



**UNITY  
AND  
CHARITY**

## **Nova Eva Newsletter** **Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

**(St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church)**  
**COURT REV. PATRICK MCARDLE #448**  
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### **Lenten Memories in Polish**

When I was a young server at my home parish, one of the major Lenten devotions was Gorzkie Zale (Bitter Lamentations). Almost every week my brother and I would serve. As a boy who knows only a few words of Polish (most of them from my grandmother when she was upset with us), I didn't really appreciate what was actually going on. Today, I have a much greater appreciation for the beauty and power of that devotion.

Like the Stations of the Cross, it is an invitation to reflect on the Lord's Passion. It can be easy to forget the depth of God's love for us in Christ's sacrifice on the Cross. In whatever way we can, find some extra time this Lent to reflect on the wonders of that sacrifice: pray the Stations with us Friday or on your own any time during the week; meditate on one of the Lenten hymns: Were you there; O Sacred Head Surrounded; or just spend some time before the cross.

### **Lenten Prayers:**

"Lord, give me the strength to resist temptation and to persevere in my Lenten practices. Help me to be faithful to my promises and to grow in holiness."

"Lord, I ask for your strength and perseverance during this Lenten journey. Help me to overcome my weaknesses and to live a life that is pleasing to you."

"Lord, I ask for your guidance and strength during this Lenten journey. Help me to be more aware of my actions and words, and to choose to live in accordance with your teachings."

"God, heavenly Father, look upon me and hear my prayer during this holy Season of Lent. By the good works You inspire, help me to discipline my body and to be renewed in spirit. Without You I can do nothing".

"May my acts of penance bring me Your forgiveness, open my heart to Your love, and prepare me for the coming feast of the Resurrection of Jesus".

"Lord, during this Lenten Season, nourish me with Your Word of life and make me one with You in love and prayer. Fill my heart with Your love and keep me faithful to the Gospel of Christ".



**CDA meetings: 1st Thursday of every month: Social from 6:30-6:50pm;**  
**Opening Pray 6:50pm and Meeting begins at 7:00pm**

**St. John the Evangelist Catholic School 134 E. Bishop Street, Bellefonte, PA**  
**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS—www.catholicdaughters.org**



## Nova Eva Newsletter

### Catholic Daughters of the Americas

#### DATES TO REMEMBER



#### Fish Fries

The Catholic Daughters and the Knight of Columbus are once again offering a Lenten Fish Fry every Friday during Lent. March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4 & 11.

It will be eat-in or takeout and help is needed making desserts. Help will also be needed setting up, serving stations, cleaning and resetting tables, drinks and final cleanup. Please call Pam Callahan 814-571-0207.

The cost will be \$14/Adult, \$7/Children under 12 and free for children 6 and under.

*Catholic Daughters of the Americas presents*  
**NEW YORK CITY**  
**AUGUST 25 - 27, 2025**  
**\$895 per person dbl occ**



#### ADDITIONAL PRICING:

\$1130.00 SINGLE  
 \$790.00 TRIPLE  
 \$740.00 QUAD

#### PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Round Trip Motorcoach Transportation
- ◆ Two Nights at the **EDISON HOTEL** (Times Square)
- ◆ Dinner at **TONY DINAPOLIS** (taxes & tip included)
- ◆ Reserved Seating for "LION KING"
- ◆ Visit to **CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA HEADQUARTERS**
- ◆ Visit to **ELLIS ISLAND & STATUE OF LIBERTY**
- ◆ Admission to the **911 MEMORIAL MUSEUM**
- ◆ Personal Visit to **ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL**
- ◆ Hotel, State and City Taxes
- ◆ Baggage Service In & Out at Hotel

**DEPOSIT:** **\$100.00 P.P. WITH RESERVATION (NON-REFUNDABLE)**  
 NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2025

**BALANCE:** NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2025

Check payable to Catholic Daughters of the Americas (no credit cards)



#### For Reservations and Information:

Contact Amy Brisbin, 1740 Decker Hollow Rd, Tyrone, PA 16686  
 814-931-4702 or Email: [AMYLBRISBIN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AMYLBRISBIN@GMAIL.COM)

#### Baby Shower Bingo



Come and support our Pro-Life fund-raiser on Sunday, March 30, 2025 at St. John's School Auditorium.

Bingo begins at 1:00pm and the cost is \$5 plus a new unwrapped baby item.

Join in a fun afternoon of Bingo, Gift Bag Auction, 50/50 Raffle, light refreshments and visiting vendor booths.

Contact Mindy Terpak 814-360-3037 if you would like to help in any way



#### **Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit**

Sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Good Shepherd #2800.

**Coming to Good Shepherd Catholic Church**

**Friday, March 21 @ Noon through**

**Sunday, March 30 @ 1:00 p.m.**



Exposition of Blessed Carlo's relic on display during the March 22nd & 23rd Masses and following the presentation.

Learn more about Blessed Carlo Acutis and the Shrine at the Malvern Retreat House by attending a presentation by Jeffrey Daley, Sunday, March 23rd at 3:00 p.m. in the Church.

Schedule your group/school for a viewing of the exhibit between 9 and 2 Monday through Friday while it's here!

Reservations can be made by calling (814)238-2110.

**Malvern**  
 Retreat House

Court Good Shepherd #2800 is sponsoring the Eucharist Miracles Exhibit, information above. If you are unable to attend, or want to attend both, Saint John Church and School will be hosting an exhibit also the weekend of May 16-18. At that time, "Blessed" Carlo Acutis will be newly canonized "Saint" Carlo Acutis!

#### Altoona-Johnstown Diocesan Committee Meeting

Meeting to be held at St. Matthew's Church, Harkin Hall, Tyrone, PA on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

Social and registration begins at 9:00am and the Rosary at 10:00am. The meeting will begin after the Rosary with lunch served at Noon.

We will carpool from St. John's Church parking lot to Tyrone.



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### Catholic Daughters of the Americas

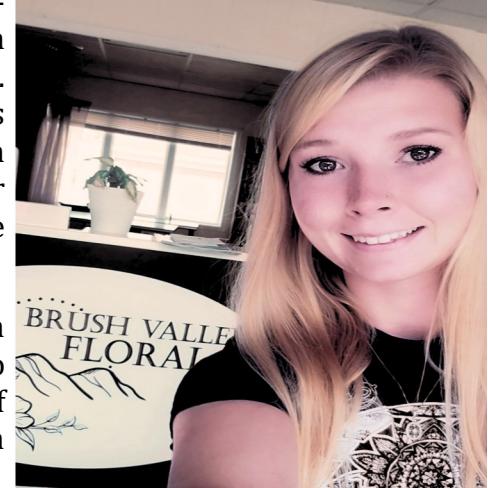


#### Catholic Daughter In The Spotlight:

by Barbara Materna

Rachel is one of our newest members. She is originally from Centre Hall. She met her husband Seth six years ago, and they married three years later. They have two young children, their oldest Carter is two and a half, and their baby Evelyn is just seven months old. Rachel brings Evelyn with her to our CDA meetings. It's so exciting to start them young, Evelyn is a future Catholic Daughter.

Seth was raised Catholic. They were married in the Lutheran church as Rachel was raised Lutheran. Not only is Rachel a new member to our court, but she also attended the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) last year and joined the church at the Easter Vigil in 2024.



She attended college at Penn State and then completed a degree in Horticulture at Penn College. While in college, she worked at a floral shop. When the owner decided to close her business, she offered it to Rachel. Having graduated Rachel turned down the offer. Instead of purchasing the business she bought the floral shop inventory from the owner and started her own floral business in Rebersburg where she and her family now live.

Rachel joined Catholic Daughters last fall. She had seen the announcements about CDA in the bulletin. It was at a Lenten Fish Fry last year where she talked about it with some of our members as well as observing those who were volunteering at the fish fry.

As a new member, I asked Rachel what she was looking forward to about being a Catholic Daughter. She enjoys attending meetings and chatting with other members. It gives her an opportunity to get out of the house and spend time with adults. I foresee Rachel becoming more involved as time permits.  
Welcome, Rachel!!



Presentation of one of the two 2024 Catholic Daughters Lifetime Achievement Awards was presented to Peg Herbstritt by Regent, Karen Pipta at our court Christmas party in December. The other award will be delivered by Karen and Janet Oesterling to Irene DeGraff in New York when the weather is warmer and there is no chance for snow or ice.

#### Information on Discerning Hearts

Discerning Hearts website and app for smart phones is full of tons of great Catholic content. And best of all...it is free! It has two radio streams, podcasts, prayers and devotions, church history and apologetics, spiritual formation, scripture studies, audio books and reflections, information on spiritual warfare, Doctors of the Church, and Church Fathers. It is a treasure trove—and again it is free! The website is <https://www.discerninghearts.com/catholic-podcasts/>



## Nova Eva Newsletter Catholic Daughters of the Americas

### Classroom / CDA 101

by Barbara Materna

#### CDA 101 – 56<sup>th</sup> Biennial Pennsylvania State Convention

Are you looking for something to do in April? The Pennsylvania State Convention of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be in April. Let's go over the details that may help in your decision-making process:

Date: April 11-14, 2025

Place: DoubleTree Resort by Hilton, 2400 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602

Theme: "PILGRIMS OF HOPE SPREADING LOVE AND FAITH IN CDA"



The drive to Lancaster is just over 125 miles depending on where you live, which is a beautiful 2.5-hour drive or so.

You may be asking, what is on the agenda during the convention? Here are some of the highlights:

**Friday** - there is an Opening Mass at 4PM at St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

**Saturday** - the convention officially opens at 9AM, there will be a Mass with a Memorial Service (where we remember all the CDA members from Pennsylvania who passed since our last convention) at 11:30.

**Sunday** - delegates will meet in the morning and then the Installation of new state officers Mass will be held in the Victoria Chapel on the grounds of the DoubleTree Resort at 3PM.

**Monday** – the final day there will be a Mass at 9AM in the Convention Center.

Our court has already selected delegates and alternate delegates, but it's not too late for any member to decide to attend the convention if only for a few hours or a couple days.

If your schedule is already full then we remind you that the State Convention is held biennially and normally in April. The next convention will be in 2027. Start planning now.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me or any of our court officers.

I remember my first state convention. I learned so much and enjoyed getting to know members from other courts throughout the state. It gives us something to look forward to that is spiritual and brings us together in "Unity" and "Charity." Come join us for some FUN!

#### Christmas Party Ugly Sweater Contest

On Sunday, December 1, 2024 our Court had its Christmas Party at Sunset West Restaurant in Pleasant Gap. One of the events we had was the Ugly Sweater Contest.



#### Mission Statement

"Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive 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"