resolutions and possibly something new in your life. I was thinking about new beginnings today as I started a new job at a new company. Last month I was worried about becoming unemployed and then the Lord sent an opportunity my way. At first I panicked and didn't want to apply for this job, and then I thought how silly I was. God had handed me a gift and I was going to turn it down. So I applied, interviewed, and have now started a new job at a great place. Has God ever answered one of your prayers in a way that you did not expect? Has He presented an opportunity for you (and your court) to do something different than your normal activities? If so, don't panic, just let Him guide you. You'll be glad you did.

God bless you! I hope to see you soon.

Quality of Life

Linda Dierscgke- Chairman

Catholic Daughters, just a reminder to be recording all the hours and dollars spent doing deeds in this category, either as a group or an individual. Since we have just completed the WRAP campaign, record dollars and hours spent in this regard. Many courts do banners, flyers, television interviews, radio, and newspaper articles. With Holidays approaching, will your court adopt a family, sponsor parties and gifts for the elderly in nursing homes, or provide spiritual programs? Remember, these things go under the quality of life heading.

May your holiday season be blessed.

Read Across America

Cynthia Novak- Read Across America Chairman

On March 2, 2006, Catholic Daughters will again participate in the annual NEA's Read Across America event. The 2006 event is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever. "Originally created as a one-day event to celebrate reading on Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2, NEA's Read Across America has grown into a nationwide initiative that promotes reading every day". Be sure your Court joins in as we celebrate the joy and importance of reading. So, dust off your "Cat in the Hat" hat, round up your CDA friends, get out the Dr. Seuss books and start reading.

Regents, have you appointed a Read Across America Chairman for your Court? Chairman, have you contacted your schools, libraries, day care centers, clinics, etc.? If not, now is the time to do so. If you have, hopefully you have been successful. Either way, now is the time to start announcing it at your meetings, and get your members excited about participating.

Create a list of books suitable for reading to the children. Many of you have a special book that is your favorite. Read that book and donate it to the school when you have finished reading for the day. The children will love reading the book after you are gone and will always remember that special day. Need more information, check out NEA's website at www.nea.org/readacross or contact me.

When you have completed the event, be sure to fill out the report form and mail it to me. The form is included with the Circle of Love report forms from State Regent Olga Samaniego. Regents, please be sure to give the form to your chairman. Please complete the form and mail it in even if you do not participate.

Cynthia Novak
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Merry Christmas – Not Happy Holidays:

Rosemary Olson, State Newsletter Editor

Regents,
Please encourage your Court Newsletter Editors to enter their newsletters in the Catholic Daughters' Newsletter Contest. I have received many great newsletters these past few months, and have been told that NOT many newsletters have been mailed in for the newsletter contest in past years. Where are they? Even if your newsletter does not have a bunch of clip art or look overly fancy and fluffy, it should be entered anyway. The vital information in your newsletter is the most important element of that newsletter. So, please don't be shy or feel like you don't have a chance. Give it a try; no one who at least tries is ever considered a loser. *Remember* – "The Little Train Who Could." Please refer to Charlene Gwosdz's, Court Newsletter Chairman, article for more information. May God bless all.

Convention News

Joyce Pierce- State Convention Chairman

The 2007 Texas State Convention had their first planning meeting. Due to the hurricane, attendance was down; however, some decisions were reached and members volunteered their time and talent. The Convention Team is seeking additional members who may fill the many positions available. If you are interested in helping, please call or email me.

The committee made suggestions to the State Regent, and the State Board has selected as the theme for the 2007 State Convention "Women of God, Be Not Afraid." The Convention Committee is hard at work planning a

convention that will be an opportunity to learn; an opportunity to grow as a CDA member; and, an opportunity to get to know and have fun with your CDA sisters from across the state. It is never too early to start making plans for your court to send as many representatives as possible to Dallas in 2007. We are looking forward to welcoming you to our great city.

As we gather together with our friends and family and give thanks for our many blessings during this holy season, let us remember to give thanks for the greatest gift "the Eucharist."

Court Newsletter Contest- Last Official Notice

Charlene Gwosdz- Court Newsletter Chairman

Time is fast approaching for you to be getting your newsletters started for the Local Court Newsletter Contest. I'm hoping that this year we will have a larger amount of entries because of the information getting out to the Regents a lot earlier with vital information and suggestions to make the process easier for the Newsletter Editors to follow the guidelines. Remember, although you were given suggestions, "National guidelines must be followed." News of your court is very important, along with National and State News. The Newsletter Packets must be postmarked by Midnight March 1, 2006. You might also remember that February only has 28 days, so don't cut yourself short. There are no exceptions. Also, use the cover sheet that is requested by National, stating that this is the same newsletter sent to all your members and has not been changed.

If, you have any questions, I will help you in any way that I can. Call me at 281-489-1033 home, 281-787-3430 cell, or email me at coconut51@juno.com

Rice Krispy Chicken

This chicken recipe is quick, easy, and delicious; the perfect recipe for a hurried holiday season.

2 lbs. Chicken breast, boneless and skinned
salt
pepper
garlic powder
onion powder
1 stick butter, melted
2 -3 cups of Rice Krispies
2 T flour

Cut chicken into 2 inch strips. Lightly season with salt, pepper, garlic powder, and onion powder. Dip pieces into the melted butter and Rice Krispy/ flour mixture. Bake in a 9 x 13 inch pan (coated with cooking spray) in 400 degree oven for 25 minutes.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Report of State Legislative Chairperson
November 2005

Proposition 2:

The Constitutional Amendment to prohibit same sex unions passed by 74% of the vote on the November 8 ballot. Thanks to all members across the State of Texas who helped in providing information to get voters to turn out in support of this amendment. Opponents of the proposition undertook a campaign to confuse voters and make them question the proposition, but to no avail.

Senate Bill 1088/death penalty review:

Senate Bill 1088 attempts to streamline current law and court review procedures in order to speed up the execution process. The bill, if passed, will limit access to DNA testing to only specific cases. There reportedly have been numerous individuals who have established their innocence through DNA testing that would have been denied access to such testing if this bill were in effect.

Catholic teaching on the death penalty provides that assuming identity and responsibility have fully been determined recourse to the death penalty is not excluded by the Church if it is the only way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor. It follows that the Church believes that the cases where the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity are very rare, if not practically non-existent.

We should oppose Senate Bill 1088 and any legislation that would limit court review of death penalty cases.

Other Legislative action to be taken:

Contact your legislators to request that they oppose budget cuts in the Food Stamp program, Medicaid funding, agriculture conservation programs and housing assistance;

request legislators to vote to restore funds for debt relief by urging full funding of the U.S. contribution to the International Development Association, and;

participate in the Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty through resources made available at <http://www.usccb.org/globalpoverty> in order to assist in helping the "poorest of the poor."

Show Your support for the unborn:

January 22, 2006 will mark the 33rd Anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. Plan your activity early to obtain as much support as possible. Suggested activities include: sponsor members to attend the March for Life in Washington, D. C., hold a vigil for life Mass, rally for life march, prayer service, or Rosary. Please note that any event at a public building may require permission prior to the event.

Websites to visit for legislative information

<http://www.usccb.org> and <http://www.txcatholic.org/>

I extend my heartfelt wishes for a blessed and safe Christmas season for you and your families.

Peggy Supak, CDA State Legislative Chairperson, P.O. Box 518, La Grange, Tx. 78945, (979) 968-8402 office, (979) 968-8404 or e-mail at fayetteatty@hotmail.com.

**MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY (DALLAS) ADOPTED BY
MISSIONS OF MERCY AS ADDITIONAL TEXAS PROJECT**

The Texas State Board has voted to adopt a new Mission of Mercy Project: the Missionaries of Charity in Dallas. Mother Teresa's Sisters serve the poorest of the poor, both spiritually and financially. They provide essential foods to over 400 families per month, all of whom have been carefully screened by the Sisters to ensure that they are truly in need. Each week bags are filled with rice, beans, flour, fresh fruits, vegetables and breads purchased with donations or brought by individuals and organizations.

The Sisters also maintain the Our Lady of Guadalupe Maternity Shelter for homeless pregnant women by providing a safe place to rest while protecting the lives of their unborn babies. After giving birth, the mothers are helped to start anew in the outside world.

The Sisters of Charity teach catechism classes and summer programs at the St. James Parish in Dallas and help many students prepare for school by obtaining school supplies and new shoes. It is not unusual to see many of the students helping the Sisters with the work of serving the many in need. The Sisters provide for the Thanksgiving turkeys and children's Christmas parties and gifts for the entire families that would have nothing otherwise. Sister Drita, who is head of the local convent, says that the Sisters count on Divine Providence to bring them the things they need. All courts, especially those in the north Texas area, are invited to participate in this most worthy cause. Suggestions for helping:

- Newborn clothing, sleepers, socks, receiving blankets
- Baby supplies – diapers (all sizes), wipes, lotion, powder, baby shampoo, soap
- Maternity clothes, infant and small children's clothes
- Women's shampoo, conditioner, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste, tissues, razors
- Food
- Money – for bus passes, personal items, other necessities

Contact information will be made available as soon as possible.

Lillian Hansen, Chairman
E-mail: lilhansen@wcnet.net

Cathy Bittner, Co-Chairman
E-mail: cathybittner@sbcglobal.net

Most Merciful Father, we commend our departed into Your hands...

Cecil Shelke...Court St. Laurence, #2402, Sugar Land

Val Beyer...Court Prince of the Apostles, #1787, San Antonio

Julia Houston...Court Mother of Charity, #1713, Houston

Anne Friesenhahn...Charter Member of Court St. Joseph of Honey Creek, #2660, Spring Branch

Clara Cowart...Court Immaculate Heart of Mary, #1884, Conroe

Theresa Maniscalco...Charter Member of Court Mercy of Jesus, #2407, Tomball

Elisabeth Novosad...Court St. Paul, #1604, Shiner

Mary Janik...Court St. Paul, #1604, Shiner

Rose Stewart...Charter Member of Court Our Lady, #2337, Farmers Branch

Irene Drozd...Court Our Lady of Guadalupe, #206, Yoakum



TEXAS STATE NEWS



Court St. Mary #249 has adopted the following prayer that is recited at the end of each of their court meetings. As our Mission Statement as Catholic Daughters of the Americas speaks of “the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all,” why don’t we all join them? United in prayer we are powerful!

Prayer for Life

Eternal God, You are the creator of all life. We praise you for the Fatherly care, which you extend to all creation, and especially to us, made in your image and likeness.

Lord Jesus Christ, you dwelt for nine months in the womb of Mary. Bless and protect the pre-born. Give their mothers and fathers the grace to sacrifice themselves and not their children.

Holy Spirit, breathe on your world that is now immersed in a culture of death. Defeat the destructive power of abortion and give us the strength to be faithful disciples of a culture of Life.

We humbly ask these things in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Our Lady of Peace #2489 in Converse is making rosaries for the victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita housed in San Antonio. San Antonio has over 10,000 evacuees—many of whom are Catholic. Your court can help by making or purchasing rosaries and sending them to

Marilynn Gallagher, Regent
11621 Crooked Oak Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78233

The deadline to send in rosaries is January 31, 2006. You have helped evacuees to rebuild their homes and replace their material possessions; help them to rebuild their spiritual lives, too!

Information on CDA Registered Logos

Many courts have sent in their letters asking for permission to use the CDA Registered Logo on stationery and newsletters, etc. If your court has not done so, please send your request as soon as possible to:

Olga Samaniego, State Regent
1801 Billy Casper
El Paso, Texas, 79936

Courts who have sent in requests will receive permission letters in January.

District Deputies and Court Regents,

Just a quick reminder—your Semi-Annual Reports are due January 31, 2006. Copies of the form can be found in District Deputy Section of the September 2005 Regents’ Packet.

Give the perfect gift this season: A Mass Enrollment Card, the gift that keeps on giving.

The recipient will be remembered at the First Friday Mass for a period of one year.

District Meetings: It is time for District Deputies to start planning spring District Meetings. Please remember that all meetings need to be scheduled with me to ensure that a state representative can be assigned to each meeting. If at all possible, please plan for multi-district meetings because it will help with scheduling, and it will allow for more interaction among the members. When there is a multi-district function, all the district deputies should be involved in planning. **No** activities are to be scheduled on the weekends of the State Retreats to allow those who are able to attend the time to travel to San Juan and to San Angelo. District Meetings happen only once a year; make them worthwhile by prayerfully considering the topics that need to be presented in your area. Together we will work on an agenda that will bring together the speakers and the topics that will make your meeting a learning experience and a memorable event.

Olga Samaniego, State Regent

- ***State Retreat: Please join us!***

Theme: Staying Attached to the Vine: Life in the Eucharist
 When: January, 27-29, 2006
 Times: Friday 5:00 p.m. to Sunday 12:00 p.m.
 Where: Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan Del Valle Retreat Center
 San Juan, Texas
 Presenter: Sister Ninfa Garza, Missionaries of Jesus

Room (two nights), Meals, and \$10.00 Registration Fee

Retreat Center	\$ 70.00	per person – Double Occupancy
Pilgrimage Hotel	\$ 68.00	per person – Double Occupancy
Pilgrimage Hotel	\$ 63.00	per person – Triple Occupancy
***	\$ 31.50	Meals and registration only

The capacity for the retreat is 225. There is no formal deadline; we will accept reservations as long as there is room. Registrations have already started to come in and will be accepted on a first come first served basis. For your convenience, the registration form is included in this newsletter. There seems to be some confusion as to the price of the retreat. The price quoted next to the hotel **includes** room, meals, and registration. The cost of just meals and registration for those who live in the area or who choose to stay in places other than at the retreat center is \$31.50. While the retreat is for women only, husbands are welcome to stay at the retreat center as well. Couples would reserve a double room and the price would be the same: \$70.00 per person at the Retreat Center and \$68.00 per person at the Pilgrimage Hotel. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for spiritual growth, fellowship, and fun. Send your registration in today!

- ***If you live in the Houston area*** and are interested in attending the State Retreat at the Basilica in San Juan, January 27-29, it will be possible to relax and avoid driving by taking a chartered bus! The cost is \$80.00 per person, which would cover a bus and driver for 3 days. The total cost would be \$3,760.00, and the bus would leave from Houston. We would need to have 47 people sign up to make this bus possible. The deadline is December 28, 2005, and the bus line has to have the money in hand before that day. Everyone who is interested needs to contact Ginger Shea at ginshea@swbell.net or at 281-481-0130. The bus ride will give you the opportunity to get to know and have great fun with your CDA sisters. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all there!

Olga Samaniego, State Regent



**Registration Form
Texas State Retreat
Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan Del Valle
San Juan, Texas
January 27-29, 2006**

Name: _____ Date _____
Print

Address _____ Ph. # () _____
Street City Zip

Court Name _____ Court # _____

Room preference – check one

Retreat Center, Double Occupancy	\$70.00 (includes meals)
Pilgrimage Hotel, Double Occupancy	\$68.00 (includes meals)
Pilgrimage Hotel, Triple Occupancy	\$63.00 (includes meals)
Meals and Registration only	\$31.50

_____ I will travel by car. I will be traveling with _____

_____ I will travel by air. Airline and Flight number _____

Arrival time _____

Taxi and car rental are available at the airport. If you would like to be picked up at the airport, please plan to arrive by 2:00 p.m.

I will be rooming with _____

Make checks payable to: TEXAS STATE COURT
Please Mail to: Carolyn Malik, State Secretary
P.O. Box 243
Shiner, TX 77984

C. D. Angels



CDAngels can be anyone and anyone can nominate an angel. Angels are women who are doing their regular jobs in an extraordinary manner, women who have gone "above and beyond" and have given special service to a court, or women who have been quietly reliable and trustworthy whom you would like to recognize for their faithfulness. Be creative, and let's recognize the Caring, Devoted, Absolutely terrific women of Texas! Send your nominees to: State Regent Olga Samaniego, at: olgasamaniego@hotmail.com or call 915-593-6653

Elrose Kostak serves as her court regent, is a District Deputy, and is chairman of the JCDA court, which she was instrumental in organizing. She has her plate full and is always cheerful and willing to go the extra mile!

Margaret Locke has been a driving force in Court St. Joseph of Honey Creek #2260 since its inception in 1983. A charter member of our court, she has served as Vice Regent and Regent. She started our crafts group, a source of income for our court and other Church groups. Since joining CDA, Margaret has been to every State Convention and all but one National Convention. Her generosity knows no bounds; she purchased all the robes for our Court, gives annual parties for all our members, and sends cards to anyone who is ill or celebrating an occasion. She has almost single handedly, sent 7 boxes of toys and 24 boxes of friendship bags to Project Handclasp. She is 84 years old and still going strong. We are all proud of Margaret and her accomplishments.

Ginger Shea, District Deputy #39, has been instrumental in the institutions of Court Our Lady of St. John and Court Reina De La Paz. She has coordinated all the preparations to see to that the institutions of both courts have run smoothly. Additionally, she helped with the initial training of the courts and with the setting up of the courts' books. She also is willing to share her expertise and experience with those who are new to their offices. She was indispensable at the State's Organizational Meeting. Ginger is a true Angel!

All the District Deputies of Texas are special angels! Thank you for all the hard work you have done getting those financial reviews completed in such a timely manner. Texas is a huge state, and we couldn't function without all our dedicated DD's!

Marie Stryk is Court St. Helen's, #2330, very special Angel. Marie is currently serving as the Financial Secretary, a position she has held for several terms. In addition to her role as Financial Secretary, she has previously served as Vice Regent. Marie has been our Scrapbook Chairman for many years and at the last State Convention, her scrapbook took 1st Place. Marie started a Rosary Makers group that has been meeting at her house each week for the last 2 ½ years. She is a very hard worker and does an excellent job. We appreciate her service and dedication to the Court and Catholic Daughters.

Doris Andel & Mary Sheblak are from Ct. St. Theresa of The Little Flower, #1350, Edna. These two ladies do so much for our court. They just chaired our annual Turkey Dinner and did a great job organizing everything. Mary is also our Financial Secretary and helps me so much. Both ladies are willing to lend a helping hand with any project we undertake.

Our court angel is **Shirley Smaistria**, Ct. St. John the Baptist, #2073, Alvin. She is a mother, grandmother, and soon to be great-grandmother. She has been a CDA member for forty-five years. She is our Newsletter Editor. She is always willing to help when needed and participates enthusiastically in our court projects and fundraisers. She is a member of a neighboring church- Sacred Heart, Manvel. She is a lector, Eucharistic minister, a member of the Bay Area Serra Club, the Ladies Altar Society, the Rosary Guild, and Third Age Quilting Guild. It is very hard to keep up with her. We are proud to have her as a member of our court.

Anita Guerra, Ct. San Roberto Bellamino, #2275, El Campo stands out as an Angel because she goes above and beyond her call of duty. She always helps with so much gusto! She speaks with so much love and joy about everything we do. She came up with the idea of forming a group of CDA members to help clean our church, she is the chairperson! She always helps with all the fundraisers, sells tickets and helps in every possible way. We just had our Annual Turkey Dinner. This is a four day process from chopping veggies, making cornbread, mixing dressing, de-boning turkeys, serving the meal and finally, cleaning up. She faithfully came for every stage of the project. She is 72! Wish we had more of her. And, she never complains, she feels CDA is a very important organization. We love her!

Marie DeBault, is from Ct. St. Joseph Protector of Mary, #2475, Inez. In addition to her regular duties in the court of handling our penny drill, sending birthday/anniversary/get well cards, helping with the annual games party, etc this 84 years young lady has on her own sewed numerous turbans for cancer patients in the name of our CDA court. She has also turned scrap material into countless beautiful lap robes, bibs, wheelchair/walker purses for the homebound, nursing home residents, nuns in a convent infirmary, and wherever else she sees the need, again as a gesture from our court. Marie has organized a monthly social games party with refreshments for the elderly in our community. She is also instrumental in forming a daytime scripture study in the parish. She frequently calls shut-ins of the parish and occasionally sends "Remember When" stories to them in the mail. Marie loves to sing and organized a song booklet that is used regularly in scripture study and for CDA meeting use. Finally, Marie has been very generous in her support of the CCD program with donations of booklets for students in memory of her husband. Our court feels blessed to have her smile, energy, joy, and obvious love of the Lord present with us.

Martha Kennemer & Bertha Hruby, Ct. Our Lady Queen of Hope, #2289 are two angels that do what they do through the goodness of their hearts. Martha has been the court's Phone Chairman for the last 3 years plus. Faithfully every month, without having to be reminded, she calls each member to remind them of our meetings, events, etc. Martha also arranges for our monthly hostesses. Bertha has been the court's Sunshine Chairman for the past three years plus, she sends get well, anniversary, birthday, sympathy, and we miss you cards. When this began it was supposed to be for members and their families, but because our court is comprised of ladies from three churches in the area and we all know members of the churches, she has extended this sunshine into three parishes. These ladies are senior members of our court and are truly Angels.

Helen Mica, Ct. St. Bernadette, #1108, East Bernard is the chairman of our Noodle Soup supper where the funds for 103 projects are earned. She is also a member of the Altar Society and attends to so many parish needs for Mass and Religious Articles as well as decorating for each holiday and the joint KC & CDA Memorial Mass. She is a true servant for her family, our Church and God.

Pat Krupp is our CDA Funeral Meals Chairman. She makes the arrangements necessary to prepare meals for the Holy Cross Deceased Members. She is a faithful and compassionate servant who is active with her family and a perfect attendance member of CDA for many years, and;

Jocelyn Mrkwa is the Education Chairman and is responsible for the following recycled items that we collect: box tops, soup labels, soda tabs, greeting cards, and religious articles. She boxes them all up and ships them off where they are of service to others. She is a faithful perfect attendance member of CDA.

A big thank you to Angels **Cathy Bittner, Kathleen Taylor, Ramona Pena, and Terri Vacek** and all the chairmen and District Deputies who responded so quickly and worked so hard to publicize and organize relief efforts in their communities.

To Express Our Gratitude and Appreciation...

The State Board and I would like to express our gratitude and awesome appreciation for your quick action and amazing efforts to aid the victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. You gathered food and clothing, housed the homeless, raised money, worked in hospitals and shelters, and even donated blood to ensure that your brothers and sisters in Christ had their immediate needs met. Additionally, the courts across Texas sent in over \$12,000 for hurricane relief! Because the diocese of Beaumont was devastated by Hurricane Rita, and Galveston-Houston and Tyler were particularly hard-hit with both damage and caring for evacuees, we have requested and the Bishops have received funds from the CDA National Disaster Relief Fund. I know that you will continue to do whatever you can to bring comfort and relief to those who are suffering. Let us keep all of the evacuees in our prayers, especially all of our CDA sisters in the Beaumont area. Many are just now returning to their homes and beginning the rebuilding process. We will keep our eyes and ears open, and if there is anyway we can help, we will be there! May God bless and keep us all.

Olga Samaniego, State Regent

Congratulations to our new Texas Court

Our Lady of Saint John, #2557

Rebecca Tobias, Regent

10351 Fleming

Houston, TX 77013

713-674-4555

BeckvTobias@sbcglobal.net

C A L E N D A R

November 20, 2005	Multi-District Leadership Workshop, Victoria, Texas
November 28, 2005	Institution of First Campus Court in Texas at Baylor University
December 3, 2005	Institution of new court at Queen of Peace Parish in Houston
January 6-8, 2006*	Board Meeting, Scotland
January 21, 2005	Meeting, District #13 Jourdanton
January 22, 2006	50 th Anniversary, Ct. Mary Immaculate No. 1719, Dallas
January 22, 2006	Meeting, District #27 Hillsboro
January 27-29, 2006**	State Retreat, Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan, San Juan, TX
February 11, 2006	Multi-District Meeting, Mission, TX
February 11, 2006	Meeting, District #38
February 18, 2006	District #6 Meeting, Tyler
February 25, 2006	Multi-District Meeting, Corpus Christi
February 26, 2006	Meeting, District #23, Alice
March 25, 2006	Multi-District Meeting, New Braunfels
Mar. 31-Apr 1, 2006*	Board Meeting, Austin
April 1, 2006	40 th Anniversary, Ct. Annunciation, La Grange
April 22, 2006	50 th Anniversary, Ct. Our Blessed Mother #1731 El Paso
May 5-7, 2006	102 nd K of C Convention, Dallas
May 16, 2006	50 th Anniversary, Ct. Our Lady of Grace #1734, Rowena
June 9-11, 2006*	Board Meeting and Financial Review, Shiner
June 24, 2006	Multi-district officers' training, New Braunfels
July 17-21, 2006	National Convention, Minnesota
August 12, 2006	Officer's training, District #38
September 22-24, 2006**	Board Meeting and State Retreat, San Angelo, Texas
January 2007*	Board Meeting, Dallas
March, 2007*	Board Meeting, El Paso
April, 2007	Financial Review, Houston
April 26-29, 2007	CDA State Convention, Dallas

What Exactly Does A District Deputy Do?

Ever wonder what a District Deputy does? We interviewed Ginger Shea, named one of the top five District Deputies in the state last term, to find out a little bit about her job. Ginger has been a D.D. for two and a half years, and she loves being a District Deputy. We asked her to please list some of the duties that are expected to be taken care of by a District Deputy in the Catholic Daughters, but we never expected the list to be this long!

1. The District Deputy works closely with all priests, the Knights of Columbus and reports directly to the State Regent.
2. She has the supervision of the Local Courts within her respective district/area.
3. She is recognized as a special representative of the State Regent.
4. She is responsible for enforcing the rules of the order. She makes sure proper Protocol and Parliamentary Procedures are followed at all times.
5. She instructs book officers in the use of various books and records.
6. The DD performs Financial Reviews.
7. She advises officers on how to conduct a meeting and the proper decorum.
8. She installs Officers and Reception of New Members, and is responsible for other ceremonies and ensures ceremonies are properly executed.
9. She ensures that dissolution of Local Courts takes place in accordance with instructions.
10. She performs other duties as may be directed by the State Regent.
11. She is treated as one of the members in her own court, however; she should hold a place of honor at receptions, social functions, installations, and other special events.
12. If a Court has a problem or question it should go to the District Deputy.
13. And, she acts as counselor, referee and professional listener when necessary.

"This is why I love being a District Deputy - never a dull moment in my life as DD.".....Ginger Shea

NATIONAL NEWS

www.catholicdaughters.org



A Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty: Trade Aid Debt

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ADVENT RESOURCES ON GLOBAL POVERTY

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is working with Catholic Relief Services and Bread for the World to develop parish resources on global poverty for the Advent season. They will include general parish resources as well as a special resource for youth ministry and religious education programs. The theme will be “For Unto Us a Child is Born,” which will encourage us to prepare to celebrate Christ’s birth and to remember all the children born to us every day who suffer from hunger and poverty.

Early in December, attention will be drawn to the issue of poverty in our world as preparations are made for the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference, December 13-18. Various international organizations will be organizing events and running ads that invite Americans to consider the scandal of so much desperate poverty in this country and abroad. These efforts will have particular appeal for young people since the spokespeople include such celebrities as Bono and Brad Pitt and the ads are often run on MTV.

We can seize this opportunity to encourage the Catholic community to learn about Catholic teaching on poverty and participate in the **Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty**. This is particularly appropriate during the season of Advent as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, who taught us to have special concern for the poor.

We hope the Advent resources can be helpful to your efforts to share and act on Catholic social teaching. If so, please consider how your court can participate in the Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty during Advent and can provide leadership and support for parish participation. Resources are also being developed by a number of other faith communities (Methodists, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Baptists) so there will be opportunities for ecumenical activities.

The new resources will be on the Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty web site by the beginning of November (www.usccb.org/globalpoverty).

- ***Evangelization Project***

Wonderful news--Mary Margaret Cannon, CDA’s 2004 Woman of the Year and designer of a fabulous collection of inspirational ornaments, has released several new ornaments for the CDA Evangelization Project. Each court has received or will shortly receive a catalogue of all the available ornaments, which come with inspirational certificates that explain the Gospel message. More exciting news—the ornaments in the John Paul II Collection can now be ordered individually as well as in the set. The ornaments are perfect gifts to mark very special occasions, and they are a wonderful way to teach our faith to our children and grandchildren. You will want to display these beautiful creations year round! Additionally, forty percent of the sales price of each ornament goes directly to CDA! Twenty percent will go to the National Office, and the State and local courts will share twenty percent of the proceeds for each ornament sold in Texas. To order or for more information, contact Glorious Gifts at 866-872-6635, or visit the CDA website at www.CatholicDaughters.org.

- ***Texas instituted its first campus court at Baylor University*** on November 28, 2005. Please keep these young women in your prayers as they embark on their journey of service through the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. If you know women attending a Texas University who are interested in deepening their relationship with God and who would like to serve their campus communities, please contact Libby Ramirez, Third Vice National Regent or Carolyn Bachmann, Court Development and Membership Chairman.

- ***There is a new address for Project Handclasp.*** Send all boxes to:
Project Handclasp
401 West 8th Street
Building 3155 Bravo, Box 17
National City, California 91950
- ***Encourage students in your area*** to compete in the Education Contest. Students may choose either of the following themes:

“Spreading the Love of Jesus”

“How Can I Help to Promote Peace in This World”

For complete contest information see the 2005/2006 Regents’ Resource Packet.

ALERT..... BYLAWS - Submit proposed bylaw changes to Second Vice National Regent, Sally Rytlewski, NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 2006. Five copies of each proposal and rationale (one on each page) must be sent. RESOLUTIONS – Submit to National Office, who, in turn, will forward them to the Chairman, Joanne Tomassi, National Secretary-Treasurer. Five copies of this are also submitted. It is through these two documents, which can only be acted upon at a National Convention, that our organization is governed.

RKI Insurance Increases

By the time this newsletter reaches you, you should have received a letter from William Robinson of RKI, along with your bill, announcing an increase in the liability coverage to \$1.18 per member. Be assured that your National Regent was not pleased with this late notification, but was not surprised, as all insurance seems to have increased since the hurricanes. Hopefully, this eight cents increase per member will not be too much of a burden to any court. Thank you for your understanding and for your timely payment of this bill.

Importance of Sending Christmas Cards

Did you know that sending Christmas cards and messages is also a work of mercy? Think of the simple joy and sense of hope that you can bring to loved ones, distant shut-ins, friends, or the children who so cherish Christmas. ***WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT YOU HELP SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF OUR LORD BY SENDING RELIGIOUS CARDS AND USING THE 2005 BLESSED MOTHER STAMP.***

National JCDA day – February 12, 2006

JCDA celebrates its 80th Anniversary on February 12, 2006! As role models for today’s young women, the JCDA Program is vital to our children as they cope with an ever-changing world. Libby Ramirez, Third National Vice Regent and JCDA Chairman, needs your help now. Call 361-576-6314 for more information.

“Turn Off TV” Day: Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Morality in Media has been sponsoring a “Turn Off TV” Day since 1991, as a vehicle to protest offensive programming of glorified vulgar language, unmarried sex, crime, violence, religious insults, etc. No TV? What can I do? Why not celebrate Valentine’s Day by giving your loved ones gifts that money can’t buy – **quality family time.**

Roster Updates:

Court St. Clare #1966
Noelia Chapa, Regent
804 W. Lucille St.
Hebbronville TX 78361

Terri Beltran DD #15
316-576-3647 HM
361-554-7506 cell

Patricia Ann Carr, Regent
Our Lady of the Snows #2100
910 Prestwick Lane
Richardson TX 75808-3012

Viola Kunetka, Regent
Our Lady of Divine Clemency #2385
657 CR 356 Rd
El Campo TX 77437
Kunetka@ymc.com

Susie Young, Regent
Mary Mother of Mercy #2143
P. O. Box 621
Grandview TX 76050
817-866-2864



Angels and Rosaries

For the past twenty-five years, ten to eighteen Catholic Daughters from Court Regina Coeli, #1959, have gathered to make rosaries. Charlene Gwosdz shared the details of the Angels and Rosaries group.



Olga Hendrich introduced the first rosaries. They were the plastic bead, knotted string rosaries. Since then Charlene has updated the rosaries to the crystal beads with small spacer beads model.

The group meets EVERY Tuesday at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They form a prayer circle, because a circle has no beginning and no end, to pray for a variety of intentions. They bring a covered dish or dessert to share with each other.

The most impressive fact of all is that these ladies complete between sixty and eighty rosaries each Tuesday. Over the last twenty-five years they have made roughly 60,000 rosaries. Rosaries have been mailed to missions in Africa, Mexico, and British Columbia. Others have been donated to hospitals including the Veteran's Hospital, given to five parishes for First Communion and Confirmation, presented to the Knights of Columbus, and also to Villa de Matel for the hurricane victims. District #24 furnished 1000 rosaries to the Catholic Daughters National Convention that was held in Houston.

Charlene Gwosdz and Marjorie Havlac show their appreciation to the other rosary makers by presenting them with rosaries made from different beads than those that are used for their giveaway rosaries. These women, these rosary makers, honor Our Blessed Mother with their labor of love. *Rosemary Olson*

Hey! Read Me...

Congratulations! You have past the requirement test for taking part in the READ ACROSS AMERICA PROGRAM taking place sometime in March, 2006. This low impact, high satisfaction project can be done by anyone who can read at a fifth grade level. You could be the one who jumps start a child's interest in reading. This one little skill can make a difference in a child's future, and in the future of our nation. Please, contact your court's Read Across America Chairman for details. Make a difference; don't let that child who has no one to introduce him/her to the magic of books, fall through the cracks. *Rosemary Olson*



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY...

Ct. Maria Galante #115, Houston...96

Ct. Christ the King #1750, Houston...49

Ct. Mother of Charity #1713, Houston...50

Ct. Ave Maria #2001, Houston...36

Ct. Our Lady of the Lakes #2220, Austin...25

Ct. Mary Immaculate #1719, Dallas...50

Courts In Action



Spiritual Enhancement

Several courts attended Memorial Masses, and Corporate Communion. These include:

Ct. St. Helen, #2330, Pearland; **Ct. Our Lady, #2337**, Farmers Branch; **Ct. Our Lady Queen of Apostles, #2391**, Austin; **Ct. Queen of Angels, #1538**, Wallis; **Ct. Mary, Mother of God, #2084**, Hempstead ; **Ct. Father Tom Billimek #2425**, Los Fresnos; **Ct. Our Lady, #2337**, Farmers Branch; **Ct. St. Bridget, #2669**, Longview; **Ct. St. Michael, #559**, Weimar; **Ct. St. Rose, #1597**, Schulenburg. **Our Mother of Peace and Unity, #2487**, Livingston made a \$200.00 donation to their deacon to purchase a stole. **Ct. St. Joseph of Honey Creek, #2260**, Spring Branch; **Ct. Mother of Unity, #2292**, Houston; **Ct. Ave Maria, #2001**, Houston all held a Living Rosary. **Ct. St. Faustina, #2478**, Dallas made 330 rosaries for churches in Ecuador. **Ct. St. Helen, #2330**, Pearland presented Fr. Edmund his Chaplain's pin. **Ct. St. Helen, #2330**, Pearland made children's rosaries for First Communion. **Ct. Regina Coeli, #1959**, Houston donated 200 rosaries to Villa de Matel. **Ct. Our Lady of Guadalupe, #3206**, Yoakum held a priest appreciation night. **Ct. St. Laurence, #2402**, Sugar Land attended a day of retreat and a workshop.

Education

Ct. Regina Coeli, #1959, Houston hosted the Arch-Bishop Flores Benefit to raise money for Catholic education.

Youth

Ct. Our Queen of Apostles, #2391, Austin helped with the children's Christmas Booth. **Ct. St. Helen, #2330**, Pearland is sponsoring a JCDA court. **Ct. Mother of Peace and Unity, #2487**, Livingston made a donation for pizzas at a retreat for teens. **Ct. Immaculate Heart of Mary, #1884**, Conroe donated glow in the dark bracelets and sticks to Sacred Heart School. **Ct. Mercy of Jesus, #2407**, Tomball made a donation to St. Anne School and St. Anne's Youth Group. **Ct. Christ the King, #1750**, Houston donated \$250.00 to Life Advocates for books for children in the court system. **Ct. Prince of the Apostles, #1787**, San Antonio assisted with the St. Peter Prince of the Apostles school book fair. **Ct. St. Bernadette, #1108**, East Bernard held a picnic for the altar servers and also sponsored a child.

Leadership

Ct. Our Mother of Peace and Unity, #2487, Livingston operated a cake booth for the church bazaar. **Ct. Maria Galante, #115**, Austin had a speaker from Gifts for the unborn at their September meeting. At the October meeting the speaker was from the American Cancer Society. **Ct. Mary St. John, #2197**, Baytown walked the Alzheimer's Memory Walk. **Ct. Mother of Unity, #2292**, Houston hosted the dessert booth for the church. **Ct. Our Lady of the Skyways, #2006**, Irving represented CDA at the Parish Ministry Fair. **Ct. St. Helens, #2330**, Pearland hosted a dinner for hurricane victims. **Ct. Our Lady of Grace, #1734**, Rowena helped out at the Senior Citizen's Games afternoon event. **Ct. Immaculate Mary, #2134**, Angleton stocked the food pantry at the St. Thomas Center. **Ct. St. Laurence, #2402**, Sugar Land hosted Stewardship Sunday. **Ct. Kraljica Mira, #2308**, Spring worked the St. James Family Fun Night.

Fundraisers

Ct. St. Helen, #2330, Pearland had a successful garage sale and rummage sale. **Ct. Mary, Mother of God, #2084**, Hockley had a Thanksgiving bake sale and also served 116 spaghetti dinners. **Ct. Our Lady, #2337**, Farmers Branch held a two day craft show. **CT. Our Lady of the Apostles, #2391**, Austin held an Evening of Giving. **Ct. Mary St. John, #2197**, Baytown had a pancake breakfast. **Ct. Mercy of Jesus, #2407**, Tomball held a spaghetti dinner, cookbook sale, and bake sale. **Ct. Our Lady of the Skyways, #2006**, Irving is serving breakfast after Masses in November and December. **Ct. Regina Coeli, #1959** held a Fiesta Club Dinner. **Ct. Our Lady of Grace, #1734**, Rowena helped with the quilt for the Fall Festival. **Ct. Maria Galante, #115**, Austin held a taco dinner and bazaar. **Ct. St. Laurence, #2402**, Sugar Land held a bake sale. **Ct. Our Mother of Peace and Unity, #2487**, Livingston is selling cookbooks. **Ct. Mother of Unity, #2292**, Houston had a Craft Show and is selling cookbooks. **Ct. St. Joseph of Honey Creek, #2260**, Spring Branch is having their annual Raffle to benefit Hospice.

Ct. St. Bridget, #2269, Longview had a successful tamale fundraiser.
Ct. Kraljica Mira, #2308, Spring is having a bake sale and taking orders for advent wreaths.

Projects

Ct. St. Rose, #1597, Schulenburg volunteered at the Second Chance Emporium.
Ct St. Michael, #559, Weimar made cheer boxes.
Ct. Queen of Angels, #1538, Wallis hosted a Bluebonnet Deanery meeting and helped pack 125 boxes for seamen.
St. Maria Galante, #115, Austin furnishes food for CPS meetings and does cupcakes for the Austin State Hospital.
Ct. Sacred Heart of Divine Mercy, #2469, Pattison brought shoeboxes and personal items for seamen.
Ct. Immaculate Heart of Mary, #1884, Conroe donated \$500.00 to Sacred Heart for Christmas baskets.
Ct. Christ the King, #1750, Houston worked on seamen's boxes.
Ct. Ancille Mariae, #1886, Crosby gathered stuff for seamen's boxes.
Ct. St. Paul, #1604, Shiner donated items and money to Perpetual Help Home. Also donated rosaries to the Family Rosary Group.
Ct. Prince of the Apostles, #1787, San Antonio helped St. Peter's Church with Thanksgiving baskets.
Ct. Our Lady of Guadalupe, #3206, Yoakum participated in sending boxes to the Tutwiller Clinic and the Brownsville Clinic.
Ct. Our Mother of Peace and Unity, #2487, Livingston worked on seamen's boxes and has taken responsibility for the garden in back of the church.
Ct. Louise, #209, Fort Worth made baby caps for JPS.

Quality of Life/Fellowship

Ct. Queen of Angels, #1538, Wallis will have a family Christmas party.
Ct. Ave Maria, #2001, Houston had a birthday party and fundraiser.
Ct. Our Blessed Mother, #1731, El Paso had a pot- luck dinner.
Ct. Ancillae Mariae, #1886, Crosby held a successful Marian Retreat.
Ct. St. Ann #369, Victoria had an Awards Banquet and games party.
Ct. Immaculate Heart of Mary, #1884, Conroe had a CDA Day Celebration with Mass and breakfast at Luby's.

Chaplet Of Conversion

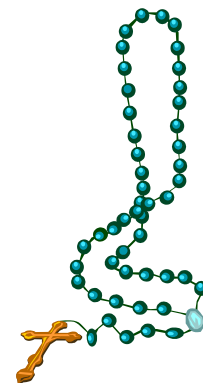
The devotion to the Chaplet of Conversion is prayed on one of the most popular 59 beads, Marian Rosary, which is one of the Catholic Church's Sacramentals.

On the Crucifix, begin with the "I Believe in God..." for the unbelievers of the world.
On the first bead pray, the "Our Father..." for the grace of conversion of the world.
On the second bead pray, a "Hail Mary..." to honor the Father for the exaltation of Mary, and choosing to honor Her with the title, "Queen of Heaven and Mediatrix of All Graces."
On the third bead pray, the "Hail Holy Queen..."
On the medal, say the following prayer:
"O, Holy Mother,
I join you at the foot of Your Son's Cross
To implore mercy
And conversion for the souls of the world.
With You, I offer the Wounds of Your Son, Jesus,
To the Father,
In atonement for the sins of the world past, present, and to come."

On each of the small beads, say:
"Through the Sorrowful, Bleeding, Immaculate Heart of Mary,
And in union with the suffering of her Son, Jesus, on the Cross,
I implore of the Father, the grace of conversion for the world."

On each of the large beads, say:
"Holy Mother Mary, Mediatrix of all graces,
Obtain for us from God, The conversion of the world."

Then say three, "Glory Be..." in honor of the Blessed Trinity.
When finishing the Chaplet, say the, "Hail, Holy Queen..."



Karol: A Man Who Became Pope

TNT’s four-hour bibliography of Pope John Paul II’s life was excellent. Very little of the movie was present day. In fact, the movie ends when John Paul II becomes Pope.

The movie concerns itself with his teen years and early adulthood. It begins with the Nazis marching into Poland, John Paul’s homeland. Then it shows Poland under Communist rule. These events helped shape John Paul’s character and ideals. For those who before only thought of the Pope as a saint-like person in a white cassock, this movie showed him as a man who rose above tyranny and used his experiences to serve the Church and all of mankind as a just, reasonable, and tolerant Pope.

This is a must see movie that hopefully will soon be available on DVD so it can be viewed over and over as an inspiration.

Rosemary Olson



THANK-YOU BLESSED MOTHER FOR WRAPPING YOUR GENTLE MANTLE AROUND THOSE IN NEED DURING THE HURRICANES.



Correction Form

Thank you for your assistance! Please use this form to make corrections to the roster for your Regent, Vice Regent, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer or changes of Chaplain. Remember, to send any changes (s) to the National Office also.

_____Address/Phone/E-mail Change _____Officer/Chaplain Change

Court Name _____ Ct. # _____

Name _____ Office _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number _____ E-Mail _____

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