

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS NATIONAL CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

December 2011



Dear Catholic Daughters:

Over the last few years our attention has constantly been focused on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the price of gas, a succession of natural disasters – wildfires, tornadoes, and earthquakes – and on what the media likes to call ‘breaking news’ – new threats of terrorist attacks, the latest CEO or political figure to fall from grace, and the faltering economy at home and abroad. In the midst of so many tumultuous events, it’s difficult to remain serene, and to trust that God has all these matters in hand. We wonder about the right relationship between the things of this world that press in on us from all sides, and the things of the world to come that seems so far away. We become so caught up in the affairs of this world it seems we really *are* part of it and not merely *in* it. How is a person supposed to divide their allegiance? How much of you belongs to God, and how much of you belongs to “Caesar”?

Over and over again, the Scriptures remind us that God’s ways are not our ways. The Prophet Isaiah makes it clear that God *will* have his way with the world. Whatever God desires shall come to pass, in spite of the obstacles human beings throw in the way [and we throw many obstacles]. The Lord works in mysterious ways. For example, who could have foreseen the amazing way God worked through Cyrus, the mighty king of Persia? Although Cyrus did not know the God of Israel, God used his vast army without his ever knowing it to release the children of Israel from exile so they could go home. God chooses to use individuals for his own purpose all the time. He’s probably even used the Catholic Daughter’s as his instrument, to get through to someone or help them, without your ever knowing it.

In an unbelieving world, God uses unbelievers as well as believers to accomplish his saving work. We may divide the world into a Christian half and a non-Christian half, but God does not. The idea that Christianity will flourish only when it avoids contact with the ‘outside’ world is ridiculous. Time and time again, Jesus went out of his way to embrace ‘outsiders,’ to make sure people without exception – foreigners, lepers, public sinners, unbelievers, enemies, outcasts – were included in the promise of salvation. To be worthy of the name Catholic Daughter, we must be just as inclusive, at all times and in all places. Any trace of exclusivity among us must be rooted out.

Something God says through the prophet Isaiah can help us to understand. *“I am the Lord and there is no other.”* God is saying: “Let there be no mistake. Let no earthly kings or princes, no churchmen, nor anyone else who exercises authority think that they operate on their own. I am not in their service, they are in mine, whether they know it or not.” This is effectively how Jesus responded to the question put to him by the Pharisees that tried to trick Him. He recognized that the state has its place in society, but that the state cannot lay claim to what belongs to God. The power of the state is limited and does not supplant God’s authority. During his trial before Pontius Pilate, Jesus made the point again. He reminded Pilate that a ruler has no power except what is given from above. Catholic Daughters recognize this, though the leaders of some nations on earth do not.

The Pharisees who came at Jesus in the Gospel were looking for a fight. They didn’t get one because Jesus simply declared the truth. There was nothing new in what he said. It was what they already believed. What do you believe? Do you acknowledge the truth of Jesus’ statement? Do you understand and do you accept that God’s authority over you is supreme? In other words, it isn’t just taxes that we owe to God. We do owe God a tithe, but we owe him a lot more than that. Just about everything we have in fact comes from him. We’re indebted to God not just for what we have, but for everything we are. Let’s not forget the truth that God has loved every part of creation and every single one of us into being. When all is said and done, we belong, not even to one another, but to God alone. He is the Lord; there is no other.

Sincerely,

Fr. Ed

Rev. Edward Lamp, National Chaplain

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

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Quarterly Newsletter

December 2011

Dear Members and Friends,

As I prepare to compose this letter, I cannot help but think back to last year when I was writing this issue from Assisi, Italy. Although I had hoped to make a return visit this year, God had different plans for me. Though we all sometimes feel disappointed when things don't work out according to our own designs, we must keep an open heart as we await the fulfillment of God's divine will. It's the perfect lesson to keep in mind as we enter into the season of Advent – a time of hopeful anticipation and preparation for the Christ Child to come into the world.

We have a large Italian family with many traditions to celebrate this time of year. Soon I will take out the advent wreath and freshen it up with new candles and a fluffing of the artificial greenery. Often it is just Mom and I for dinner, but we still light the advent wreath and sing a Christmas Carol before our meal. It makes my dog a little crazy, as she knows after the blessing she usually gets a treat and now there is quite a delay. But the lighting of our Advent wreath is one of the most meaningful elements of the Christmas season to me. The evergreen branches and warmth of the flames remind me of the promise of new life and eventual emergence of spring through the dark, cool winter nights – the same hope and light that Jesus brought into the world at the moment of his birth. When my baby sister was in high school she went to an academy run by the Episcopal Church. Each winter, they had a celebration of “Lessons and Carols” -- a beautiful service filled with scripture readings and classic old Christmas Carols. The first time we attended I was awe-struck by the massive Advent Wreath that was suspended from the ceiling and measured 12 feet in diameter. We do not have one that big in our church but I like the one we have and I am glad our parish continues the tradition of lighting the Advent Candles throughout Advent. Too often we get wrapped up in the materialism of the Christmas season and lose sight of the true reason for our celebration -- the Birth of Our Savior. I pray that the lighting of the advent candles helps us all to refocus our priorities, as we continue to prepare for the coming of our Lord. May your lives be blessed with peace, happiness, and the special joy of giving of yourselves during this blessed season.

As Catholic Daughters, we are called to continue to minister to those in need – and the need is so much more evident this time of year. I know that you will strive that much harder to give of yourselves in honor of the great gift that God gave to us on Christmas Day.

CIRCLE OF LOVE REPORTING FORMS

All forms have been sent to the State or Territorial Regents already. Please be sure you follow all directions when preparing these forms. Be sure to send them to the proper State Chairman. Local court regents who have not yet received their forms should contact their state regent.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE AND BYLAWS

Does your Court own the 2010 updated version of the Tools of the Trade and Bylaws? Now is the time to check your closets to be sure you have the most current tools when attending any convention or for the Installation of local Court officers in June.

NATIONAL CONVENTION AND SEMI-ANNUAL DUES INVOICE

1. Have you received your information concerning the 2012 National Convention in Omaha and how many delegates and alternates you may have attending? Have you received your semi-annual dues invoice yet? Do we have your correct address? If you have not received this please contact the National Office immediately.

Please note the new form for delegates and alternates does not require a list of names. However, it does require **ALL** courts to return the form noting your intentions regarding representation at the convention. The due date for this form is March 15th.

2. If you have not received your dues invoice please contact the National Office immediately. Attached to the National invoice is a separate listing showing the changes in membership made to your court for the past 6 months. This page should be given to the **Financial Secretary** to compare with the Additions, Deletions, Transfers, etc. that she sent to the National Office. Be sure to ask for an updated court roster periodically to keep up with changes. You can request this at cdaroster@aol.com.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION

We are all in for a real treat in keynote speaker Rev. James W. Sichko. Fr. Jim is a priest of the Diocese of Lexington, KY and is the youngest of five children. Fr. Jim travels throughout the United States giving missions, retreats and days of recollection. He is forty-four years old and was ordained to the Ministerial Priesthood of Jesus Christ on May 23, 1998. Fr. Jim studied theology at Sacred Heart School of Theology and before that, completed his undergraduate work at New England Conservatory of Music in Vocal Performance.

Known for his story-telling, Fr. Jim weaves everyday life experiences with the rooted messages which lie within the Gospel. He uses comedy and song to captivate the attention of his listeners. Fr. Jim currently serves as Pastor of St. Mark Parish and local court chaplain to Court St. Anne #2568 in Richmond, Kentucky.

There are many reasons why you should attend the National Convention in 2012 and hearing Fr. Jim is very high on that list of reasons. Don't miss this opportunity. Come to the National Convention in Omaha Nebraska July 18 – 21, 2012.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD

Do you sing? Play an instrument? Don't forget to sign up to be in the 2012 National Convention Choir. See attached form and send it to Mary Ellis.

2012 MARCH FOR LIFE WASHINGTON D.C.

The 39th Annual March for Life Rally will take place on January 23, 2012. As we have done in the past, the National Board will be in Washington to attend the Mass, Rally and March. Won't you look for the Catholic Daughters Banner to the left of the main stage and walk together with us? Many local Courts bring their court banners as well. See you there. Attached is a sponsor sheet. Won't you ask someone to sponsor one of the National Officers or Board Members walking the March this year? Collect the names and money and return it to the National Office before January 10, 2012. Please mark down which National Officer or Board member you will be sponsoring.

NATIONAL JCDA SUNDAY

Sunday, February 17, 2012 is observed as JCDA Sunday. If you have a Junior court, please make arrangements for them to attend a Mass as a group so that others will know the works that they do. Attached is the Proclamation for JCDA Sunday.

NATIONAL CDA LECTURE

The CDA lecture will be in April 2012. Watch the national website, www.catholicdaughters.org, for more information. Details will also be included in the March Quarterly mailing.

TWO YEAR POCKET PLANNER

I hope you have received your two year pocket planner. This is our most popular mailing and we are glad to have the opportunity to again supply each of our members with this gift. Thank you to all of you who have generously sent a donation. If you have not been able to do so, we understand and hope that you enjoy the calendar just the same. Please keep us in your prayers as you use the calendar.

This year for the first time we are not using a separate company to process the replies. Second Vice National Regent Letty Calvetti opens and processes every envelope. It is a big job and we thank Letty for her hard work.

Please do not use the envelope or address for any other purpose as they go to a special PO Box that is being used just for this project.

CATHOLIC ORGANIZATIONS OPEN LETTER

CDA stands for conscience protection - The current situation with the Department of Health and Human Services requiring that contraception, sterilization and some abortions be covered by health insurance violates the conscience of Catholics across this nation. For that reason, when New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan asked Catholic Daughters to sign the full-page ad you will find in this mailing (Catholic Organizations Respond to HHS "Preventive Services" Mandate), we checked with our attorney, Joe Leary CDA National Legislative Counsel, and agreed to sign in support.

Catholic Daughters is not a lobbying organization. We are a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c) 3 entity under the IRS. For that reason, the national regent, board members, and legislative chair all consult with our attorney before anything is ever published using the name of Catholic Daughters. We cannot afford to lose our tax-exempt status.

Within your courts, I hope members will continue to inform others on important issues as part of Operation Morningstar. In general, at meetings, it is important to talk issues, but not to discuss candidates or political parties. As always, when members write and speak on legislative matters, they should do so as private citizens, not as representatives of Catholic Daughters.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

All local courts will be receiving the annual invoice for Liability Insurance coverage in April. This is coverage that your Diocese, Parish or Hall requires as well. Please be sure to file this certificate in a permanent Court file for future reference. If you are covered under a different policy and wish to be exempt from the National CDA policy – we need a current certificate from **that insurance company** listing CDA as additional insured. This must be sent to the National Office **YEARLY**.

PERSONAL INSURANCE PROGRAMS

We still use RKI Insurance for any personal insurance protection. Available plans are Group Cancer Expense, Outreach Term Life, Cash Value Permanent Life, Medicare Supplement, Personal Travel Accident, Emergency Outpatient Expense and Share-Care Group Hospital Indemnity. If anyone is interested in learning more, please contact RKI at 1-800-336-3316.

ELECTION OF LOCAL COURT OFFICERS

In March 2012 **ALL** local courts will be electing a Nominating Committee and in May 2012 **ALL** local courts will be electing new officers for the period June 2012 to May 2014. Enclosed you will find pertinent information concerning the Nominating Committee procedures. Please read it carefully and provide the instructions, as well as your updated court roster, to the Nominating Committee for their reference.

LIFE LINE SCREENING

As Catholic Daughters, we are called to improve quality of life, not only for others, but also for ourselves. Through the Circle of Love program, our organization has dedicated itself to promoting social justice and to protecting the human dignity of all people. Part of this mission includes supporting healthcare initiatives that can help improve the daily lives of all people, including us Catholic Daughters. That is why we have partnered with Lifeline Screening, to offer our members an important service at a reduced cost. Lifeline uses the most advanced ultrasound technology to check for developing cardiovascular disease, aneurysms, and strokes and alert patients in advance as to their risk for experiencing these life-threatening conditions. You may receive a packet from Lifeline in the upcoming months. These services are completely optional. I encourage you to consider the materials contained within the packet, perhaps discuss it with your regular doctor -- consider it a way of loving yourself.

SIENNA PHONE SERVICE

You have probably seen ads for the Sienna Phone Service in SHARE. Sienna is a pro life cell phone service that allows the charity of your choice to receive 5% of your monthly fee -- and the Catholic Daughters can be the charity of your choice. We are charity #2400. Thus, if you sign up with or switch to Sienna Phone service, 5% of your monthly cell phone fee could go to the Catholic Daughters. If you are shopping for a cell phone service or thinking about switching perhaps you will consider the Sienna Phone Service and review their ad in SHARE or visit www.prolifecatholic.com. Please encourage your court members to do the same. The service is reasonably priced, there is no activation fee, no contract and you can get a free phone. If you're unhappy with or neutral about your current phone service it could be a win-win for you to change to Sienna. Thank you.

SHARE MAGAZINE

Are your Chaplains, State Chaplains and Bishops receiving SHARE Magazine? Does your local library receive copies of SHARE? If not, why not sign them up today? What better way to publicize our wonderful organization. Please refer to the subscription form enclosed.

SHOPPING DEALS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Have you ever thought of shopping in our "Store" for Christmas items for your Court Officers, Chairmen, Chaplains, etc.? There are plenty of bargains with the price of items starting at \$1.00. We have our own \$1 and up store! Look online at www.catholicdaughters.org and click on the "Store" tab or ask for the latest Price List to be sent to you for your shopping needs. We guarantee you will find something there for everyone!

Happy Shopping!

UPDATES TO OUR SALE OF ARTICLES

Please update the prices for the:

Purple short sleeve shirt as Small, Medium, Large, and 1XL \$32.00, 2XL \$34.00 and 3XL \$36.00

Purple long sleeve shirt as Small, Medium, Large, and 1XL \$33.00, 2XL \$35.00 and 3XL \$37.00

PAST REGENT JEWELRY

It is important to keep in mind that orders for 14K, 10K and Sterling Silver take approximately ten to twelve weeks for delivery and must be accompanied by a court check covering a deposit of 50% of your order. If your Court Regent is not seeking another term of office, get a start on ordering a suitable gift for her.

Jewelry prices are:

2a	Past Regent Ring - celestium silver tone finish with onyx stone and 6 pt Diamonique	\$245.00	each
2-10K	Past Local Court Regent Ring - 10K Gold	\$750.00	each
2-14K	Past Local Court Regent Ring - 14K Gold	\$1030.00	each
2-SS	Past Local Court Regent Ring - Sterling Silver	\$275.00	each
8	Past Local Court Regent Charm - gold electroplate with genuine onyx stone	\$70.00	each
8-10K	Past Local Court Regent Charm - 10K Gold with genuine onyx stone	\$325.00	each
8-14K	Past Local Court Regent Charm - 14K Gold with genuine onyx stone	\$460.00	each
8-SS	Past Local Court Regent Charm - Sterling Silver with genuine onyx stone	\$115.00	each
13	Past Local Court Regent Emblem Pin - gold electroplate with genuine onyx stone and one piece Past Regent emblem with gavel guard and chain	\$80.00	each
13-10K	Past Local Court Regent Emblem Pin - 10K Gold with genuine onyx stone and one piece Past Regent emblem with gavel guard and chain	\$335.00	each
13-14K	Past Local Court Regent Pin - 14K gold with genuine onyx stone and one piece Past Regent emblem with gavel guard and chain	\$470.00	each
13-SS	Past Local Court Regent Pin - Sterling Silver with genuine onyx stone and one piece Past Regent emblem with gavel guard and chain	\$140.00	each
14	Past Local Court Regent Emblem Pin - gold electroplate with genuine onyx stone and one piece Past Regent emblem without gavel guard and chain	\$70.00	each
14-10K	Past Local Court Regent Emblem Pin - 10K gold without gavel guard and chain	\$325.00	each
14-14K	Past Local Court Regent Emblem Pin - 14K gold without gavel guard and chain	\$460.00	each
14-SS	Past Local Court Regent Emblem Pin - Sterling Silver without gavel and guard	\$115.00	each

2012 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Is your Light still Shining? Are you helping to make CDA's lights glow? The National Membership Drive that started in April 2010 will end at the National Convention in Omaha. Will your Court or State receive an award? It's not too late!

2012 EDUCATION CONTEST

The Education Contest deadline is quickly coming! In the September Quarterly, all of the necessary information was included. Each court regent received the information as well. Again, I encourage your court to participate in the contest. The themes for 2012 are:

Planting Seeds of Faith or
Inspiring Others to Grow

Local entries are due February 15, 2012. If you have questions, please contact me:
Sherry Nilles, National Education Chairman, 711 25th Avenue, Sheldon, Iowa 51201
Home phone: 712.324.0125 Email address: ljnilles@nethtc.net

1903 SOCIETY

You have all heard about the 1903 Society and its goals. If you haven't please refer to the Fall issue of *Share* magazine. The question at this point is what actions are you, your state and your court taking to support this project? Has your state appointed a chairman? Has your local court appointed a chairman? If the answer is yes to these questions, please send their names to the National Chairman, Helene Shepard. If the answer is no, please let us know if we can assist you in any way to get the project launched.

Remember you have several options:

Your **State** can make a pledge Your **Court** can make a pledge **You** can make a pledge as a gift or memorial
There is a payment plan to fit every pocket! For more information contact:
Helene Shepard at misshelene2000@yahoo.com or go to the **CDA** website:catholicdaughters.org
Congratulations and Thank you!

To state and local courts as well as many individuals who have sent in their pledges. We hope that you will enjoy knowing that you are helping to preserve our National Headquarters in the historic district of New York City.

PRAYERS

Please pray for all Catholic Daughters living and deceased and special prayers are needed for:

Family of Past State Regent of Virginia, Sidney S. Bell Condolences may be sent to her daughter,
Yvonne Bell, 100 E College Place, Hampton, VA 23669

Family of Past State Regent of West Virginia, Mary Rita Dana. Condolences may be sent to her nieces,
Carvill Ann and Diane Dana, 1242 Blue Heron Lane N, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Marie Davoli, Past National Director, fell and had to have surgery. You can send cards to her at 284-A
New Salem Rd, Uniontown, PA 15401

Delma Araiza and Julia Dolan, National Directors are not feeling up to par. Please send to the following:
Delma – 3510 E 25th St, Tucson, AZ 85713 and Julia – 630 Country LN Apt A, Morton, PA 19070

Maria Loeffler, Past National Officer, thanks everyone who sent her get-well cards and kept her in their prayers after being in an automobile accident in March. She is back home at 139 NW Benton Pl,
Albany, OR 97321. You can contact her also via email at marloe2000@comcast.net.

NEW COURTS

Congratulations to the officers, members and organizers of the following courts. We suggest you send them a card welcoming them to CDA.

Mary Mainz, Regent
Court St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2649
201 Forrest Drive
LaVernia, Texas 78121

Catherine Felton, Regent
Court Ave Maria #2650
615 Cedar Run Lane
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Elizabeth Haynes, Regent
Court Our Lady of Knock #2652
370 Pike Road
San Antonio, Texas 78209

DIDJA KNOW???

Taken from the June 1906 Herald

The wives, daughters or women relatives of saloonkeepers are not barred from membership in the Order, provided they do not partake in the actual sale of liquor, or the direct conduct of the business of selling liquor. Relationship to a saloonkeeper does not bar any applicant from membership by itself. What would bar an applicant is either the management or conduct of a saloon herself, or in her name, or by her employees, or actual assistance in the management or conduct of the business of selling liquor, wholesale or retail.

As the year 2011 comes to an end and we embark on a new journey into 2012, may God remain the primary focus of each of our lives. He is the reason for our existence and should be the center point of our day. In July of 2012 we will again gather for our National Convention to recenter ourselves as an organization, recommit to doing God's work here on earth, and renew our awareness of our organization. We are planning many very special things for the week of convention and hope you will join us in this great time of growth.

May the New Year bring you many blessings and may you share them with a new member.

"With God All Things Are Possible." ~ Matthew 19:26









In Unity and Charity,



Joanne Tomassi
National Regent



Enclosures:

-  National JCDA Proclamation
-  Catholic Organizations Open Letter
-  Membership Contest
-  Operation Morning Star
-  SHARE Magazine Subscription Form
-  March for Life Sponsor Sheet
-  National Convention "Come Join Us"
-  CDA National Convention Choir
-  Morality in Media
-  Nominating and Election Procedures