



Dear Friends:

Welcome to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. You have chosen to be a part of an extraordinary group of women who are devoted to spiritual practices and personal transformation. Being a Catholic Daughter affords you the ability to let go of worldly concerns and focus on some of the deeper questions in life: "Who am I? Where am I going? And, how can I selflessly benefit others? "

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) was founded in Utica, New York in 1903 as a charitable, benevolent and patriotic sorority for Catholic ladies who are dedicated to the principles of "Unity and Charity," the order's motto.

At the 24th Biennial Convention held in 1952, the late Bishop Fulton J. Sheen addressed the delegates saying, "You are the Catholic Daughters of America; I would like you to become Catholic Daughters of the World." He urged the CDA membership to extend their charity to the needs of the poor and to the ends of the world. Mother Teresa spoke to an audience of Catholic Daughters in October of 1972 in Washington, D.C. to mark National Catholic Daughters Day. She asked the CDA members to continue to "give to our brothers and sisters throughout the world as if once more Jesus had come into the world cold, hungry, and alone."

As Catholic Daughters of the Americas, we must be ready to recognize Jesus Christ, in disguise in the person of the lonely, poor, and the victimized, because love for them is love for Christ. Our love becomes water to quench the thirst of Christ on the cross.

As a Catholic Daughter you will be called upon to do something that may seem small and insignificant. I encourage you to do it with great love, do what you can, where you are, with what you've got. Do something beautiful for God.

I welcome you and hope your time as a Catholic Daughter is meaningful and worthwhile, as you do "Something Beautiful for God".

In Unity and Charity,

Father Ed Lamp

National Chaplain