



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

# The Angelus

## Pennsylvania State Court



Margaret Giordano, Pennsylvania State Regent

Volume XV - Issue 1

You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world.

Summer 2025

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### This 'n That...

**Margaret T. Giordano, State Regent**

You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world...

—Matthew 5:13-16



I pray that you all had a Prayerful Lent, a Blessed Easter, and are now enjoying the Easter season and spring. Time goes so fast. I hope you had a Happy Mother's Day and Happy Memorial Day! Before you know it, summer will arrive.



I hope that many of you enjoyed the Pennsylvania 56<sup>th</sup> Biennial State Convention, "PILGRIMS OF HOPE SPREADING LOVE AND FAITH IN CDA." I thoroughly enjoyed getting to see, talk to, and partake in our spiritual and fun activities with so many of you.

Thank you for your participation! I am always exhilarated by the Unity and Charity I feel when we are gathered together for our CDA events. I appreciate, too, those of you who were with us in spirit though you could not be there in person.

#### By now:

👑 National Spring Dues 2025 are due to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas National Office, 10 West 71<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, NY 10023.

👑 PA State Spring Dues 2025 are due to State Secretary Pam Callahan. Her mailing address is on the front of this newsletter.

👑 Spring 2025 Local Court Financial Reviews are due to the National Office, State Secretary Pam Callahan, and me, State Regent Margaret T. Giordano. My mailing address is on the front of this newsletter.

👑 Check out our new state website at [www.cda-pa.org!](http://www.cda-pa.org) It's still somewhat in the works, but we are getting there! We had originally hoped to continue with our former website in January 2025, but that didn't happen. Sincere thanks to Christian Callahan, who designed and presented our new website at the State Convention and to State Secretary Pam Callahan who gave us this connection with our new website designer and got the ball rolling.

👑 I hope many of you will consider starting Seven Sisters Apostolate groups in your dioceses and maybe even in your local courts. It would be wonderful if Catholic Daughters from various courts in each diocese participate to pray a Holy Hour each week for your bishop. Also, maybe members of your courts would participate in a group to pray for your court chaplain or parish priest(s). Please let me know if you are interested!

Special Court Anniversary Celebrations—Thank you to all courts who have informed me of your court celebration date, so I can mark my calendar. I attend whenever possible. In the event I cannot make it, I will send another officer in my place. Diocesan Meetings and Events—Please notify me of these dates ASAP. I try to be present at least once in two years! If I cannot physically attend, I will be there with you in prayer and spirit! Remember, CDA is all about Spirituality and Service and Unity and Charity.

—Email Margaret T. Giordano: margarettgiordano.cdapa@gmail.com

### CDA Mission Statement

*Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives 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.*

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## "Convention Highlights"

### *Margaret T. Giordano, State Regent*

My Dear Pennsylvania CDA Sisters,

**T**hank you for truly being "PILGRIMS OF HOPE SPREADING LOVE AND FAITH IN CDA" in all you do as Catholic Daughters. This theme of our recent Pennsylvania 56th Biennial State Convention continues, not only for this Jubilee Year 2025, but also as we move forward in our CDA journeys.

This convention, represented by thirty local courts and all eight PA dioceses, was so delightful and inspiring to me—and from what I have heard, for many others, too—thanks to all of you who participated in any way!

With beautiful music and songs, we celebrated four special Masses—Friday Opening, at St. John Neumann Church, with main celebrant Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior, Bishop of Harrisburg and State Chaplain Fr. Norbert Suresh as concelebrant; on Saturday, Sunday and Monday with main celebrant Fr. Norbert; on Sunday, Fr. Luis Rodriguez concelebrated with Fr. Norbert the Palm Sunday Installation Mass in the Victorian Chapel. We had multiple Prayer Services—Hope, Love and Faith, the Jubilee Year 2025 Prayer, Marian Shrine Dedication, Memorial Service, Living Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

We were blessed by wonderful messages and speakers: A welcome letter from PA Senator Scott Martin (who was at the Vatican during our convention); Pro-Life Keynote Speaker Jill Hartman, Executive Director of A Woman's Concern; welcome address from U.S. Congressman Lloyd Smucker; CDA welcome from National Regent and Supervisor Susan Mone'; new CDA PA website presentation by Christian Callahan; and Seven Sisters Apostolate address, by Patty Price.

We had beautiful ceremonials! At Mass Friday were the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard, CDA Color and Honor Guards. It was the first time we wore black and white ceremonial dress. National and State Officers wore their new medallions. Bishop Senior blessed them and the District Deputy medallions were then presented to DDs present. (Hopefully, soon all local court officers will have their medallions, too!) At Convention meetings, we had opening and closing ceremonies, also with music.

It was wonderful at meetings to have so many members speak, ask questions and share ideas. Parliamentarian Pat Gildea reviewed for us the Role of the Delegate and proposed a bylaw amendment. We learned a lot; we got our business done, too! The 2025-2027 State Officers were elected and also a 2027 Nominating Committee. It was a pleasure to present awards for the Education, Facebook, Membership and Newsletter Contests. Maybe next time there will also be some Website Contest awards.

We enjoyed delicious food and entertainment. The banquets and Monday breakfast were all good, but after a very busy meeting time on Saturday, Fun Night was really welcome. It certainly appeared that everyone had fun! Before and after the buffet dinner, campaigners gave their little gifts to all present. Then there were also small prizes given out to winners of certain questions. The Neversink band played, and the dance floor was full. Some even danced at their tables!

Sunday night was a wonderful Installation Banquet. IPSR Shirley Hall did a fantastic and clever job introducing all the officers. After the meal, I got to share a joke in honor of the late Sr. Mary Paul, and I had the pleasure of announcing our Woman of the Year, Dolly Maronski.

During the Convention I had heard that there was interest in starting a JCDA court in Pennsylvania. I had also gotten an email about that during convention, not knowing then it was about a different court. Put your thinking caps on. We need to keep our organization growing. I suggest that we start at least one JCDA court in each of the eight dioceses in PA!

We have so many things to pray for...Each day, I pray for you; please pray for me, too! In Unity and Charity, and God be with you.

—Email Margaret T. Giordano: margarettgiordano.cdapa@gmail.com

## Newsletter Schedule

Spring: March-May

Summer: June-August

Fall: September-November

Winter: December-February

Special Edition (Email Only)

## Submission Deadlines

Spring: February 1

Summer: May 1

Special Edition: July 1

Fall: September 1

Winter: November 1

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# 56th Biennial Pennsylvania State Convention

## April 11-13, 2025



Shirley Hall, Immediate Past State Regent,  
and Margaret Novak, Past State Regent,  
taking up offertory gifts

## Unity and Charity



District Deputy Medallions  
were blessed by  
Most Rev. Bishop Timothy Senior,  
Bishop of Harrisburg



Front: Mary Marzen, Sara Janulewicz, Marleen Duley, Dolly Maronski, Judy Poltanis, Colette McCaffrey, Theresa Shields, Janet Oesterling  
Back: Susan Ronan, Sue Sharer, Barbara Materna, Pat Lutz, Nikki Meglis, Mary Norgrove, Shirley Hall, Annette Fisnick



Members from Court St. Rita #523 Shirley Hall, Susan Ronan, Sue Sharer, Donna Cunningham and Amy Brisbin



Members dancing and enjoying good music of our time



## Pennsylvania State Chairmen 2023-2025

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### State Cantor

Mary Dively  
phone: 814-330-9290

## State Convention and Dues Update

*Lisa McCann, 1st Vice State Regent*



By now the 56th Biennial State Convention in Lancaster is a fond memory for all of us. Thank you to all those who attended and participated in making it such a success. Please know that the evaluation forms filled out by many of you are appreciated by us and have been assessed in order to prepare and continue to bring you better and better conventions in the future.

**State Dues:** Those who attended the State Convention are aware that I presented an account regarding state dues. Dues and the proceeds from our fundraisers are used for CDA operating expenses. With your help, we visit courts, attend and conduct training, we publish a newsletter, we have started a Facebook page and are re-establishing our state website.

The combined funds from dues and fundraisers are no longer sufficient for the state to continue to operate successfully. As stated in the Order's by-laws, state dues are set by vote at the State Convention. I made a recommendation. From the floor a motion was made, discussed, amended and voted on. The result of the vote was to increase dues assessed to every court to a total of \$5.00 per member per year. Courts receive billing invoices both from the National office and the State office twice a year—in the fall and in the spring. Beginning with the Fall 2025 State Dues billing, courts will be billed \$2.50 for each member in their court. In the Spring 2026, your court will again receive an invoice for \$2.50 for each member. I remain welcome of inquiries.

—Email Lisa McCann: cdapalisa@gmail.com



**Job Hunting?** My first job was working in an orange juice factory, but I got canned, couldn't concentrate.

Then I worked in the woods as a lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the ax.

After that I tried to be a tailor, but I just wasn't suited for it...mainly because it was a so-so job.

Next, I tried working in a muffler factory, but that was too exhausting.

I wanted to be a barber, but I just couldn't cut it.

Then I tried to be a chef—figured it would add a little spice to my life, but I just didn't have the thyme.

I attempted to be a deli worker, but any way I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard.

My best job was being a musician, but eventually I found I wasn't noteworthy.

I studied a long time to become a doctor, but I didn't have any patience.

Next was a job in a shoe factory—I tried but I just didn't fit in.

I became a professional fisherman, but discovered that I couldn't live on my net income.

I managed to get a good job working for a pool maintenance company, but the work was just too draining.

I got a job at a zoo feeding giraffes, but I was fired because I wasn't up to it.

So, then I got a job in a workout center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.

After many years of trying to find steady work, I finally got a job as a historian until I realized there was no future in it.

My last job was working at Starbucks, but I had to quit because it was always the same old grind.

So, then I retired...and found out I was perfect for the job!

—Unknown

## Convention Fun

### Jeanette Kitch, 2nd Vice State Regent



I had a good time at Convention. We had 87 ladies present and a lot of them were first-timers. I heard a lot of great things from them—they had fun and are ready to come again and maybe even go to National Convention. We had fun at Sight and Sound, watching *NOAH*. We had lots of positive feedback, so we are looking into what's playing in 2027. We had many tombolla baskets—and a wide variety of goodies. Thank you to all who donated and bought tickets. I thought the band was good—they played a wide variety of music for singing and dancing on the floor and in the chairs! I know the food was expensive—we are looking into other possibilities so as not to be so expensive next time. The meeting was good, but could be tightened up a bit and run a little smoother to give us ladies more time to rest, eat and change clothes. Next convention, everyone should have their medallions and we will look sharp!

Thank you ladies, for accepting your 10-Week tickets and turning in your Lottery Calendar stubs and money. I wish you all good luck and happy winning. God Bless. —Email Jeanette Kitch: [jeanettek.pacda.2@gmail.com](mailto:jeanettek.pacda.2@gmail.com)

## State Convention 2025!

### Pam Callahan, State Secretary

Now that the Convention is behind us, thank you to all those who helped make it a successful weekend. I hope that you all enjoyed the Convention and learned a few things along the way.

I would like to take a moment to briefly reflect on the weekend. The theme, "Pilgrims of Hope," seemed very fitting this year. We were pilgrims, all of us. We all traveled across our great state of Pennsylvania, near and far, as pilgrims would do. We were hopeful for a great convention, to reconnect with those we only get to see at conventions or workshops and hopeful of being granted another term and prayerful that it would be as successful as the last. It was fitting that the theme was what the Pope, may he rest in peace, chose for this year's Jubilee year. Our National Regent also chose Hope as her theme. It all came together as it should. God has great plans! We must be willing to listen so that we can hear Him.

THANK YOU, so much for electing me to serve another term as State Secretary. It is truly an honor and labor of love. I take my job seriously and want you to know that you are all appreciated. With much love and blessings.

—Email Pam Callahan: [pamc.pacda2021@gmail.com](mailto:pamc.pacda2021@gmail.com)



## Memorable Experience!

### Michelle Russo, State Treasurer



During each of our lifetimes, we have all said at some point, "When I get around to it..." for chores we really do not want to start. For example, cleaning out the kitchen junk drawer, folding laundry, or calling a friend to invite them to a Catholic Daughters meeting.

At the most recent PA State Convention, since I was running for office, I handed out a goodie bag as an incentive to vote for me. The contents included a small stone heart representing a hug for you, Dove chocolates and a wooden round tuit.

The ladies who attended have now received the prized round tuit! Please guard it with care as it will help you achieve all those things you put aside...like calling a Catholic girlfriend to invite to your court's meeting. Jump on the membership bandwagon; let's increase our membership! May God continue to bless you and keep you safe. —Email Michelle Russo: [Micheller.Pacda1097@gmail.com](mailto:Micheller.Pacda1097@gmail.com)

## A Gift From Above

### Sandra Trejos, M.Sc., Ph.D., Vice Regent

### Court Immaculate Conception #2454, Clarion, PA

Attending the CDA State Convention this past Spring for the first time was a gift from above. As a newly-elected vice regent for my court, realizing we are part of something bigger, solid, and very well structured and led was comforting, inspiring, motivating and gracious to me. I felt part of a family with lots of sisters who live their faith with action and great commitment and diligence. The way the CDA is connected to the diocese, the community, and our political leaders reminded me of how we are called to be the light where we are while holding hands in prayer and touching charity.

—Email Sandra Trejos: [strejos@pennwest.edu](mailto:strejos@pennwest.edu)



If you ever feel distressed during your day—call upon Our Lady—just say this simple prayer:  
"Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now." I must admit—this prayer has never failed me.  
~ St. Mother Teresa ~



# Court Chatter

## ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE

*Court Good Shepard #2800, Port Matilda*

### *Blessed Carlo Acutis Relic and Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit*

**I**t was with great reverence and honor that Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Good Shepherd #2800, was able to bring the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit, created by Blessed Carlo Acutis, to their local Good Shepherd Parish in Port Matilda.

Catholic Daughter, Andrea Palanjian, was inspired when she saw the exhibit in Ocean City, NJ last summer. When she returned to State College, she proposed that we bring this exhibit to our Parish at Good Shepherd Catholic Church. Our Catholic Daughters were excited to support Andrea's passion.

On March 22 and 23, a representative from Malvern Retreat, Jeff Daley, presented a 1st class relic of Blessed Carlo for all to see and be blessed. This was fantastic, as our Faith Formation children were able to learn about relics, learn the process of becoming a saint, and have their special items blessed. Court Good Shepherd ran the Exhibit at Good



Shepherd Parish from May 21-31. Blessed Carlo Acutis was to have been canonized on April 27, before the passing of Pope Francis. The Vatican has not yet announced a new date for the canonization. Acutis was set to be canonized during the Jubilee of Teenagers in Rome.

If you would be interested in displaying the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit, its home is with Rita Tice from Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Cape May, New Jersey.



## ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE

Rev. Patrick McArdle #448, Bellefonte

*Art in Education Contest (2025) Winners*

Awards were presented, March 31, at the Children's Mass at St. John. We love seeing the excitement of the children when winners are announced, even if they were not one of the winners.



*First Place: Jane Jennings; Second Place: Braxton Hosterman; Third Place: Alexis Fisher;  
also in photo, Art Instructor, Rachelle Weiser; Judge Barb Uladiski, Father Joshi, Father Brian and Deacon Tom*

## Rev. Patrick McArdle #448, Bellefonte

*Lenten Fish Dinners*

Court Rev. Patrick McArdle #448, in conjunction with Bellefonte Knights of Columbus Council #1314, sold over 2200 meals in a six-week period during Lent.



## ERIE DIOCESE

Court St. Rita #353, Punxsutawney—Bereavement Mass,  
Good Samaritan's Purse—Operation Christmas Child, Cookie Boxes, Christmas Party

Court St. Rita #353 never slows down. During November, the court sponsored the **Bereavement Mass** for deceased members of our court and parish. We combined forces with Sts. Cosmas and Damian (SSCD) Religious Education Program to fill seventy-four shoe boxes for children for **The Good Samaritan's Purse—Operation Christmas Child**, and we sold religious items by donation to benefit the school during the SSCD School Christmas Bazaar.



On December 7th, we delivered **cookie boxes** to our parishioners who are homebound or in nursing homes and we always take time to visit with them. We celebrated our first joint **Christmas Party** on December 8th with the Knights of Columbus. With donations toward two major U.S. disasters, our funds were depleted. A January **Soup Sale** was held to stabilize our budget (photo, top of next page).



### Healing Prayer

Heavenly Father, I call on you right now in a special way. It is through your power that I was created. Every breath I take, every morning I wake and every moment of every hour I live under your power.

Father, I ask you now to touch me with that same power. For if you created me from nothing, you can certainly recreate me. Fill me with the healing power of your spirit. Cast out anything that should not be in me. Mend what is broken. Root out any unproductive cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection.

Let the warmth of your healing love pass through my body to make new any unhealthy areas so that my body will function the way you created it to function. And Father, restore me to full health in mind and body so that I may serve you the rest of my life. I ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

—Fr. Larry J. Hess

## ERIE DIOCESE

Court St. Rita #353, Punxsutawney—January Soup Sale, Lenten Fish Dinners, Easter Bags



Once again, Court St. Rita #353 sponsored the **Lenten Fish Dinners**. We had a fruitful season with record sales, and the proceeds benefit Sts. Cosmas & Damian Catholic Elementary School. **Easter Bags** were filled and distributed to parishioners in nursing facilities and to those who are homebound. We look forward to summer as our fundraisers continue to support our church, local community and beyond.



### *Give Lavishly and Live Abundantly...*

The more you give, the more you get—the more you laugh, the less you fret—the more you do unselfishly—the more you live abundantly. The more of everything you share—the more you'll always have to spare—The more you love, the more you'll find, that life is good and friends are kind.

## GREENSBURG DIOCESE

Court Uniontown #505, Uniontown  
May Crowning, May 13



Darlene Centofanti, Financial Secretary; Paulminia Rawlings, Regent

## PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESE

Combined Courts, Philadelphia  
*Deal or No Deal*

Court members of Philadelphia hosted a Deal or No Deal. This year's theme was "Easter Parade." All had a good time while raising money for our various charities.



Colette McCaffrey and Sara Janulewicz



Mary Mullen, Court Mystical Rose #2628,  
sporting her Easter bonnet

## Court Mystical Rose #2628, Philadelphia

Lenten Day of Reflection

Court Mystical Rose #2628 held a Lenten Day of Reflection for the Women of St. Katherine of Siena Parish in Philadelphia. More than 20 women spent a prayerful day which ended with Mass.



## PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESE

Court St. Ephrem #2230, Bensalem  
Congratulates Woman of the Year



Peggy Guckin and Dolly Maronski, Woman of the Year

## PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESE

Court St. Ephrem #2230, Bensalem—Spring Cake Sale

Our Cake Sale was a huge success, thanks to all of the many delicious baked items!



Peggy Guckin, Pat Lafferty, Lisa Bair, Carol Parsons, Dolly Maronski, Rose Medash and Kathy MacElroy

## PITTSBURGH DIOCESE

Court Dolores #1675, Bentleyville

May Crowning, May 6



Anna Marie Glowaski, Immediate Past Regent; Nikki Meglis, Regent



Out of 11 hospitals in the AHN Hospital Network, Jeanette Kitch, 2nd Vice State Regent, won the Excellence Legacy Perioperative Tech of the Year Award! Although she was not there to receive it because she was at our State Convention, she was completely surprised when she found out about it. Congratulations, Jeanette! We are so proud of you!

## Land of the Free?

Debra Andreas, Regent

Court Immaculate Conception #2454

Clarion, PA, Erie Diocese



Here we are in America the beautiful, the land of the free, but America is harboring an ugly, little secret. Slavery still exists in this country. Approximately five (5) million people currently live in the bondage of human trafficking in the United States. Some are sold into forced labor. Others are trafficked for their organs. But the majority are used in sex trafficking—about four (4) million people in the U.S. Of these four (4) million, approximately 2.5 million are under the age of 18 and about half of those children are sold into slavery by their families.

Are you as shocked as I was when I read Fr. Bayhi's and Fr. Swanson's article on Sex Trafficking in the Fall 2024 issue of "Share" magazine? In fact, to add insult to injury, there are only 1,000 beds in the United States to serve these millions of children—if they are lucky enough to escape, and none of these beds are in Pennsylvania.

All of this lit a fire inside me that I can't ignore. I feel absolutely driven to do what I can to save these lambs from the wolves that have enslaved them. But this is an endeavor that will require all of us. I suggest we begin by asking St. Josephine Bakhita for her help and intercession. Please ask the Holy Spirit for guidance. All people must come to understand that **God's Children Are Not For Sale.**

—Email Debra Andreas: dandr@newlightnewlife.net



*Beware of allowing a tactless word, a rebuttal,  
a rejection, to obliterate the whole sky.*

~ Anais Nin ~

## Parliamentary Procedure Pointers

Patricia M. Gildea, State Parliamentarian



### RIGHTS OF A MEMBER TO...

- ... INTRODUCE/PROPOSE any item of business, with "I MOVE TO..." or "I MOVE THAT";
- ... SEE/HEAR (if you cannot, advise the regent);
- ... rise to a POINT OF INQUIRY (ask, if you don't understand);
- ... NEVER VOTE on a motion or amendment you don't understand (ask for clarification);
- ... state your MINORITY OPINION (if you are not in favor of the idea because...);
- ... AMEND (PERFECT) a motion (use a SUBSIDIARY/RIGHTING motion);
- ... INTRODUCE A MOTION EVEN IF NOT IN FAVOR, to get the issue on the floor for discussion;
- ... APPEAL DECISION of the presiding officer (Motion: "I appeal the decision of the Chair");
- ... move to RECONSIDER a motion (at the same meeting after another item of business is transacted);
- ... RESCIND A MOTION (at another meeting, if no action has yet been taken);
- ... ask for a COUNTED VOTE ("DIVISION"), if you disagree with the regent's decision; by "calling for a Division" (if you doubt the result of the vote as stated by the regent).

### You are the Grass Roots of CDA Using Your Rights as a Member is Vital To Its Growth and Success

—Email Patricia Gildea: pagildea1@gmail.com



*"And the Lord said to the rabbi, 'Come, I will show you hell.' They entered a room where a group of people sat around a huge pot of stew. Everyone was famished and desperate.*

*Each held a spoon that reached the pot, but each spoon had a handle so long that it could not be used to reach each person's mouth. The suffering was terrible.*

*"Come, now I will show you heaven,' the Lord said after a while. They entered another room, identical to the first—the pot of stew, the group of people, the same long spoons. But there, everyone was happy and nourished.*

*"I don't understand,' said the rabbi. 'Why are they happy here when they were miserable in the other room and everything was the same?' The Lord smiled. 'Ah, but don't you see?' he said. 'Here they have learned to feed each other.'" —Merle Shain*

## Welcome to Summer!

Susan Moné, National Regent

PA National Supervisor

I was so delighted to share in your PA State Convention in Lancaster. Kudos to your State Board for all the hard work this past year, plus, to plan and organize the convention. There are so many small little details that we don't think of. The result was a great convention from start to finish. It was spiritual, informative, productive and fun.

All the things that make a convention a success. The location was perfect, the food was yummy, and the entertainment was great with my kind of music. As always, the convention was the opportunity to renew friendships and make new friends with our Catholic Daughter sisters

from across the State of Pennsylvania. And I hope those who were able to attend the convention have shared the experience with your court members.

As summer greets us, many of your courts will take a month or two off to from meetings to travel, spend time with family or just take a relaxing breather at home. Whatever your plans, enjoy it and be fired up and ready to get back to CDA.

I look forward to seeing your State Board in Scottsdale, AZ for the Officers Training in July, and I ask that you keep us in prayers. And I also ask you to give your full support to your State Board and pray daily for the Holy Spirit to guide them in their work as the leadership in PA for the next two years. And know that they are available to help you and your court. Your National Board is also available to your state officers as well as your local courts. Keep us in your prayers daily also.

Now that the State conventions are complete, I hope you will start planning to attend our National Convention, July 22-27, 2026, in Coralville, Iowa.

As we continue the Jubilee Year as Pilgrims of Hope, remember to "Be a Beacon of Hope—A Light in the Darkness."

—Email Susan Moné: nationalregent28@gmail.com

### Are you hanging by a thread?

Summon the Savior.

Tied to the track and a train's coming fast?

Recruit the Redeemer.

You won't have to beg or twist His arm.

He was made for this.

In fact, when the Father told Him about the mess you're in, Christ said He was dying to save you.  
—Hugs from Heaven: Embraced by the Savior



## Remembering Pope Francis and Welcoming Pope Leo XIV

Peggy Guckin, National Director  
PA Public Relations

Dear Friends and Catholic Daughters,

As I began to gather my thoughts for this column, I realized it is (I wrote this piece on May 21st) the one-month anniversary of the death of Pope Francis. I am sure every one of us remembers, after celebrating our faith through the glorious liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum, waking up on Easter Monday morning to hear the shocking news that Pope Francis had died in the early morning Roman hours.

We probably all remember waiting for the white smoke back in March of 2013, and anxiously waiting for the doors on the balcony of Saint Peter's Basilica to open to see Pope Francis for the first time. I remember one of my first thoughts was, "I never heard of this guy!"

And during the twelve years of his papacy, we saw in him qualities that endeared him to so many. Like all of his modern predecessors, Pope Francis led the Church by his simplicity of life, his humility and his great concern for the poor.

I was especially excited when he announced that he would be coming to Philadelphia in September 2015 for World Meeting of Families. It was a pleasure for me and other CDA members to volunteer for this memorable event. When he died on April 21st of this year, so many Catholics and non-Catholics around the world mourned the loss of this man of peace.

After nine days of mourning, the Church prepared for a Conclave to elect the 267th successor of Saint Peter. While the Conclave was of special interest to Catholics around the world, did you notice how the world stopped and fixed their eyes on Rome? The days leading up to the Conclave, and then the hours waiting for smoke to spew out of the chimney of the Sistine Chapel, made news around the world.

As the Cardinals were sealed into the Sistine Chapel, I (and I think everyone else) thought the Conclave would take several days. Then, I (and I think everyone else) was stunned to see the special report on television, just twenty-four hours after the Cardinals entered the Conclave, that white smoke was pouring out of the Sistine Chapel chimney. I was glued to the television for over an hour waiting for the "Habemus Papam!" proclamation.

I didn't understand the Latin that was spoken, but it was only a few seconds after that came the announcement the reporter screamed in excitement, "They elect-



ed an American! American Cardinal Provost is now Pope Leo, the Fourteenth!"

I shared the disbelief with that reporter as he said over and over again, "They elected an American! They elected an American!"

Only a couple weeks into his papacy, Pope Leo XIV has quickly shown why the Cardinals took only four ballots to elect him. His gentleness, his meekness, and his obvious love of our Catholic faith, have quickly proven that God has truly blessed our Church—and our nation—through the election of Pope Leo XIV!

As Catholic Daughters, we join with countless men and women of good will around the world in celebrating the election of this "Servant of the Servants of God." May the Lord hear our plea: "Viva il papa!"—"Long live the Pope!"

—Email Peggy Guckin: mmg721@aol.com



### Prayer for the New Pope

O God, who in your providential design, willed that your Church be built upon blessed Peter, whom you set over the other Apostles, look with favor, we pray, on Leo our Pope and grant that he, whom you have made Peter's successor, may be for your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—Prayer from the Collect of the Mass for the Pope  
The Roman Missal, Third Edition

### 2025 CDA PA Newsletter Contest

Gloria Kissel, CDA PA Newsletter Chairman

#### Category 1, Division 2

1st Place Court Queen of Peace #1023, Lancaster

2nd Place Court Bellevue #655, Pittsburgh

#### Category 2, Division 1

1st Place Court Rev. Patrick McArdle #448, Bellefonte

### 2025 CDA PA Facebook Page Contest

Suzanne Garnett, CDA PA Facebook Page Chairman

#### Category 1, Division 2

1st Place Court St. Rita #353, Punxsutawney

2nd Place Court Bellevue #655, Pittsburgh

**Feb. Lottery Winners**

Rose Ennis  
 Sandy Smith\*  
 Lauren Devlin  
 Taylor Rimmer  
 Andrea Christoff  
 Coleen Bowser  
 Carletta Fronczek  
 Eleanor Chodelka  
 Lori Serafin  
 Frances A. Rhoa  
 Father Norbert Suresh  
 Charlotte Burcin  
 Kathe' Sobczak  
 Andrew Fox  
 Karen Hauser  
 Andrea Ronan  
 Dominic Campagna  
 Michael Leonard  
 Sara Janulewicz, Regent  
 Edward F. Tomczak  
 Chris Palamone  
 George Rumbol  
 Linda Womeldorf  
 Dolores Colella  
 Victoria Gilbert  
 Joy Stauffer  
 Virginia S. Rhoa  
 Sharon Fritch  
 \*\$100 Winner

**Feb. Selling Court**

Rev. Patrick McArdle #448  
 PSR Margaret Novak  
 Bellevue #655  
 Sylvia Fox  
 St. Catherine of Siena #1992  
 St. Bernard #339  
 Uniontown #505  
 New Kensington #860  
 Blessed Madonna #2521  
 Our Lady of Victory #722  
 SR Margaret T. Giordano  
 Rev. Patrick McArdle #448  
 Holy Trinity #1336  
 Sylvia Fox  
 Blessed Madonna #2521  
 St. Rita #523  
 Holy Trinity #1336  
 St. Catherine of Siena #1992  
 Mystical Rose #2628  
 Holy Trinity #1336  
 St. Rene #1868  
 Sylvia Fox  
 Rev. Patrick McArdle #448  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 St. Ephrem #2230  
 Blessed Madonna #2521  
 Our Lady of Victory #722  
 Roses of Mary #2766

**March Lottery Winners**

Sara Stein  
 Debbie Thomas  
 Donald Sanker  
 Sheron Engelka  
 Ann Thome  
 Roy & Barbara Brandon  
 Mary Ann Brozick  
 Karen Smay-Brown  
 Joanne Tanner  
 Deanna Teixeira  
 Tina Kassebohm  
 Jon Kocher  
 Shirley Kuszajewski  
 Sue Rice Lampo  
 Vincent Taglieri  
 Pat Slifko  
 Marie Phanord  
 Frances A. Rhoa  
 Denise Barr\*  
 Barbara Biderberg  
 Georgiann Anderson  
 Susan Farrah  
 Elaine Donley  
 Denise Barr  
 Judy Wood  
 Mary Grunthaner  
 Rita Morton  
 Sam Kocher  
 Jennifer Weaver  
 Rev. Samuel Bungo  
 Dennis Patti  
 \*\$100 Winner

**March Selling Court**

Monessen #776  
 Our Lady of Victory #722  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 PSR Margaret P. Novak  
 Roses of Mary #2766  
 Butler #443  
 St. Theresa #562  
 Bellevue #655  
 St. Dominic #2222  
 St. Francis de Sales #2617  
 St. Catherine of Siena #1992  
 IPSR Shirley Hall  
 Conception #35  
 Lambing #314  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 St. Victoria #646  
 Ave Maria #650  
 Our Lady of Victory #722  
 St. Dominic #2222  
 St. Frances de Sales #2617  
 St. Marys #890  
 Lambing #314  
 St. Victoria #646  
 St. Dominic #2222  
 Prince Gallitzin #2625  
 Blessed Madonna #2521  
 Washington #1651  
 IPSR Shirley Hall  
 Queen of Peace #1023  
 Immaculate Conception #2454  
 Easton #358

**April Lottery Winners**

Marcie Cochran  
 Monna George  
 Martha Sykes  
 Andrew Fox  
 Theresa L. Zameroski  
 David & Denise Borelle  
 Barbara Jackson  
 David & Denise Borelle  
 Donna Basalla  
 Margaret T. Giordano  
 Judy Kosar  
 Misty Myers  
 Frances A. Rhoa  
 Ruth Alice Saylor  
 Donna Basalla  
 David & Denise Borelle  
 Val Santuro  
 Margaret Edinger  
 Sheron Engelka  
 Helen Fox\*  
 Sara Stein  
 Janice Gavalik  
 Margaret Novak  
 Mae Rich  
 Deacon Jeff Hirst  
 Michelle Koutch  
 Pat McKean  
 Veronica Rogal  
 Audrey Aubaugh  
 Pat McKean  
 \*\$100 Winner

**April Selling Court**

SO Lisa McCann  
 Joan of Arc #716  
 St. Veronica #111  
 Sylvia Fox  
 St. Leo #356  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 St. Ephrem #2230  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 St. Rita #523  
 SR Margaret T. Giordano  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 Ave Maria #399  
 Our Lady of Victory #722  
 PSR Margaret Novak  
 St. Rita #523  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 SO Lisa McCann  
 PSR Margaret Novak  
 Sylvia Fox  
 Monessen #776  
 St. James the Greater #2180  
 Roses of Mary #2766  
 Lambing #314  
 Washington #1651  
 Our Lady of Victory #588  
 Dolores #1675  
 Our Lady of Victory #722  
 Columbia #2  
 Dolores #1675

**Dolly Maronski—Woman of the Year!**

**M**any thanks to all who were involved in my being selected as the CDA PA State Woman of the Year 2023-2025. I was truly surprised and overwhelmed by this award. I never expected or anticipated such a recognition for trying to do the many things that all of my sister Catholic Daughters are doing to help others. Many of the things credited to my actions were in conjunction with my sister members and officers, who are as deserving of this award as I am. Thank you, and God bless you all.

—Email Dolly Maronski: doloresmaronski@comcast.net



Dolly Maronski, receiving Woman of the Year Award from Margaret Giordano, State Regent



# 2025 PA State Education Contest Winners

## Art Division I

- |           |                   |                           |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1st Place | Elayna Hewitt     | Saint Rita #523           |
| 2nd Place | Jane Jennings     | Rev. Patrick McArdle #448 |
| 3rd Place | Samantha Ferguson | St. Bernard #339          |

## Art Division II

- |           |                  |                          |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1st Place | Sophia Sawyer    | Washington #1651         |
| 2nd Place | Brynn Miller     | Our Lady of Victory #722 |
| 3rd Place | Santino Gallucci | Of Our Lady #647         |

## Art Division III

- |           |             |               |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1st Place | Olivia Hawk | Patricia #998 |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

## Art Division IV

- |           |                   |                  |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1st Place | Christina F. Bell | St. Theresa #562 |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|

## Computer Art Division I

- |           |                |                      |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1st Place | Andrew Morris  | Queen of Peace #1023 |
| 2nd Place | Harrison Conti | Ave Maria #399       |
| 3rd Place | Lucy Ashcroft  | Mystical Rose #2628  |

## Computer Art Division II

- |           |               |                      |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1st Place | Grace Bassett | Of Our Lady #647     |
| 2nd Place | Arron Mattini | St. Bernard #339     |
| 3rd Place | Liam Filomeno | Queen of Peace #1023 |

## Computer Art Division III

- |           |                   |               |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1st Place | Sophia Yatehyshyn | Monessen #776 |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------|

## Essay Division I

- |           |                |                     |
|-----------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1st Place | Brooklyn Logue | Mystical Rose #2628 |
| 2nd Place | Raigan Walizer | Ave Maria #399      |
| 3rd Place | Kennedy Stern  | St. Dominic #2222   |

## Essay Division II

- |           |                    |                       |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | Sage E. Harbst     | Saint Rita #523       |
| 2nd Place | Ayleen Maymi Vera  | Queen of Peace #1023  |
| 3rd Place | Mary Grace Clement | Blessed Madonna #2521 |

## Essay Division III

- |           |                   |                       |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | Olivia Hawk       | Patricia #998         |
| 2nd Place | Timothy Wanamaker | Bellevue #655         |
| 3rd Place | Augustine Clement | Blessed Madonna #2521 |

## Music Division II

- |           |                   |                  |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1st Place | Bryanna Percinsky | Of Our Lady #647 |
| 2nd Place | Lexie Bowman      | Ave Maria #399   |

## Photography Division II

- |           |                     |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1st Place | Alivia Marie Warner | St. Thomas #1483    |
| 2nd Place | Ryen Myers          | Joan of Arc #716    |
| 3rd Place | Connor Vandever     | Mystical Rose #2628 |

## Photography Division III

- |           |                  |                  |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| 1st Place | Rachel Cribbs    | St. Bernard #339 |
| 2nd Place | Julianne Daniele | Bellevue #655    |
| 3rd Place | Savanna Hawk     | Patricia #998    |

## Photography Division IV

- |           |                   |                  |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1st Place | Vivian Rolling    | St. Bernard #339 |
| 2nd Place | Cheryl McLaughlin | Monessen #776    |
| 3rd Place | Faith Cravenor    | Patricia #998    |

## Poetry, Division I

- |           |                      |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1st Place | Mya McAdoo           | St. Bernard #339     |
| 2nd Place | Christian Cunningham | St. Thomas #1483     |
| 3rd Place | Sophia Baquedano     | Queen of Peace #1023 |

## Poetry, Division II

- |           |               |                          |
|-----------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1st Place | Sophia Kline  | Our Lady of Victory #722 |
| 2nd Place | Luke Thompson | St. Dominic #2222        |
| 3rd Place | Amelia Hawk   | Patricia #998            |

## Poetry, Division III

- |           |                      |               |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1st Place | Gabriella Yatehyshyn | Monessen #776 |
| 2nd Place | Alex Kirk            | Bellevue #655 |
| 3rd Place | Troy Bielak          | Patricia #998 |

## Poetry, Division IV

- |           |                      |                   |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1st Place | Kathy Byron          | Monessen #776     |
| 2nd Place | Barbara Minor        | St. Bernard #339  |
| 3rd Place | Margaret Mary Gowaty | Westinghouse #759 |

# Congratulations, Winners!

*Catholic Daughters of the Americas®*  
*Pennsylvania State Court*  
*Spiritual Intention Mass Card*

The Mass is offered at Misericordia Chapel, York, Pennsylvania at 10:30 A.M. on the third Sunday of the month.  
Proceeds benefit the Pontifical North American College in Rome, helping the Seminarians who are studying there.

For: \_\_\_\_\_  
From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Intention: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised: 12/17/23

**Best Wishes**  
**Those Starting JCDA in PA!**  
Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano  
CDA PA State Officers

**Happy 100th Anniversary**  
**Court Regina Coeli #940, New Jersey**  
Requested by: Peggy Guckin, National Director

**Happy Anniversary!**  
**Jeremy and Valerie Hatfield**  
Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

**Happy Birthday!**  
**Danielle Christian, Niece**  
**Adam Christian, Nephew**  
**Nicole Kreider, Daughter**  
**Jada Hoskins, Granddaughter**  
**Valerie Hatfield, Daughter**  
Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

**Member Danielle Christian**  
**Past Regent Lee Ann Hrycay**  
**Regent Nicole Kreider**  
**Member Roberta Stefanow**  
**Treasurer Jennifer Weaver**  
**Member Valerie Kreider**  
**Member Robin Burgoon**  
Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

**State Secretary Pamela Callahan**  
Requested by: Your CDA PA Sister State Officers

**Happy Mother's Day!**  
**All Our CDA Mothers**  
Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023  
CDA PA State Officers

## ***State Spiritual Intention Report***

This report shows the many people whom we have included in our Spiritual Intentions in March, April and May 2025. Donations are forwarded to the National office to benefit the North American Pontifical College in Rome and are much appreciated by the seminarians there. Please consider using our Intention cards in the future. Send Spiritual Intentions to Margaret Giordano, State Regent. Her address is on the front page of this newsletter. Thank you!

### **Thank You for Your Service!**

**Deacon James P. DeBow**  
**Deacon Edward J. Dymek**

Requested by: Officers & Members of Court St. Ephrem #2230

### **Prayerful Lent and Blessed Easter**

**All Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters**  
Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

**All Catholic Daughters of the Americas**  
Requested by: Your CDA PA State Officers

### **A Blessed Easter Season!**

**All Catholic Daughters and Their Families**  
Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

### **In Appreciation and In Unity and Charity**

**All Catholic Daughters of the Americas**  
Requested by: Your CDA PA State Officers

### **O, Lord, Hear Our Prayers**

**All Our Intentions**  
Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

**All Our CDA Members, Their Families and Friends,  
Living and Deceased**  
Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

### **Blessings and Prayers for Good Health**

**All Catholic Daughters of the Americas**  
Requested by: Your CDA PA State Officers

**All Our CDA Members Needing Physical,  
Emotional and/or Mental Healing**  
Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

### **Health and Safety**

**All Our Members**  
Requested by: Court Queen of Peace #1023

**Improved Health, Strength & Peace**  
Anna McMaster

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

### **Barb Surovec**

Requested by: Christine Surovec, Ct. Rev. Patrick McArdle #448

Improved Health, Strength & Peace

Pope Francis

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

Successful Surgery

Member Carly Long

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace # 1023

Longtime Friend, Celeste Eckman

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Prayers

The Conclave

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano  
CDA PA State Officers and Members

In Memory

My sister, Sr. Mary Paul Giordano, DM

My sister, Theresa Ann Hauck

Grandma Annunciata Giordano

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Josephine Onyejiwu

Mother of Father Dilio Onyejiwu

Requested by: Nikki Meglis, Court Dolores #1675

Rest in Peace/Repose of the Soul

Pope Francis

Anna McMaster, CWVA Department Secretary

Susan Painter, Vice Regent

Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

Vice Regent Debra Clary

Edith Fantaskey, Beloved Member

Requested by: Court St. Veronica # 111

Ann Johnston

Requested by: Court Washington #1651

Dorothy Brora

Laura Hrutkay

Malta Cordisco

Requested by: Court Dolores # 1675

Betty George

Requested by: Peggy Guckin, National Director

Edward McGuire, Cousin

Requested by: Peggy Guckin, National Director

Anne and David Albertson & Family

JoAnne Baithazor, Recording Secretary

Kansas Court Evarista #1138

Requested by: Karin Dudash, National Director

Pilgrims of Hope, Spreading Faith and Love  
at the 56th Biennial State Convention

All Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano



The Soul's Flight

Louis Janmot 1814-1892; RestoredTraditions.com

May We All Be Pilgrims of Hope,

Spreading Love and Faith in CDA!

Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

Thank You for Celebrating Lovely, Spiritual  
Convention Masses and Giving Uplifting Sermons

Bishop Timothy Senior

State Chaplain Father Norbert Suresh

Father Luis Rodriguez

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers and Members

Thank you for a Successful

56th Biennial State Convention!

All Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

CDA PA State Officers

Thank You for Your Support and Encouragement  
at Our 56th Biennial State Convention!

National Regent and Supervisor Susan Mone'

Requested by: Margaret T. Giordano

CDA PA State Officers and Members

Unity and Charity

All Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Requested by: CDA PA State Officers

Welcome!

New Member April Aybar

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace # 1023

Welcome to Lancaster

for the 56th Biennial State Convention!

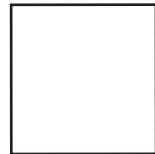
National Regent and Supervisor Susan Mone'

All Pennsylvania Catholic Daughters

Requested by: Court Queen of Peace # 1023

CDA PA State Officers

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**  
**Peggy Guckin, PSR, ND**  
**203 Harmony Ct.**  
**Bensalem, PA 19020**



Return Service Requested

## **"I Have No Hands But Your Hands..."**

**Rev. Norbert Suresh, State Chaplain**



**A**t our recent State Convention in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, we were called to reflect on the theme, *Pilgrims of Hope: Spreading Love and Faith*. This theme resonates deeply with the Gospel of John, where we encounter Jesus at the Last Supper, "...knowing that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end" (John 13:1)—what a profound moment of divine love, a love that does not falter, even in the face of human weakness.

Picture the scene: Jesus, fully aware of the betrayal, denial and fear that will soon unfold among His disciples, chooses not to abandon them. He doesn't ask for "separate checks" or walk away from their disloyalty. Instead, He washes their feet, breaks bread with them, and offers His very Body and Blood. He loves them to the end of laying down His life on the Cross. This is the heart of our faith: a love that endures, a love that transforms, a love that never gives up.

As members of the CDA, you are called to be Pilgrims of Hope, carrying this same love into a world that often feels broken and divided. At the convention, you meditated on this theme, and now you are sent forth to live it. Like Jesus, you are invited to love those around you, even when they disappoint, even when they doubt, even when they turn away. This is not easy. It requires the courage to see others as Christ sees them.

The CDA's mission to spread love and faith is a pilgrimage, a journey of hope. It's seen in your works of charity, your prayers for the hurting, and your commitment to building a culture of life. In Lancaster, you gathered as a community of faith, strengthening one another to go out and be light in the darkness. Each act of kindness, each moment of forgiveness, each prayer offered is a step on this pilgrimage, a reflection of Jesus' love that never wavers.

Consider the disciples after the Resurrection. Despite their failures, Jesus sought them out. He met Peter on the shore, restored Thomas' faith, and sent the Holy Spirit to embolden them. They became pilgrims of hope, spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth. You, too, are called to this mission. In your courts, your parishes, and your communities, you are the hands and feet of Christ, loving others to the end.

So, let us ask ourselves: Who is at my table today? Who is the one who has hurt me, doubted me, or turned away? And how can I, as a pilgrim of hope, love them as Jesus does? Perhaps it's a small gesture: a kind word, a prayer, an act of service. These are the seeds of hope that blossom into faith.

As you continue your work in the CDA, may you walk boldly as pilgrims, carrying the love of Christ to every heart. May the Holy Spirit guide you, and may Our Lady, Mother of Hope, intercede for you. Let us go forth, spreading love and faith, trusting that Jesus, who loved us to the end, walks with us always. —Email Fr. Suresh: norbert.suresh@gmail.com



*"I have no hands but your hands to do my work today.  
I have no feet but your feet to lead men on the way.  
I have no tongue but your tongue to tell men how I died.  
I have no help but your help to lead them to my side."*