



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS California State

102 YEARS OF SERVICE GOLDEN STATE TIDINGS

Volume 49 – March 2026

www.californiacatholicdaughters.org

State Spiritual Advisor

Deacon Tim Myers
1662 Manor Blvd.
San Leandro, CA 94579
510-351-5244

timothykentmyers@gmail.com

State Regent

Lorine Bakowsky
1121 Bodmin Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94579
510-461-7317

lbakowsky@slzusd.org

1st Vice State Regent

Sheri Kanagawa
2331 W. Andrew Lane
Hanford, CA 93230
559-250-7016

skanagawa@hotmail.com

2nd Vice State Regent

Yvonne Connolly
1433 Jesusita Lane
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
805-687-6746

Yconnolly23cacda@gmail.com

State Secretary

Yvette Manard
12320 Hedda Dr.
Cerritos, CA 90703
562-400-8079

proactivepatient@verizon.net

State Treasurer

Michelle Eck
8517 Middlesax Way
Sacramento, CA 95828
916-524-5097

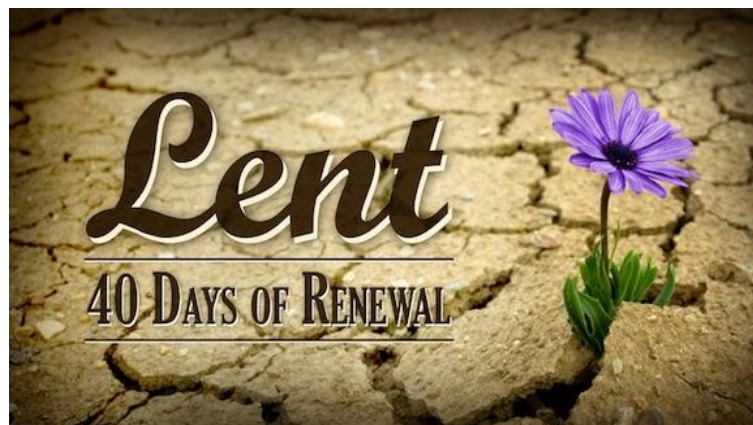
MEck@richardsoncpas.com

GST Editor

Karen Jones
308 S Mayo Ave
Compton, CA 90221
310-344-6803

Kdj4237308@gmail.com

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



As we celebrate Lent – 40 Days of Renewal,
Please do not forget our California Spiritual Retreat &
Workshops: April 11, 2026 – Northern California
April 19, 2026 – Central California
April 25, 2026 - Southern California

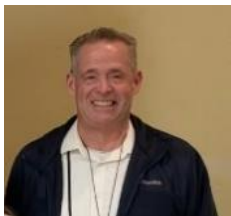
Information is in this issue on Page 34: PrayerServiceSection
and on National website: www.catholicdaughters.org

A Blessed Lenten Season and Easter from your State Board:

Spiritual Advisor Deacon Tim Myers
State Regent Lorine Bakowsky
1st Vice State Regent Sheri Kanagawa
2nd Vice State Regent Yvonne Connolly
State Secretary Yvette Manard
State Treasurer Michelle Eck

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STATE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR ~ DEACON TIMOTHY MYERS



Tending the Garden of the Soul: A Lenten Reflection

Dear Catholic Daughters,

One of my favorite hobbies is gardening, especially taking care of my roses. Recently, I found myself in the thick of it: removing dead branches that no longer belonged, thinning out the overgrowth, clearing weeds from the base, and aerating the soil to let the roots breathe. As I worked, I realized that this physical labor is a living parable for the spiritual work we are called to do right now.

The Interior Desert

By the liturgical calendar, we are well into the season of Lent—that reflective season of mystery and the solemn season of our own mortality. It is a 40-day journey (not counting Sundays) that leads us to the threshold of the **Sacred Triduum**.

Much like the winter cold, these spiritual practices draw us inward. In Mark's Gospel, we see the baptism and the temptation of Christ as two sides of the same coin:

“And just as [Jesus] was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him... And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan.” (Mark 1:10-13)

Lent is about **revelation**. The desert the Spirit sends us into is most often found *within* us. Revelation is not just seeing what has been revealed; it is about owning it and growing into it. Jesus had a revelation that changed His relationship with the One He knew as *Abba*, Father. That revelation changed His life—and the lives of billions throughout history.

Pruning the Heart

Lent demands that we, like the One we follow, come to understand our relationship with the Holy in new, deeper, and more human ways. It brings us back year after year to peer into the "tombs" we have constructed for ourselves—tombs hewn from shame, fear, or trauma.

A prayerful Lent gives us the strength to:

- **Identify the "Deadwood":** Removing the habits and thoughts that no longer serve our journey with Christ.
- **Roll Back the Stones:** To move the heavy obstacles of pride or guilt that seal us off from love, life, and the good work of justice.
- **Aerate the Soil:** To open our hearts so that grace can actually reach the roots of our being.

Beyond the Tomb

It is hard work to enter willingly into the dark spaces of our hearts. Often, we want to leave long before the work is done—long before we can comprehend what God holds for us, and long before we are willing to own the prayer of **St. Teresa of Ávila**: *that Christ has no hands but ours*.

Still, the seasons turn. With or without us, spring fulfills her promise of warmth and greening. What seemed dead will teem with new life. If we stay the course and do the "holy gardening" required, the stones will roll away from the tombs in our hearts. Something beyond our current understanding will emerge to tend the garden that is this world.

In Unity and Charity,

Deacon Timothy Myers

NATIONAL SUPERVISOR ~ YVETTE GRIEGO



Overview of the 61st Biennial National Convention in Coralville, Iowa

In the first week of February, the National CDA Board met at the Hyatt Regency, which will serve as the host hotel for the 61st Biennial National Convention. While in Coralville, the Board worked closely with Iowa State Regent and Convention Chairman Brenda Vore, as well as Convention Co-chair Julie Marlow along with various committee members. Their collaborative efforts focused on reviewing and finalizing the plans for the upcoming event, scheduled to take place July 22–26, 2026.

The Hyatt Regency, as the host hotel, provides guests with a variety of appealing amenities. Additional options are available at the overflow hotels—Staybridge Suites, Drury Inn & Suites, and Homewood Suites by Hilton—all of which feature modern facilities and are located within walking distance of the main venue. The entire convention area was recently renovated, offering a contemporary atmosphere and convenient access to local restaurants and shopping centers.

Attendees seeking outdoor experiences will find several walking trails just outside the Hyatt Regency. The nearby Iowa River offers opportunities for birdwatching and enjoying fresh air, enhancing the overall environment for convention guests.

The closest airport to Coralville is at Cedar Rapids (CID), located approximately 20 miles from the host hotel. This small, easy-to-navigate airport provides convenient travel options, with Uber and taxi services available for transportation to and from the convention area.

A special highlight of the convention will be a Tuesday evening performance by the Brown Family, well-known gospel singers from Iowa.

Friday night's "Fun Night" promises a festive state fair-inspired atmosphere, featuring deep-fried favorites and a cornhole tournament. Attendees are encouraged to bring their hats, boots, and cowboy attire to join in the fun!

Detailed information will be forthcoming in the March Quarterly. Everything you need to plan your stay will be available in this newsletter. This will be a very busy convention but also very enjoyable! Looking forward to seeing you in Coralville, Iowa in July!

Yvette Griego, National Supervisor

STATE REGENT ~ LORINE BAKOWSKY



A Car Thief, a Police K9 and Mercy

At the 2025 Convention, I mentioned I would write and tell about an incident I had that involved mercy and kindness. I thought about sharing this story then as now because one thing we have noticed in the state board is although our motto is “Unity and Charity,” we are not always unified nor charitable with kindness and forgiveness. Let us mull over this during Lent 2026 and see if we can all increase our kindness and forgiveness.

I was a Police Reserve Officer for the Concord Police Department. From the time I had been a Police Explorer until the mid to late 1980s, there was a man who whenever you saw this man in a car, the car would be a stolen car. He was a car thief through and through. On a particular day he had been stopped in a stolen car and would not get out. A police K9 was sent in through the open window to get him out. He came out – with a lot of dog bite puncture wounds.

One of the duties of a Reserve Officer was to transport prisoners from the jail to the county jail until their arraignment in court. So, I was assigned to take this man to the county jail but first, I would have to take him to the county hospital to have the dog bites treated. The doctor explained what had to be done to clean out the wounds and this man asked me, “Will you hold my hand, this is gonna hurt a lot!” I said “okay” and held his hands. He said, “Don’t you tell anyone!” and I said, “Don’t **you** tell anyone!” We both had to protect our reputation after all.

A few years later this man was killed in jail by another inmate. He was trying to help protect a sheriff’s deputy who had been jumped. I thought about “our incident” and wondered at the mercy and kindness involved in that moment. Some might say he did not deserve mercy or compassion. Some might say God was present in that moment to touch my heart to treat this man as one of God’s children. I just know that mercy is never wasted and as Past State Chaplain, Father Erick Villa quotes his grandmother, “You can never go wrong with kindness.”

I recently heard a phrase “Stand in Unity-no sunlight between.” This is where we should be as an organization – shoulder to shoulder standing in Unity, not allowing the outside world to pull us apart. Please, during this Lent, consider reflecting on your mercy and kindness. We do not always have to agree with each other, but we can agree to disagree. We have By-Laws, Standing Rules, and Procedures and Protocols to help us all play on a level playing field. We have phones, emails and texts to close the communication gap. Let us be charitable with kindness, let us be closer to each other and let us be closer to God.



As always, I need you all as my sisters in Christ, and if you do not cooperate...I still know a few K9s

Lorine Bakowsky

Theme: “Commit your Work to the Lord, and Your Plans Will Be Established. Proverbs 16:3

FIRST VICE STATE REGENT ~ SHERI KANAGAWA



A few months back I had the privilege and opportunity to join Court Little Flower and their JCDA on a field trip to visit The Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart. During our visit we had the chance to listen to the Sisters on how and why they chose to be committed to the Lord. Sister Faustina OCD talked about her desire and decision to be a Sister; it was something she felt deep in her heart. When she talked to her parents about it, her father was not very happy as he wanted his daughter to have a husband to keep her safe from harm, care and to love her. Her comment to her father was, "But Dad, the man I am giving my love will be my forever God, He was always taking care of me and love me. He will not ever turn away from me. After that, her mother and father were very excited for her, as she gave herself to Jesus Christ and giving back to humanity.

At the Missionary, we also spent time in silent prayer and praying for the rosary together in their beautiful humble chapel. Afterwards we spent time visiting while having a light lunch. I was sitting with two seasoned sisters as they shared their daily lives in their home. They also shared with us when they were young working in the schools or hospitals but now they are retired and love having visitors to share their love and commitment to God.

After lunch, the JCDA and a few moms entertained the Sisters with a country style line dance. They had cowboy hats and scarves to make the dance livelier. Two of the energetic Sisters joined in the fun of learning the dance too. It was so entertaining for the girls, Sister and all who attended. It was a day filled with women praying, learning and searching their own souls about giving their lives to Christ and helping others.

These ladies prayed and searched their own souls to follow God and work in the missionaries. In the next few months, it is your turn to search for your heart and soul. Pray as your local CDA court will be asking members to step up and be an officer in your court. I am not going to say it is an easy job being an officer, But I will say it can be a very rewarding being an officer as you are serving our God and helping so many people in our churches, community, country and Nation. Step out of your comfort zone and pray. Pray hard to step up and help your court in a leadership role and be an officer. Just pray to say YES.

Thank you to our 2024–2026 court officers for your service over the past two years. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed by your members and others in the community. May your Easter be filled with God's love and beautiful blessings.

In Unity and Charity,

Sheri Kanagawa

HOPE

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Psalms 42:11

From Holy Bible, New International Version The Bible Promise Book
Copyright 1990 by Barbour and Company, Inc.

SECOND VICE STATE REGENT ~ YVONNE CONNOLLY



I was at a loss as what to write about, so I started looking through some prayers and while this is not a prayer, I have read it often to remind myself to "Let go and let God."

To "let go" does not mean to stop caring: it means I cannot do it for someone else. To let go is not to cut myself off; it is the realization that I cannot control another. To me this means I should step back and give someone else the opportunity to succeed.

To "let go" is not to enable but to allow learning from natural circumstances. To let go is to admit powerlessness which means the outcome is not in my hands. Remember who is in control and it is not YOU.

To "let go" is not to try to change or blame another; it is to make the most of myself. Always be the best you can be, the Lord is not asking for perfection.

To "let go" is not to care for but to care about. To "let go" is not to fix but to be supportive. To "let go" is not to be in the middle arranging all the outcomes but to allow others to affect their destinies. We care about our CDA sisters, and the wonderful organization we belong to. The main thing is to remember to always be supportive.

To "let go" is not to be protective; it is to permit another to face reality. To "let go" is not to deny but to accept. Denying and not facing reality could be a time to be humble and to pray.

To "let go" is not to nag, scold or argue but instead to search out my own shortcomings and correct them. Take a step back, none of us are perfect. Think before you speak, words can hurt, silence can be golden. Use your words wisely.

To "let go" is not to adjust everything to my desires but to take each day as it comes and cherish it. Remember every day is a blessing.

To "let go" is not to regret the past but to grow and live for the future. To "let go" is to fear less and love more! Let us all live to love more, to cherish each other for the blessings that we are. To welcome new sisters into our courts and to embrace them, their talents the gifts that they bring.

Blessing to all my CDA sisters, belonging to this organization is truly a gift that I treasure. You are the most amazing ladies, you share freely with your courts, your parishes and your communities. In Unity and Charity always

Yvonne Connolly

The article is from Self-Help group Literature, Author is unknown.

STATE SECRETARY ~ YVETTE MANARD

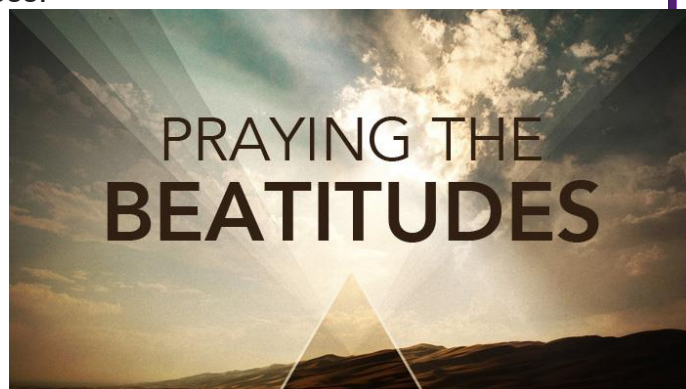


Are You Living the Beatitudes?

The Beatitudes are well-known scripture from the Sermon on the Mount (*Matthew 5:3-10*). Jesus speaks about the eight “blessing” that describes the teachings of followers of Jesus. The Beatitudes are our roadmap to living a Christian and blessed life.

The word “beatitude” originates from the Latin *beatus*, meaning “blessed” or “happy,” and *beatitudo*, which translates to “blessedness” or “state of happiness.”

During a recent homily by my Church’s Deacon, he reminded us of what the Beatitudes can do to help us live a blessed life. He asked the children and adults to commit to practicing at least one of the Beatitudes. Start with one that resonates deeply with you and add the others in your life. In these troubled times, when so many seemed to have lost their way, let us do what the Beatitudes teach us to “do” to follow God’s will and embrace His grace.



The Beatitudes in the book of Matthew are not a random listing of principles. Each of these Beatitudes flows from the one that went before. As you reflect on the Beatitudes, ask yourself, “Are these the things I am pursuing?”

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
 Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth.
 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.
 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.”

The Beatitudes are the roadmap for spiritual growth, teaching us to live with humility, seek holiness, and show mercy and peace.

Yvette Manard

STATE TREASURER ~ MICHELLE ECK



Happy Lent, Happy Easter and Happy Spring!!! I love this time of year because everything seems to be renewing. New plants and flowers are blooming, baby spring animals are being born, and faith is being born in people. OCIA candidates are becoming part of the church, youths are being confirmed and young kids are making their First Communion. Where am I leading you too? I am leading you to the fact you have candidates ready to put their faith to work. Talk to your pastor about having

ministry fair or have an introductory event and invite the newly confirmed youth and adults and the parents of the first communion students. Help them test out their newly found faith. Show them the sisterhood of the Catholic Daughters, the brotherhood of the Knights of Columbus and the youth to become members of the youth ministry or become an alter server, There are many ministries that can help reinforce their faith.

By the way did you know:

1. Americans spend \$1.9 million on Easter candy. The second biggest candy holiday.
2. 76% of Americans think the ears of a chocolate bunny should be eaten first.
3. The first story of a rabbit (later named the "Easter Bunny") hiding eggs in a garden was published in 1680.
4. "The White House Easter Egg Roll" event has been celebrated by the President of the United States and their families since 1878.^
5. Painting Eggs comes from Ukraine.
6. The egg dance is an Easter tradition in Germany. People put eggs on the floor and dance around them, trying not to break any. In Germany, egg dance is the Easter tradition.
7. In Greece, Easter Eggs are red to represent Christ's blood.
8. Did you know that there is a symbolism associated with the decoration of eggs in hard shells? Actually, the shell in Christian and Orthodox cultures represents the sealed tomb that held Christ's body. When cracked open it mimics his resurrection.
9. In the sixteenth century Northern England and Scotland, children would go from door to door reciting rhymes and in return received eggs, cheese, bacon and other items for their families' Easter meals. This practice was called "pace egging," where eggs were given as Easter offerings. This practice is similar to Halloween trick-or-treating.

Have a very joyous Easter and a very nice Spring.

Michelle Eck



State Regent Update

Happy WinsSpring,

I would like to say Happy Spring, but in California we are having both! I know Punxsutawney Phil says otherwise but I had to wear short sleeves last week and turn on the car A/C so....

The California State Board has been very busy these past few months and I am pleased to tell you our hard work and the work of our team members has paid off. Through our efforts, California Catholic Daughters has:

- Contracted an Ad on EWTN's Catholic News Agency web page.
- Hosted an Information/Membership booth at the RECongress at the Anaheim Convention Center.
- Instituted one court in the Fresno Diocese and have another that will be instituted in July. Watch for details.
- Planned and coordinated a one day long Spiritual Retreat and Enrichment Workshops in Northern, Central and Southern California.

As always, we do this for the benefit of our order so that our mission of Unity and Charity is successful.

The state board has been attending many court events through- out the state and we have enjoyed every minute of meeting new ladies, enjoying the fellowship of BINGO, Bunco, and Advent Teas. The highlight for me was celebrating Court San Luis Obispo's 95th anniversary in October, first with Mass at Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa and then with a delicious Tea Luncheon. The state board was happy to move our board meeting to San Luis Obispo so we could all attend this momentous occasion.

Yours in Unity,

Lorine Bakowsky, CA State Regent

CONGRATULATIONS: HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITY DRAWING WINNERS

1st Place - \$500 – Court Our Lady of the Holy Spirit #2218

2nd Place - \$250 – Court Regina Coeli #1521

3rd Place - \$100 = Francis Mares, Court Compton #942

CONGRATULATIONS: GRAND OLE LADY WINNER: Rosie Stockwell

CONGRATULATIONS: COURT MEMBERSHIP WINNERS:

October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

AZ002677 St. Clarie of Assisi - Increase 14

TX001907 John Fitzgerald Kennedy - Increase 13

FL002582 Mother Teresa – Increase 12

MONTHLY ROSARY	COURT COMPTON #942 MONTHLY ROSARY When: 3 rd Wednesday of Month Where: Zoom Time: 7:00 p.m. Zoom: Meeting Id: 837 9698 8058 Passcode: 825419
TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS	L.A. ARCHDIOCESE COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (ACCW) ROSARY When: Tuesdays & Thursdays How: Call-in: 1-425-436-6200 410510# (this is a toll-free call) Time: 8:00 P.M.
MARCH 1, 2026	INSTITUTION OF NEW CA CDA COURT When: Sunday, March 1, 2026 Where: The Shrine of St. Therese 855 E. Floradora Ave., Fresno, CA 93728 Time: 10:00 a.m.
MARCH 22, 2026	ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI #1652 SPRING LUNCHEON & OPPORTUNITY DRAWING Where: McHugh Hall 1000 N. Harris St., Hanford, CA Time: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM Cost: No tickets will be sold at the door Contact: Terri = 559-816-8660 by March 10, 2026
MARCH 28, 2026	ST. ANNE #2517 HOLY ROSARY & MEDJUGORJE PEACE CHAPLET When: Saturday, March 28, 2026 Where: St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church Ministry Center 157 West Nicolet Street, Banning, CA 92220 Time: 9:00 am RSVP: Colleen Battistone at 562-208-5053 cmbatt@gmail.com Opening prayer & reflection: Fr. Maurice Quindoy
APRIL 11, 2026	NORTH CA SPIRITUAL RETREAT & WORKSHOPS Where: Christ the Light Cathedral – Event Center 2121 Harison Street, Oakland, CA Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm See page 12 for all the details
APRIL 18, 2026	REST IN JESUS A Women's Retreat of Stillness, Trust and Encounter Hosted by: Daughters of St. Joseph the Worker #2733 When: April 18, 2026 Where: St. Joseph the Worker 10816 Mountain View Ave., Loma Linda, CA Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; Registration from 8:00 am – 8:30 am Continental breakfast/fellowship: 8:30 am – 9:00 am Registration fee: \$40.00 – Zelle or check Includes breakfast, lunch, retreat materials, opportunity to win prizes

APRIL 19, 2026	CENTRAL CA SPIRITUAL RETREAT & WORKSHOPS Where: St. Rita (Mass at the new church) 1051 South Morrison Street, Tulare, CA Workshop: 954 South "O" Street, Tulare, CA Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm See page 12 for all the details
APRIL 25, 2026	SOUTH CA SPIRITUAL RETREAT & WORKSHOPS Where: Santiago Retreat Center 27912 Baker Canyon Rd., Silverado, CA Time: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm See Page 12 for all the details
APRIL 25, 2026	COURT LITTLE FLOWER # 100TH ANNIVERSARY When: April 25, 2026 Where: St. Mary's Church Time: Mass at 4:00 p.m. Dinner: To follow after Mass at the Hyde 3200 West Mineral King, Visalia, CA 93291 Contact: Leann Romannazi at 559-285-1751 Limited tickets available – RSVOP by April 1, 2026
JUNE 9-12, 2026	JCDA BIENNIAL #LOVEYOURSELFIE RETREAT When: June 9 – 12, 2026 Where: Camp Karol of Saint Charles Retreat Center Lake Charles, LA Website: www.campkarol.org More information to come
JULY 22-26, 2026	2026 NATIONAL CONVENTION Convention Hotel: Hyatt Regency Coralville – SOLD OUT Overflow hotel #1 Staybridge Suites Overflow hotel #2 Drury Inn & Suites Overflow hotel #3 Homewood Suites by Hilton Hotel information on Page 24

Hello friends,

I am passing on this Prayer Service in Honor of Catholic Daughters that can be found in the Tools of the Trade under Prayer Services on pages 35 to 37. It is a very timely prayer service as it confirms and reminds us of the tools, reference material and Our Lady's support as we search for new Local Court officers. Perhaps your court can do this prayer service at your March Meeting before you nominate and vote in your Nominating Committee members.

End with a lovely closing prayer about these things Our Lady has placed before us to help us say "yes" to leadership and "yes" to supporting our members be the mind, voice, hands and feet of Jesus.

Prayer Service In Honor of Catholic Daughters

www.catholicdaughters.org

Tools of the Trade: Go to the bottom of page – Prayer Service Section

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[**CDA PRAYER TO CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS.pdf**](#)

RISE & RETREAT WORKSHOPS

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

When: Saturday, April 11, 2026

Where: Christ the Light Cathedral - Event Center

2121 Harrison Street

Oakland, CA 94612

Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Fee: \$25.00 per person – includes materials

Bring your own lunch or purchase bag lunch for \$10.00

Contact: Lorine Bakowsky

1121 Bodmin Avenue

San Leandro, CA 94579

Questions: Call Lorine at 510-461-7317

Due date: **March 15, 2026**

Download registration forms: <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/CDA-State-Retreat-and-Workshops-Northern.pdf>

Download workshop selection form: <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/cdastateretreatandworkshopsnorthernworkshopdes-1.pdf>

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

When: Sunday, April 19, 2026

Where: St. Rita (Mass at new church)

1051 South Morrison Street

Tulare, CA

Workshop: 954 South "O" Street

Tulare, CA

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Fee: \$25.00 per person – includes materials

Bring your own lunch or purchase lunch from St. Rita for \$15.00

Contact: Sheri Kanagawa

2331 W. Andrew Lane

Hanford, CA 93230

Questions: Call Sheri at 559-250-7016

Due date: **March 30, 2026**

Download registration forms: https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Southern-Workshops-April-25th_Registration.pdf

Download workshop selection form: <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/cacdacentralretreatworkshopofferings-1.pdf>

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

When: Saturday, April 25, 2026

Where: SANTIAGO Retreat Center

27912 Baker Canyon Rd.

Silverado, CA 92676

Time: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Fee: \$25.00 per person – includes materials

Fee includes Breakfast and Lunch

Contact: Yvette Manard

12320 Hedda Dr.

Cerritos, CA 90703-8434

Questions: Call Yvette at 562-400-8079

Due date: **March 30, 2026**

Download registration forms:

[Southern-Workshops-April-25th Registration.pdf](#)

Download workshop selection form: https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Southern-Workshops-April-25th_Revised.pdf

Speakers: Cheri' Ballinger, firm producer, speaker and philanthropist

Dr. Lois Lee, Founder and President of the Children of the Night organization

The CA State Board and Membership Chair Kathi Morris are proud to announce a new court has been installed in Fresno! Please welcome the court:

The Shrine of St. Therese #2832
located at The Shrine of St. Therese Catholic Church.

Welcome cards and well wishes may be sent to:
Regent Julia Bracamonte
2812 W. Wood Ave.
Riverdale CA 93656

We are pleased to have installed 27 new CDA members and Deacon Bryan Martin

Many thanks to Court Our Lady of Good Success, Clovis, for being this new court's sponsor and sister court and to all the CDA District Deputies, members and Immediate Past State Regent Maria Santos-Silva, for attending and supporting these new members.

May we all complete our mission of serving God's people in Unity and Charity





2025-2027 CIRCLE OF LOVE STATE CHAIRPERSONS

A circle is a curved line with every point equal distance from the point of the center and bound together by the common interest. The seven-point program of the CIRCLE OF LOVE is bound together by the common interest - LOVE.

FAMILY ~ LAURA McQUOID

Lauramcquoid.cda2745@gmail.com

Befriending the Elderly



As a greeter at my church, I have the privilege of meeting the same elderly friends' week after week. Our encounters are brief, often just a few moments at the church entrance is enough time to greet each other warmly and share snippets from our weeks. Over time, these one-on-one exchanges have blossomed into lasting friendships built on consistency, kindness, and genuine interest in each other's lives

Though our time together is short, each exchange is meaningful. The simple act of saying hello, asking about their week, and sharing a smile becomes a cherished ritual. These moments remind me that friendship can thrive in even the briefest of interactions, and that connection is built not by quantity, but by sincerity.

Week after week, I hear stories sometimes joyful, sometimes tinged with challenge from my elderly friends. Their reflections on family, faith, and life teach me about resilience and gratitude. In just a few sentences, they offer wisdom shaped by years, and I find myself looking forward to these insights each Sunday.

The regularity of our meetings creates a sense of trust and comfort. Knowing that I will see the same faces and hear familiar voices give me a sense of belonging. Our weekly greetings turn strangers into friends, making the church feel more like a home.

Even when words are few, the presence of my elderly friends is encouraging. Their smiles and nods become a silent support, reminding me that I am part of a larger family community. I strive to offer the same encouragement in return, hoping that my consistent welcome adds a touch of warmth to their day.

The joy found in these moments is real and sustaining. A quick laugh, a shared celebration, or an update about a grandchild brings light to both our days. It is in these fleeting interactions that I am reminded of the power of kindness and the importance of making everyone feel seen and valued.

In befriending the elderly population through my role as a greeter, I have found that the smallest gestures can carry the greatest meaning. These weekly moments of connection encourage me to appreciate the present and to carry forward the spirit of compassion and community for the next generation.

Laura McQuoid



Welcome to Saint Michael

LEADERSHIP ~ ISMAELA MUNIZ-HEIDEN**ismaela.muniz@gmail.com**

Blessings CDA Sisters in Christ,

As we enter this season of Lent, we are reminded this is the time for sacrifice, renewal, and SERVICE.

We have often heard the saying that at different times in our lives, especially when it comes to serving in a ministry, we wear many hats. Along those lines, I have often stated that as a member of CDA we are called to wear many name badges. What do I mean? Well, when we first become a CDA Member we receive our Member Badge and we wear it proudly. When you are blessed to be elected as a local Court Officer, you will add a slate/tile to your Member Badge reflecting the office you have volunteered for and will fulfill. Then as you continue to learn more about CDA and become more involved, you may be blessed and asked to serve as a District Deputy (DD) and accept that responsibility. As you continue your Leadership journey you may be asked to either serve as a CA State Chairman and/or assist the CA State Board as needed. Once you have been in those roles and have contemplated continuing your commitment of service to CDA, you may run for a CA State Board Office and with God's grace, serve in every capacity as the years go by serving on the CA State Board. The goal would be to run as an officer at the National Level. As you can see there are many 'badges' we may wear during our CDA service. I invite and encourage every one of you to consider fulfilling a Leadership role beyond being a CDA Member.

I have been very blessed to not only wear my Member Badge proudly, but my Member Badge with the Regent slate on it, plus the DD Badge when I attend the Court(s) I have been assigned to as DD, as well as the CA State Leadership Chairman badge I wear when representing the CA State Board.

My desire and prayer are for you to PRAY . . . really PRAY . . . about serving in a Leadership role. It has been very rewarding and educational for me, and I highly recommend that you take the bull by the horns, think outside the box, and challenge yourself to wear additional badges as you commit to other Leadership roles outside of those you already serve. There are so many CDA resources available that you will not be alone. We are a sisterhood and as such we are here for each other. Please do not hesitate to reach out because that gives others the opportunity to assist and learn.

As I have mentioned in my past article, I have never attended a National Convention in Iowa, and I am beside myself that I plan to attend and humbly wear the additional badge of National Convention Attendee! I also look forward to the announcement of the Circle of Love Winners and meeting as many of you that will be in attendance.

Blessings to you and all of yours, your 2025-2027 CA State Leadership Chairman!

Ismaela Muniz-Heiden

LEGISLATION ~ MAUREEN LAUBACHER**maurlaub22@aol.com**

California Catholic Conference

<http://www.cacatholic.org>

It is with great sadness that I report the death of my brother, Tom Lynch. He would have been 79 on February 27. He and his wife lived with me for the past 2 years plus. His death was unexpected. He just did not wake up from a nap. His wife will remain living with us. I ask for prayers for Tom and prayers of condolence for

Cynthis his wife.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Back to business at hand, we are fast approaching midterm elections. Just a few points that you need to know. If you are not registered to vote, you may go to <https://sos.ca.gov/elections> to register online or print a mail-in form. Information is available concerning the primary elections in California.

Primary Election - June 2, 2026

- The last day to register to vote for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election is May 18, 2026.
- All California active registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election.
 - Your county elections office will begin mailing ballots by May 4, 2026.
 - Ballot drop-off locations open on May 5, 2026.
 - Vote-by-mail ballots can be returned by mail, at a drop-off location, or your county elections office.
 - Vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter's Choice Act counties beginning on May 23, 2026.
 - Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by June 9, 2026.

Another useful website is the League of Women Voters <https://www.lwv.org/>. This is the California website <https://www.lwv.org/local-leagues/lwv-california>

On a final note, remember, if you work for a political candidate, a proposition on the ballot or your political party, you must represent yourself in your opinions and not the Catholic Daughters. Do not use phrases such as "The Catholic Daughters support ...", or "As a Catholic Daughter I support .." or some similar phrase of support. Your opinion must be represented as your opinion only.

Personally, I wish you safe travels this Easter season. Celebrate the Resurrection of Christ with family and friends.

May the peace of Christ be with you always,

Maureen Laubacher

SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT ~ CAPRIA WOODSON-TABOR**faithfulgalme@aol.com****Send forth your spirit and RENEW!**

March 30, 2026, the first day of spring. SPRING! A time of renewal. First flower buds. First birds return to the yard. A week later is Palm Sunday, the biggest celebration of the liturgical year. We are getting ready for The King to enter the city. Some parishes will host elaborate Via Cruces/Stations of the Cross. The Sunday next will be Easter. Bright Pastels will color the pews. Many will have on new outfits. For some families, this gathering will be second only to the Month of Christmas! What Joy!

For some, the great joy most of us are feeling will be bittersweet. Their family's springtime "firsts" will include the first Palm Sunday and Easter without a loved one. The first without the grandmother who brought Easter baskets for all of the grandkids, no matter how old they were. The first without the grandfather who hid eggs throughout the backyard – after he changed out of his dapper Easter suit. There will be adult children taking over their parents' roles of preparing the Easter lamb or roast. Young adults realize that this year will be their first without a care package in their mailbox. With the new flower buds there will be a fresh wave of tears.

Whether their mourning has just begun or is nearing a year, this first will be new. New as the first day of spring. As you encounter your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors experiencing this set of "firsts" be patient. Patiently wait for them to emerge from their dark soil of grief. Offer a kind word but make it true and meaningful. Did their loved one bake the best holiday treat? Share a joyful moment. Offer a listening ear, maybe they need to tell you about the joy their loved one brought. Your kindness can be a fount of living water (Jn 4:14). How many times have you felt God's grace and presence in the small kindness someone offered you?

Spring and Easter are times of renewal. We prepare with the solemnness of Ash Wednesday. We are told "Repent and believe in the Gospel," as the clergy place ashes on our forehead. We hope to emerge at the end of those 40 days feeling stronger spiritually. Perhaps, you gave up a favorite snack. Are you giving up coffee? I hope everyone around you is ok! Maybe it is something you are adding to your life. Are you spending time with a local charity? May the smile on your face bring great joy!

This April marks fifty years since my first sad Easter. An early morning call from the nursing home to tell my mother that her father, my Grandpa, had died. I cried so much that by the time my mother got me settled down, everyone else on the floor of our apartment building was awake. Some went to mass. My pink suit would not be worn that day. When the other kids knocked on our door to ask if I was coming outside, my mother said I was "too upset to go out." In reality, my six-year-old self had bounced back enough to want to play with my friends. As traumatic as that seemed, at the time, that would not be my only Holy Week of Sadness. In all, my grandfather, my mother, and my grandaunt all died or were buried between Palm Saturday and Easter Sunday.

While you might expect spring to be the saddest time of year for me, it is not. My favorite liturgical time of the year is EASTER! Why? Because Jesus Christ was celebrated, betrayed, tried, crucified, laid in a tomb, and ROSE on the third day! This is what we believe and thus I have FAITH! (Lk 19:28 – 24:53)

Faith allows us to believe that the priest can change bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. Faith allows us to believe in the power of prayer. It is our faith that helps us accept when

our prayers are not answered as we would have liked. But during the “Year of Firsts” it can be hard to maintain your faith. That is where you come in, Sister! You can be there to lift up loudly or sit quietly. May you have enough faith to be the spiritual crutch someone needs to walk through their journey.

Spring is a time of renewal. I pray the greatest thing you find renewed is your faith. May your faith and the faith of those around you be renewed as you emerge into the newness of SPRING!

In Unity and Charity,

Capria Woodson-Tabor

* All bible quotations are from “Holy Bible, RSV – Catholic Edition 2004”
Ps 104:30, Mt 25:40, Mk 5:25-34, Jn 12:13

MEMBERSHIP CENTRAL

KATHI MORRIS

kathi.morris51@comcast.net



What is your Nard?

Lent invites us into the holy work of examination—not only of our sins, but of our love. It asks us to look closely at what we are willing to give, what we hold back, and what it truly means to follow Christ with our whole hearts.

In the Gospel, we meet Mary of Bethany, a woman who understands this invitation deeply. She approaches Jesus quietly, carrying an alabaster jar of pure nard—rare, costly, and precious. Without hesitation, she breaks it open and pours it out for Him. Scripture tells us that the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. This is not a story about extravagance. It is a story about surrender.

Mary’s nard represented something saved, something valuable, something that could not be replaced. In offering it freely, she shows us that true worship is never cautious. It is wholehearted. It is trusting. It is willing to be misunderstood.

Lent asks us the same question: What is my nard?

For many of us in Catholic Daughters of the Americas—our nard is poured out quietly. It may be time given when we are already tired, compassion offered when no one is watching, leadership accepted with humility, or service rendered without applause. Cards sent. Prayers whispered. Hands held in silence. Needs met before they are ever spoken.

Like Mary, we may never stand at the center of the room. Yet when our service is offered in love, the fragrance fills the house.

During Lent, the world may tell us that our efforts are too small, too hidden, or too costly. But Jesus reminds us that love given to God is never wasted.

As we journey toward Easter, we remember that Mary's act prepared Christ for burial. What looked like loss was actually preparation for resurrection. In the same way, our Lenten sacrifices—when united with Christ—become seeds of new life.

Lent teaches us to pour ourselves out. Easter reminds us that nothing poured out in love is ever lost.

Loving God, during this holy season of Lent, teach us to offer our lives generously and without fear. Give us hearts like Mary of Bethany—willing to pour out what is precious in love and trust. Help us to serve quietly, faithfully, and courageously, even when our sacrifices go unseen. Unite our prayers, fasting, and acts of charity with the sacrifice of Your Son, and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter. May the fragrance of our service bring hope, healing, and grace to all we encounter. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kathi Morris

DD SUPERVISOR CENTRAL

LILIAN DRAXLER
lildraxler@yahoo.com



A Time of Challenge for the Church in the United States¹

Over the past 30 years, the Catholic Church in the United States has experienced a profound decline in participation. More than 50 million Catholics have stopped practicing the faith, and over half of all American adults raised Catholic have now left the Church. Only 8 percent say they could imagine returning.

These shifts have had serious consequences. For the past 35 years, a Catholic parish has closed every three days, and for the past 25 years, a Catholic school has closed every four days. Today, 3,500 U.S. parishes no longer have a resident priest.

The priesthood itself has changed dramatically. In 1973, there were 58,000 priests in the U.S., with an average age of 35. Only 10 percent were over 65. Today, there are 37,000 priests, the average age is 64, and 40 percent are over 65. Over the past 50 years, the Church has lost one active priest per day due to retirement, death, or departure from ministry.

These realities point to more than a decline in numbers—they reflect a deep disconnection between many Catholics and the Church that formed them. As faithful women committed to prayer, service, and leadership, Catholic Daughters are uniquely positioned to respond with hope, witness, and renewed commitment to the life of the Church.

This moment calls for honesty, faith, and trust that the Holy Spirit continues to work, even in times of great challenge.

In Unity,
Lil Draxler

¹ Excerpt from “33 Days to Eucharistic Glory”

PARLIAMENTARIAN ~ LAURA VACCA

Lauaspencer.vacc@gmail.com



Dear CDA Sisters united in Parliamentary Procedure,

If your Court does not have the current version of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) 3rd Edition, please order yours soon. It is the proper tool to have and to reference at your meetings. As 2026 takes shape and the world strives to find balance, Lent is a perfect time to talk about how we can counterbalance our inner child with Lenten reflection and in an odd twist, how Parliamentary Procedures provides direction, too.

Stability! Isn't that what we all seek? Our lives find stability when we take steps to listen and observe while treating decisions with spiritual discernment. Lent invites us to slow down and act deliberately rather than impulsively. Parliamentary procedure requires waiting your turn, speaking with purpose, and honoring process. It gives us opportunities to *fast* from chaos, ego, or individual control. This intentional slowing invites us not only to listen, but also to recognize when "reconsideration" is necessary.

Lent values silence and attention while Procedure values reflection and a call back to "order." Parliamentary procedure allows reflection for motions to be corrected, withdrawn, amended, or reconsidered. In our families and parish, what does it mean to "amend" our position, how can grace be built into how we conduct meetings? How does admitting error strengthen—not weaken—the CDA community? Try to commit to *one Lenten practice* of listening fully, speaking briefly, and honoring dissent.

Final thoughts! Soon, your courts will be forming a Nominations Committee. The act of taking nominations creates a space where a calling matters more than ambition. Are you discerning the call? Maybe it has not come to you yet? Let us reframe: *nominating* someone else is an act of humility and recognition. *Accepting a nomination* can be an act of faith rather than self-assertion. The nominating committee selects the candidates that it feels are most competent; The floor must always be opened for additional nominations. Check both your "Tools of the Trade" Bylaws for the duties of the Nominating Committee and Robert's Rules on how to proceed correctly.

Yours in faith,

Laura Vacca

ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH				
COURT #	COURT NAME	CITY	ANNIV DATE	2026
1629	Our Lady of the Desert	Lancaster	3/22/1953	74

APRIL				
COURT #	COURT NAME	CITY	ANNIV DATE	2026
1003	Little Flower	Visalia	4/25/1926	100
1378	St. Catherine	Torrance	4/29/1945	81
1505	Ramon Mestres	Monterey	4/3/21949	77
1507	San Ysidro	Tujunga	4/24/1949	77
2714	Immaculate Heart of Mary	Brentwood	4/30/2016	10
2733	Daughters of St Joseph the Worker	San Bernardino	4/23/2017	9

MAY				
COURT #	COURT NAME	CITY	ANNIV DATE	2026
172	Sacramento	Sacramento	5/5/1912	114
640	Marysville	Yuba City	5/22/1921	105
1344	Our Lady of Victory	Redondo Beach	5/17/1942	84
1406	St. Raphael	San Rafael	5/5/1946	80
1407	Francesca Cabrini	Stockton	5/26/1946	80
1803	Holy Spirit	Yucaipa	5/17/1959	67
2057	St. Raymond	Dublin	5/3/1972	54
2218	Our Lady of the Holy Spirit	San Diego	5/10/1980	46
2312	Our Lady of Shasta	Redding	5/20/1989	37
2392	Our Lady of Wisdom	Rancho Cordova	5/13/1994	32
2446	Holy Innocents	Hesperia	5/25/1997	30

2026 NATIONAL CONVENTION JULY 22 – 26, 2026

Main hotel: Hyatt Regency Coralville Hotel and Conference Center - **SOLD OUT**

300 E. 9th Street, Coralville

Registration and Meals information: Coming out in Call to Convention 2

Overflow hotel #1: Staybridge Suites

801 E 2nd Ave, Coralville, Iowa, 52241

Room rate: \$148 per night

Distance from Hyatt Regency is: 0.3 miles

All the rooms include a daily hot breakfast.

Weekdays from 6:30 a, - 9:30 am

Weekends from 7:00 am – 9:30 am

Link: [Catholic Daughters Of America](#)

Reserve by Phone: 319-259-1500

Mention Group Code: No Code; let them know they would like to add their name to the Catholic Daughters of America group block.

Note - To view the double queen rooms on reservation link, click on the wheelchair icon the left of the bed icon

Overflow hotel #2 Drury Inn & Suites

815 1st Avenue, Coralville, Iowa 52241

Room rate: \$150 per night

Distance from Hyatt Regency is: 0.3 miles

Link: <https://www.druryhotels.com/bookandstay/newreservation/?groupno=10079355>

Reserve by Phone: 800-325-0720 **Mention Group Code:** 10079355.

Overflow hotel #3: Homewood Suites by Hilton

921 E. 2nd Avenue, Coralville, Iowa, 52241

Room rate: \$139 per night

Link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=IOWCVHW&arrivalDate=2026-07-19&departureDate=2026-07-27&groupCode=CHWCDC&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink>

(Click link > click Edit Stay to adjust dates > click Update to see available rooms)

Reserve by Phone: (319) 338-3410 **Mention Group Code:** CDC

When you are making your flights, remember to fly into: Cedar Rapids Regional Airport (CID)

COURT ACTIVITIES

COURT OUR LADY OF PEACE #1306 TRAVELING ROSARY

Court Our Lady of Peace #1306 hosted the Traveling Rosary on Saturday, January 17th at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, San Bernardino CA, with a Tea Party theme. We asked everyone to wear hats to our Rosary to help us celebrate our upcoming 87th anniversary. We had over 50 participants and representation from various sister courts. Our rosary prayer was beautiful, heartfelt, and emotional as we mediated on the mysteries and reflections. After our prayer, we gathered at our parish hall for light refreshments and fellowship, and a member from each court shared their upcoming events. It was a beautiful morning, and everyone enjoyed the Tea Party theme. We look forward to many more years of community service and fellowship with our sister courts.



Catholic Daughters from Court 1306 Our Lady of Peace, San Bernardino and Sister Courts

COURT OUR LADY OF La SALETTE #2499

CDA Court Our Lady of La Salette #2499 sewed and filled over 50 "ditty bags" some of which were donated to A Better Way, a local women's domestic violence shelter. The ditty bags are sewn from washcloths by our court members and filled with travel sized toiletries: soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, and lotion.

The photos are of our chairperson, Gloria Greear, with the director and workers at A Better Way.



CA COURT GUARDIAN ANGEL #1520

76 year-old Court Guardian Angel #1520, of Montebello, California, does an annual tribute for their deceased members. This year, as 127 names were read, a yellow flower for each was placed in a vase by current members.

Pictured in the front row (left to right) are Financial Secretary Jacquelyn Day-Hovakimian, Chaplain Fr. Dionisio Cachero OAR, Worthy Regent Irene Gomez, Vice Regent Christina Winans, Treasurer Irma Day and Recording Secretary Liz Sanchez.



COURT REGINA COELI #1521 WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Court Regina Coeli (from Porterville) welcomed 2 new members at our February meeting. Pictured left to right: Treasurer Carolyn Mattazaro, new members Gennifer Garay and Brenda Dhanens, Financial Secretary Ida Herrera, and Regent Maureen Santos.



COURT COMPTON #942 101ST ANNIVERSARY & MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Court Compton celebrated their 101st Anniversary with Mass followed by cupcake giveaway and membership drive. More than 100 parishioners at the 9 am Our Lady of Victory mass, were treated to tasty cupcakes! Thank you to the Mares sisters, Francis, Amparo and Alicia, for staffing and for purchasing a Last Supper painting as a raffle item. Members spoke with women and girls and passed out materials on the CDA and JCDA. We got one new member that day!



JCDA ~ A NEWLY INSTALLED JCDA COURT REGINAE FILIAE #1521



Court Regina Coeli #1521 was blessed this year by having young girls who wanted to be a part of JCDA. A beautiful night celebrating Our newly installed JCDA officers and installation of the JCDA Court Reginae Filiae Porterville California

COURT OUR LADY OF LaSALETTE #2499 VALENTINES' TEA

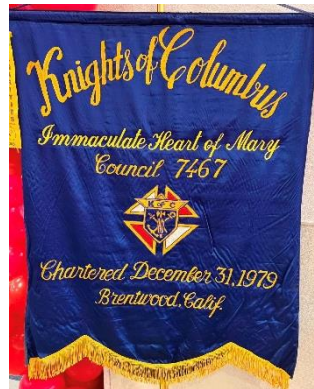
CDA Court Our Lady of La Salette #2499 held a Valentines' tea for the ladies of Our Lady of the Desert parish in Apple Valley, CA. Over 60 Catholic women enjoyed tea, food, and fellowship. The focus of the tea was The Circle of Love. Lorena Meza, Regent of Court #2499, gave a talk on Jesus' heart speaking to our hearts.



COURT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY #2714 CRAB FEAST

Ct. Immaculate Heart of Mary #2714 with the assistance of the KOC Council #7467 hosted their Crab Feed. Thankful to God for a very successful Crab Feed fundraiser tonight !
Thankful for the people who served and helped with passion and love.

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 1 Cor 13:3



COURT ST. JOSEPH #1410 SUCCULENT WORKSHOP

The ladies of Court Joseph #1410 came together for a succulent workshop fundraiser to benefit our Scholarship Fund. A great time was held by all.



COURT OUR LADY OF GOOD SUCCESS #1661 ANNUAL VALENTINE LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER

Court #1661, *Our Lady of Good Success* in Clovis, California, joyfully hosted its annual Valentine Luncheon fundraiser this spring. This beloved tradition continues to be a meaningful opportunity to bring together our Catholic Daughters, parish family, and members of the community in fellowship, friendship, and service.

The luncheon was beautifully attended, with members and guests gathering to share a delicious meal, warm conversation, and the spirit of charity that defines our Court. The atmosphere reflected the true meaning of the season — love, generosity, and unity. This annual event not only strengthens the bonds of sisterhood within our Court but also plays an important role in supporting the charitable works we are called to uphold. Funds raised from the luncheon will benefit the many local, parish, and national charities we support throughout the year.

The success of the event was made possible through the dedication and generosity of many hands and hearts. From those who planned and organized, to those who decorated, prepared food, donated raffle prizes, assisted with set-up and clean-up, and welcomed our guests — each contribution helped make the day both beautiful and fruitful. We are deeply grateful to everyone who attended, volunteered, and supported this special event. Together, we continue to live out our mission of Unity and Charity, serving God and our community with joyful hearts.



Court #1661 Member Vin Ruiz and DD Supervisor Central Lil Drexler



Court #1661 Guest Sister Pilar, Member Sylvia Dalton, Deacon Mike Madrigal, Mrs. Gina Madrigal



Court #1661 Guest Rosemary Morales, Members: Vin Ruiz, Marci Martinez, Regent Katrina Fierro



Court #1661 Education Chair Kimberly Cochran and DD Andrea Ochoa

COURT OUR LADY OF SUCCESS #1661 SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Court #1661, Our Lady of Good Success in Clovis, California, recently celebrated another successful Annual Pancake Breakfast. This much-anticipated event brings together our Catholic Daughters, parishioners, family, and friends for a joyful morning of delicious food and warm fellowship.

Court members enthusiastically sold tickets in advance and personally invited parishioners and community members to join us. On the morning of the event, our Catholic Daughters proudly served as the wait staff, greeting guests with smiles and cheerful hospitality. There is always something special about serving those we worship alongside each week.

In addition to the pancake breakfast, guests participated in a raffle featuring generously donated prizes. The raffle added excitement to the morning and contributed greatly to the overall success of the fundraiser.

Proceeds from the event support the many charitable works our Court sponsors throughout the year. Funds also assist in sending members to Catholic Daughters conventions and spiritual retreats, where they grow in faith, leadership, and sisterhood — bringing renewed inspiration back to our parish and community.

Through gatherings like this, Court #1661 continues to live out our mission of Unity and Charity, serving God, our parish, and one another with joyful hearts.



Court #1661 Our Lady of Good Success. Pictured: Sherri Smith, Mona Ponce, Dolores Chavez, Shelley Romero, Jacqui Ramirez, Katrina Fierro, Marci Martinez, Sylvia Dalton, Kimberly Cochran, Gianna Fierro, Pam Rivera.

CALIFORNIA STATE COURT

The California State CDA made a pilgrimage to the RECongress Religious Education Convention February 19-22, 2026. The Congress was celebrating 70 years and drew thousands of people from all over the United States. The Exhibit Hall housed stalls from across the map. The CDA booth was set up by State Regent Lorine Bakowsky, Vice Regent Sheri Kanagawa, and Secretary Yvette Manard. Friendly smiles and candy Kisses drew hundreds of women to our table throughout the event. Supporting the state officers were CDA sisters Lorena Meza, Teresa Carpenter, Nancy Shanafelt, Lisa Villarreal, Debra Burley, Linda Wilson-Davis, Maria Nelson, Kristy Van Cleve, Clara Harris, Charlotte Williams, Karen Linzy, Aquilla Levine from all over Southern California including past State Regent Mary Beasley and Membership Chair Christina Stone. The pilgrimage was a grand success as we were able to ignite interest in most of those who approached our booth and give them a good idea of where they could find like-minded women focused on Unity and Charity.





STATE WEBMASTER ~ Yvette Manard ~ proactivepatient@verizon.net



Does your Court have a website? It is one of your most powerful promotional tools at your disposal! As you are aware, your best promotional tool are your members when they share their CDA testimonies! Arm your members with promotional materials; including National Membership materials, local brochures, flyers, newsletters, and links to your Court's website, State and National websites.

Some reasons why a website will support and grow your Court:

- Provides information on the Local, State and National CDA
- Enhances name recognitions, credibility and trustworthiness so Google can list your Court in searches
- Improves visibility of the CDA and provides a way to get in touch
- Generates potential leads
- Is an excellent promotional tool to showcase your good works

Thank you for your contributions with pictures and event listings to our State Website!

CDA CA Website Updates:

Home page listing of monthly anniversaries

Menu: About – Tools of Trade – Forms & Ceremonial Dress

<https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/about-us/tools-of-the-trade/forms/>

- Description of Medallions and Ribbons
- Passing of the Medallion Ceremony With Description
- Forms & Ceremonial Dress
- Releases <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/state-releases/>
- Online Version of Golden State Tidings

<https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/news/golden-tidings-newsletter/>

- Court Events

Wishing my CDA Sisters and their families a blessed 2026 Lenten Season.

Yvette Manard



GOLDEN STATE TIDINGS ~ KAREN JONES ~ Kdj4237308@gmail.com

Share what your court is doing with the other CDA Sisters. Send in your articles! Your articles, pictures or updates can be sent to me either in an email format with the text in the body of the email or as an attachment. **(I WILL NOT SHORTEN YOUR ARTICLES.)**

THEMES and DUE DATES

ISSUES	THEMES	SUBMIT DATE	DUE DATE
FALL	Welcome, Recruitment, CDA Sunday, Conventions, Hospitality, Service	August 1-31, 2025	Sept. 2025
WINTER	Advent/Christmas, Trainings, Fundraisers, Leadership Reflections, Volunteerism, CDA Sisterhood	Nov. 1-30, 2025	Dec. 2025
SPRING	Lent/Easter, Priests, Stewardship/Piety, Empathy/Compassion	Feb. 1-28, 2026	March 2026
SUMMER	Technology help, Parliamentary help, Fundraising, Faithfulness, Generosity	May 1-31, 2026	June 2026

Karen Jones

Easter Triduum

