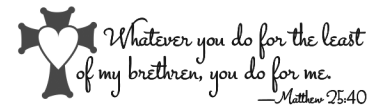


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My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Welcome to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas! Thank you for joining in our mission of serving the world in the spirit of "Unity and Charity." Since 1903, CDA has been responsible for spreading the Gospel message through acts of service to those in need, from the poor we encounter in the streets of our great nation to the aging vowed Religious Brothers and Sisters in our monasteries and convents.

We now pray, as Jabez did, that God will expand our boundaries (1 Chronicles 4:10), and increase our work, to reach out in love to the whole world. Our current National Regent, Shirley Seyfried, has chosen Jesus' challenging words as our theme: "Whatever you do for the least of my Brethren, you do for Me," (Matthew 25:40). Our prayer for unity leads us to look beyond our borders to see the needs of all our brothers and sisters, wherever they may be. To meet these needs, we must have more dedicated hands, more willing spirits, and more joyful hearts. And the joy you show will inspire others to joyful service.

Prayerfully consider now your own part in this beautiful work of God. How is our Father inviting you to serve our brothers and sisters? How is the Holy Spirit already active in your life and your activities? How can we help you to do more of what you already do well? How can we equip you to respond more fully to Jesus' call to charity? And is there a gift you have to offer the Church that you have been waiting for an opportunity to share?

Thank you for responding to God's invitation. Thank you in advance for the invitations you will extend to others, and the love that you will give. United in service, inspired by love, we are the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, called by the venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen to be "the Catholic Daughters of the World."

Your Brother in Unity and Charity,

Father Matthew Kuhn
National Chaplain