



Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

January 2021

Court Oregon #118 Eugene, Oregon

Chartered October 1909

An Invitation from
Archbishop Sample
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

On December 8, 2020

With the Apostolic Letter “Patris corde” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from today, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.



Friday, March 19, 2021
Feast of Saint Joseph

In this Year of Saint Joseph, consider a consecration to St. Joseph that highlights many of St. Joseph’s titles, privileges, and heroic virtues. The program takes 33 days and can be undertaken on your own or in a group. This begins February 13, 2021.

Prayer to St Joseph
(From the conclusion of a letter by Pope Francis)

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became Man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen*

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas.



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.”

Monthly CDA Meeting information on page ten.

Prayer Corner



For our Court members

Marie Weber, Stacy Vinolus, Regina Kungys,
Eileen Laudani, Olga Saban, Ernestine O'Brien, Pat Vohs,
Rosy Makyadath, Cathy Frei and Cathy Kirby

Family of CDA members

Peter – Son of Tess & Brother of Miriam Cersovski
Carina Myrand – Granddaughter of Jane Myrand
Don Cersovski – Husband of Tess Cersovski
Thomas – Husband of Ernestine O'Brien
Alice Barngrover – Sister of Tess Cersovski
Sarah – Granddaughter of Ernestine O'Brien
Darren – Husband of Cathy Kirby and
son-n-law of Anna Marie Blume
Julie Ann Daughtery – Daughter of Eileen Laudani

For others in need of our prayers

Pope Francis, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Archbishop
Alexander K. Sample, Archbishop Emeritus John G. Vlazny,
Bishop Steiner, Bishop Smith and Bishop Cary.
All Priests and religious men and women.
Everyone affected by natural disasters.
For all that are looking for employment.
All men and women serving our country.
All those suffering from medical / mental impairments.
All affected by Covid-19.
Send prayer requests to Julia Kelso.

A Note from the Editor, Julia Kelso

Many of you know that my husband, Fred, passed away October 25, 2020. I have received many cards and phone calls from my CDA sisters. I am very grateful for all your prayers and concern. I am blessed for the sisterhood I have in our group, The Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

The Patron Saint of Widows and Widowers is St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Did you know, that one third of our CDA membership are Widows.

*Dear Saint Elizabeth, you were always poor in spirit,
Most generous toward the poor, faithful to your husband,
and fully consecrated to your Divine Bridegroom.*

*Grant your help to widows and widowers and keep them
faithful to their heavenly Lord. Teach them how to cope
with their loss and to make use of their time in the service
of God our Lord. Amen*

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**MESSAGE FROM THE OREGON STATE CHAPLAIN
REV. JAMES HERRERA**

State Chaplain CDA

January 2021

31 December 2020

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

As I sit here on New Year's Eve Day, I want to begin by wishing you all a very Merry and blessed Christmas! As Catholics, we continue the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child through the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, this year celebrated on January 10th.

I know that this past year has been exceedingly difficult for so many of us, I pray that as we celebrate our Saviors first coming in the world, we remember that we know the end of the story. We know that this child, whose birth we just celebrated, ultimately grows up, begins his ministry, ultimately is arrested, and put to death, then he is raised from the dead! Jesus IS the one that we have been waiting for and he HAS conquered sin and darkness. All that we have been experiencing with COVID will come to an end and Jesus will be by our side every step of the way. Jesus is victorious! He will be victorious over COVID-19 as well and all the struggles that have come with it.

I also want to take a moment to wish you all a very blessed and holy New Year! One of my favorite celebrations is the feast of Mary, Mother of God, whom we celebrate on the first day of every New Year! To have our blessed Mother at our side as we embark into a new civil year helps remind us that we are not alone.

At Christmas we see that Jesus was born into a family. He was not alone. God could have chosen to have Jesus come into the world anyway that he wanted, but God choose to bring his Son into the world in a community, a family. Just as God did when he created Adam in the Garden and then his wife Eve. God created the first community at the very beginning. The word became flesh in a community. We are born into a community and are members on many different communities. We start the new year with our community and most specifically with Mary, the Mother of God.

Let us draw near to our blessed Mother Mary as we start the new year and may she lead us and guide every step of the way, especially when we feel that we are most alone. We are not ever alone! Let us also ask our Blessed Mother to draw each of you together in community with your Catholic Daughter Courts. While gathering might still offer some challenges, it is important to remember each other in prayer and in particular to reach out to our sisters that are alone and might need some extra care and attention.

May the newborn Christ Child, Mary, the Mother of God and Holy St. Joseph be with each of you, your courts, your families, your parishes, your own very hearts in 2021 and may their example of community and family draw us closer together in each of our own particular communities and families.

In Unity and Charity,

Fr. James

STATE NEWS

*"Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up,
as indeed you do."*

1 Thessalonians

Dear Fr. James, Fr. Ron and Catholic Daughters in Oregon:

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a BLESSED NEW YEAR to you and your families!

Praise the Lord! I did it! I prayed the Saint Andrew Christmas Novena from November 29th to December 24th. I prayed the prayer at least 15 times each day. This is a big accomplishment for me since I have trouble remembering to pray a nine-day novena.

On January 1st we celebrated the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. As I ponder on this title of Mary, I am awestruck. What a blessing and honor for Mary. And then on Good Friday, Jesus makes Mary our mother. What a role model!!!

As I am writing this letter, we are still celebrating the Christmas Season. How many of you think that Christmas ends when we celebrate Epiphany (Jan. 3, 2021) normally on January 6th? The truth be told, the Christmas Season ends with the Baptism of Jesus which falls on Sunday, January 10th this year.

Many events are still being cancelled because of Covid-19 including our State Convention in Hermiston. Governor Kate Brown has most of the state on lockdown until March and maybe longer. This shutdown means that many of the Catholic Daughters Courts Meetings have been cancelled, fundraisers are being cancelled, and we do not know when things will be back to normal. How can CDA Courts survive in all this mess? Remember, with God all things are possible. "This too will pass!" All we can do is wait the pandemic out. Of course, we need to take all the precautions that we can to help avoid catching it. Do you think that God is calling us to pray more?

Covid-19 has taken the lives of many people. On December 30th, my oldest niece Gerri Lee Hummel (59 years old) died due to complications from Covid-19. Gerri is the daughter of my oldest sister Grace. May she rest in peace. Please continue to pray for an end to the Coronavirus and for everyone who is suffering from it.

By the end of this month, I will have the "Official Call to Convention" mailed out. Please make sure the information is shared with all Court members. Some of the important deadlines can be found in this newsletter. The 2020 National Bylaws is our "convention bible". Be sure to order a copy if you do not already have one.

I am praying that your life will be filled with the Love, Peace and Joy of the Christ Child during 2021.

In Unity and Charity,
Tess Cersovski, Oregon State Regent

OREGON STATE CDA NEWS

NOMINATIONS for STATE OFFICERS

Are you ready to answer God's Call?
Have you ever considered running for a State Office?

All five positions are open for election.

Any CDA members who plan on submitting their nomination papers for a State Office must read ***CDA BYLAWS Amended July 2020, Article XI: State Nominations and Elections, Sec. 1. Candidates for State Office, A and B*** which are found on page 30.

Please make sure all your paperwork is completed as stated in the Bylaws.

- (1) Page stating what office she intends to seek
- (2) Submit a statement of qualifications
- (3) A current photograph
- (4) Statement of endorsement by the Local Court of the candidate, which must be voted on at a local court meeting and signed by a majority of the Local Court Officers
- (5) A Consent to serve signed by the candidates.

Five (5) copies of each shall be postmarked prior to (before) February 1st of the state convention year and mailed to the Nomination Committee Chairman. *(Note that January 31st is on a Sunday.)*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:
Corrine Clifford
2754 Saint Lucia Street
Eugene, Oregon 97408

***** Court meetings can be held in person, by zoom, by email, or by phone due to Coronavirus.**

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions for state and national level need to be sent to State Regent Tess Cersovski by March 1, 2021.

More details will be in the Official Call to Convention.

DELEGATES for CONVENTION

All courts are encouraged to elect voting Delegates and Alternates to the 49th Biennial Convention. Elections will be by mail-in ballots this year.

Please note: Delegates are to be elected at a court meeting before February 15th. The list of delegates and alternates are to be sent to the State Regent and postmarked before February 15th.

If you have any questions, please contact State Regent Tess Cersovski.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Changes to the National CDA Bylaws need to be sent to State Regent Tess Cersovski by March 1, 2021. The State Board will review all Bylaw Amendments.

More details will be in the Official Call to Convention. Contact State Regent Tess Cersovski if you have any questions.

BASKET RAFFLE

April 2021 will mark the second year in a row that we have not been able to have a basket raffle to raise funds for the Very Rev. Joseph Hayes Memorial Scholarship program. We need to raise money for this special scholarship which is given to a graduate Theology student at Mount Angel Seminary.

The State Officers have decided to put together at least one basket with a Spiritual theme to raffle off. We are asking for two kinds of donations: (1) from courts giving what you might spend on a basket and (2) from individual CDA members and friends. We will have a committee to put all the names on raffle tickets. More details will be available next month.

More Convention Information **49th Biennial Oregon State Convention**

The 49th Oregon State CDA Convention at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church in Hermiston, Oregon from April 16 to April 18, 2021 has been cancelled.

What next? CDA National Bylaws – Amended July 2020, ARTICLE X: STATE CONVENTIONS, Section 8. CANCELLATION (page 30) reads:

“In the event of an emergency, whereby it becomes impossible to hold a meeting of the State Court, The State Board shall have the power to transact any business that would come before the convention. A vote of the State Court shall be taken by proxy for the purpose of electing State Officers and members of the Nomination Committee for the ensuing term.”

Therefore, the State Board will be meeting at Saint Anthony’s Parish in Tigard, Oregon from April 16-18, 2021 as outlined in the Bylaws. All the details are being worked out so more information will be in the Official Call to Convention.

The theme of the convention is: **“May we shout for JOY!”**
(Psalm 20:6) New American Bible

MEMORIAL MASS for deceased CDA Members will be on April 16. Time will be determined.

Regents: please send list of deceased members for the past 2 years.

Here are some more important deadlines and reminders for the convention:

- A two-year report by each Court Regent outlining the court’s activities for the past two years needs to be completed by April 1, 2021. This report can be double-sided on one page.
- All state officers and state chairmen, including the Circle of Love Chairman, are asked to submit a one-page report highlighting their activities for the past two years. It can be doubled-sided.
- Regents and Courts interested in hosting the 2023, 50th Biennial Oregon State Convention, should come to the convention prepared to make a bid for the convention.
- To help pay for convention expenses, courts will have an opportunity to place an ad into the convention booklet. The sizes of the ad and the prices will be in the Official Call to Convention in January

STATE PROJECT or STATE CHARITY

To be a State Project or to be a State Charity, that is the question! On the recommendations of past and current National Officers, CDA State Convention delegates will be voting on either three or five State Projects and moving some current State Projects to become State Charities.

In the February State Newsletter, there will be more information for keeping State Projects. One thing to consider is keeping our first State Project which is the Providence Child Center. Yes, I know that every State Project is important. However, it is hard for many Courts to support all the State Projects. There are 12 individual State Projects. It is confusing because the Seminary Fund is really three separate projects: Archdiocese of Portland, Diocese of Baker, and Mt. Angel Monastery Formation programs. The Veterans is two separate projects: The Dalles and Lebanon Homes.

There are five National Projects that we are asked to donate to. Other states courts only have one or two or three State Projects. Does Oregon really need 12? What do you think? I value your opinion!!!



STATE PENNEY DRIVE for THE GROTTO

Each year the Oregon State Regent announces a charity for the State Penny Drive. CDA members then collect pennies and other monies at their court meetings for the State Penny Drive.

Because of Covid-19, the Penny Drive was extended a few months.

On Tuesday, December 22nd four people made a pilgrimage to The Grotto in Portland, Oregon. The purpose of this pilgrimage was to take the \$2,500 raised in the Penney Drive and donate it to The Grotto. The money will be used to help pay for the Chapel renovation expenses. After Tess donated the check, Vinci lead a lantern tour of The Grotto.



Pictured on the left top are: State Regent Tess Cersovski presenting the check to Fr. Vidal Ramirez OSSM, Rector of The Grotto and Vinci Paterson, Director of Community Engagement.

Top right picture: (from left to right) Past State Regent Lori Zimmerman, Tess Cersovski, Fr. Vidal, and Past State Regent Dorothy Gall (notice the Covid-19 masks worn by the past state regents)

Bottom right picture: Unmasked Lori Zimmerman, Tess Cersovski, Fr. Vidal, and Dorothy Gall

***Not pictured: driver Don Cersovski, husband of State Regent Tess Cersovski.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS NEWS



National Regent Sherry Niles

MESSAGE FROM BARBARA JENSEN OREGON CDA NATIONAL DIRECTOR



Happy New Year to all my CDA sisters in Oregon.

We always have such great anticipation when the new year rolls around as we wonder what great things lie ahead for us. But it can also be a time of tribulation as we never know what can truly happen. As we found out with 2020, it may not all be good after all. Sometimes we have to turn to and rely on hope.

I was told by a very special friend that it looked like I had a pilot project going on. (I had to ask—pilot meant “pile it”—oops!) I had a pile here for my three states, a different pile here for national stuff, a third pile for my own state convention stuff; plus, a pile that was falling over from mail that I didn’t take the time to take care of when it came in. As I was trying to take care of eliminating some of my piles it made me wonder. How often do we allow our spiritual life to get piled up? Have we allowed less and less time for our prayer life because our plate is too full?

As we start a new year, reassess your prayer time. Make Jesus, Mary and Joseph your main focus in life. Pray for a new year and a new you. Pray for the unborn as January 22 rolls around again. Pray for our country and for each other. Let’s make 2021 a much better year than 2020!

May God fill each of you with His many blessings and help us make 2021 our best year yet!

Love and Prayers,

Barb Jensen
National Director

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SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER

THANK YOU for supporting our fundraiser through Rada Cutlery – well known for quality products, **ALL MADE IN THE USA**. Every purchase you make using the following shopping link **helps us with fundraising, which enables CDA to donate to worthy charities.**

<https://radafundraising.com?fsn=853008.123d68>

Due to the pandemic our Court has been unable to have many of our normal activities. Much of the information in this January newsletter is from the January State Newsletter. The State Newsletter is put together by State Regent Tess Cersovski.

Thank You

*To our State Regent
Tess Cersovski*

CDA Monthly Meeting January 16, 2021 is CANCELED.

Officers to meet at 10:00 am Location to be determined.



Julia Kelso, Editor
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