

JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS



JCDA WORKSHOP: “Why have a JCDA”
2017 CDA Convention—Corpus Christi

Presented by
State Youth/JCDA Co-Chairmen
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MISSION STATEMENT

JCDA BASIC GOALS

The Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas have four basic goals:

1. Develop yourself as a Christian.
2. Learn to work for the good of others.
3. Grow spiritually.
4. Be creative and flexible.

JCDA THREEFOLD PROGRAM OF INVOLVEMENT

1. MESSAGE

The teaching church calls upon each of us to have an active faith in God. We must not only accept the message of God, but we must act it. We must believe and profess to all the community, that which Jesus said and did. "For I have not spoken on my own, no, the Father, who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to speak. Since I know that this commandment means eternal life, whatever I say is spoken just as he instructed me." (John 12:45-50)

2. SERVICE

The experience of community can only lead to service. Christ gives his people different gifts not only for themselves, but for others. "You address me as Teacher and Lord and fittingly enough, for that is what I am. But if I washed your feet, I who am Teacher and Lord, then you must wash feet. What I just did was to give an example. What I have done, so you must do." (John 13:13-15)

3. COMMUNITY

Community is the heart of the JCDA. We must be moved to help build community in all areas of our lives. By this experience of community, we can better build our families, neighborhoods, and our world. As God said, "I give you a new commandment, Love one another. Such as my love has been for you, so must your love be for each other. This is how all will know you for my disciples, your love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR A NEW JCDA LOCAL COURT

1. Become familiar with the JCDA program.
2. Obtain the approval of a sponsoring CDA Senior Court and the Pastor.
3. Appoint a local chairperson and JCDA Chaplain.
4. Distribute letters of invitation to all parochial school and CCD students.
5. Publicize the initial meeting in local papers, church bulletins, schools.
 - a. Invite the parents/guardians of the girls to the initial meeting. If the JCDA local chairman does not want to conduct the meeting, invite a representative from the JCDA State Board to attend. Be sure to schedule the date with the State representative.
 - b. Explain the aims and purposes of the JCDA program through the Threefold Program of Message, Service and Community. Explain the need for additional adult counselors.
 - c. Distribute brochures and application blanks to all prospective JCDA members. Applications blanks may be collected at this time. Urge the young ladies to take additional application blanks for their friends.
6. Schedule an organizational meeting a week or two following the initial informational meeting. Again, publicize the meeting.
 - a. Give more information concerning the JCDA program.
 - b. Collect any additional application blanks. Be sure they are filled out properly and signed by the member and parent/guardian.
 - c. Conduct the election of officers.
 - d. Begin work on the JCDA court banner.
 - e. Have sashes made.
 - f. Discuss possible dates for the institution of the new court with your JCDA Chaplain. The local chairman should contact the JCDA State Chairman and set an institution date.
 - g. Set a date and time for regular court meetings.
 - h. Discuss and set the amount for dues.
 - i. Distribute copy of the JCDA song and pledge for members to learn.
7. The institution of a JCDA local court is the responsibility of the JCDA State Board. Installation of the JCDA local officers should be held on the same date as the institution.
8. Within ten days of the institution of the new court, the JCDA Chairman forwards the new court registration form and membership applications to the JCDA State Chairman.

INSTITUTION OF A NEW JCDA COURT

STATE DUTIES

1. The JCDA State Chairman or her representative should be present at the information meeting for prospective members. This would allow the new members and counselor to have their questions answered.
2. A JCDA State Officer is responsible for the institution of a new JCDA Court. If she cannot be present, the JCDA State Chairman or Vice Chairman will be in charge of the institution.
3. The JCDA State Chairman or Vice Chairman will serve as an advisor for the local court counselors in all matters concerning the institution and well being of a local court.

CDA LOCAL SENIOR COURT DUTIES

1. The CDA local senior court must approve the institution of the new junior court.
2. Sponsors a small reception for the newly instituted JCDA court and their families following the ceremony.
3. Support the new JCDA court financially by providing materials for the sashes and banner and provide flowers for new members.
4. Send invitations for the institution to the following: National Youth Chairman, any local National officers, CDA State Regent, CDA State First Vice Regent, JCDA State Chaplain, JCDA State Chairman, JCDA State Vice Chairman and JCDA State officers.
5. Provide financial assistance, if necessary, according to the local CDA court budget.

JCDA LOCAL CHAIRMAN DUTIES

1. Consult with the JCDA Chaplain concerning the procedures for the ceremony. Institution may be held during the Mass or immediately following the Mass in church or a parish hall. Invite the chaplain to participate in the institution ceremonies.
2. At the organizational meeting, conduct the election of officers. Be sure a copy of the officers' names is given to the officer who will be conducting the installation of new officers.
3. Prepare a list (and pronunciations) of all new JCDA members for introductions during the institution ceremony.

4. See that all JCDA members know the JCDA Pledge. The pledge is recited during the institution ceremony.
5. Purchase flowers for the new members to receive during the institution ceremony.
6. Prepare a small altar with statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary with candles for the installation of the new officers. Be sure to have matches available.
7. Set up the hall for the reception and ceremonies beforehand so that there will be no delay following the Mass.
8. Consult with the JCDA State Chairman or JCDA State Vice Chairman concerning procedures, etc. for the new JCDA court.

INSTITUTION OF COURT AND RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Theme: Celebrate the value of self, the value of your community and the value of your spiritual growth.

- Materials needed:**
1. Sash for each JCDA member
 2. Banner of the JCDA Court
 3. Flowers for each JCDA member
 4. American flag, Texas flag
 5. Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 6. Program for ceremony (optional)
 7. A list of guests present for State Chairman
 8. A list of names (and pronunciations) of the new members

Place: The institution of the new JCDA court may be held during the Mass or immediately following the Mass in a courtroom setting.

INSTALLATION OF JCDA LOCAL OFFICERS

- Materials needed:**
1. Banner of the JCDA court
 2. American flag, Texas flag
 3. Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 4. Table with five candles, matches
 5. A list of names of new officers, (pronunciations) and office for each
 6. Officer sash for each
 7. A white candle for each local court JCDA chairman or Co-Chairmen
 8. A list of names of the chairman (pronunciation)

SAMPLE LETTER FOR INTEREST MEETING

Court _____ No. _____, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, _____, Texas is sponsoring a Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas program. Girls ages 6 to 18 are welcome to join the organization.

The Basic Goals of the JCDA program are:

1. Develop yourself as a Christian.
2. Learn to work for the good of others.
3. Grow spiritually.
4. Be creative and flexible.

These goals are accomplished through fun activities that include spiritual, educational, and character-training projects held at monthly meetings.

An interest meeting is planned for (date) _____ in (name of place) _____ at (time) _____. The purpose of this meeting is to find out how many girls are interested in the program and to answer any questions you may have concerning the program; i.e., when and where the meetings will be held, program details, etc. Membership application forms will be available at the meeting. Dues will be \$_____per year. All prospective members and interested parents are invited to the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Below is a simple form to fill out and return to your CCD or Catholic School Teacher by _____. If you are interested in the program and cannot attend the meeting, you may contact any of the following leaders and counselors for more information: (List counselors and leaders) _____

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GIRL'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AGE _____ BIRTHDATE _____ GRADE _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE _____

PHONE _____ DATE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Please return form by _____.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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