



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS California State

102 YEARS OF SERVICE GOLDEN STATE TIDINGS

Volume 47 – September 2025

www.californiacatholicdaughters.org

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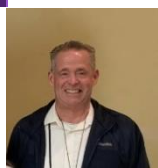
Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the principle of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all

Congratulations on the Reception honoring newly incoming
CA State Regent Lorine Bakowsky
Saturday, August 30, 2025
St. Felicitas Church
San Leandro, CA



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STATE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR ~ DEACON TIMOTHY MYERS



Hello Catholic Daughters,

As I was reflecting back on this year, I thought about the Rite of Election this past Lent. At the Rite of Election, I presented 12 names to the Bishop. These 12 names were the members of the St. Felicitas Church who were to become

Catholic at the Easter Vigil. In his homily, the Bishop said there were 1800 people who would become Catholic through the sacraments this year.

At our parish, we never had such a high number of people wanting to become Catholic. Our church has also held more Baptisms this year than ever before. This represents the stronger sense of hope and desire to strengthen the relationship with Christ.

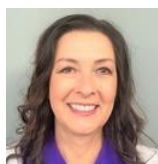
Today, we need to keep that sense of hope. St. Augustine is quoted as saying "Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are." This aligns with the Catholic Daughters' mission to promote justice. We must trust in God's providence. Hope means carrying out God's spiritual works and a belief that God will provide as part of his Divine Plan.

Our spiritual connection is the source of the Catholic virtue of hope. Spiritual enhancement programs, retreats, faith formation, and prayer are a key part of the hope theme, as they nourish the members' personal relationship with Christ, who is the true ultimate source of hope.

California State Spiritual Advisor

Deacon Timothy Myers

NATIONAL SUPERVISOR ~ YVETTE GRIEGO



This past weekend a celebration and *Mass of Grace* was held to honor CA State Regent Lorine in San Leandro, CA. The theme chosen by Lorine is "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3. As National Supervisor, I attended this event along with many CA CDA members, including

current State Court Officers, IPNR Emily Guilherme, IPSR Maria Santos-Silva, and current National Director and PSR Susan Killian, PSR Mary Beasley and State Chaplain Deacon Tim Meyers.

State Regent Lorine took the opportunity to utilize this time to meet with her Circle of Love Chairmen to begin to put her theme into motion. Goals and expectations were laid out for the next year, and her priority is increasing membership and instituting new courts. Lorine has plans to reach out to the many parishes throughout the various dioceses informing them of the work and mission of Catholic Daughters.

The Circle of Love Chairmen shared their goals and gave details as to how they intended to carry out their duties. Ideas were shared on how to ensure the success of the various spokes within the Circle of Love. With emphasis on submission of the COL reports, it is evident that all

courts are performing works of charity and now they must be encouraged to submit their annual reports.

This very productive meeting set the plans in place for the next two years. District Deputy trainings are scheduled to take place in Fall of 2025, with retreat and workshops scheduled in the Spring of 2026. To accommodate the members in the great state of California these events are scheduled to take place one in the northern, central and southern regions.

Congratulations to State Regent Lorine and California State CDA Officers, First Vice State Regent Sherri Kanagawa, Second Vice State Regent Yvonne Connolly, State Secretary Yvette Manard, and State Treasurer Michelle Eck, this team is ready and willing to ensure that this term is a success by working in unity and charity to promote the mission of CDA. The weekend events were truly enjoyable and visiting with the members of CA CDA was motivating.

National CDA's upcoming **Virtual Book Club** will feature "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary: Unveiling the Mother of the Messiah" by Brant Pitre. The facilitators will be Fr. Erick Villa, Connie Dronette, and Susan Killian. The *Virtual Book Club* will begin on Monday, September 15, 2025, and continue every Monday for six to eight weeks. The Zoom meeting is scheduled at 4:00pm PST. For the Zoom link or more information, contact Susan Killian at susankillian@gmail.com or call 909-519-3719.

I have my book and, based on the pages I have read so far, this book has increased my knowledge and love for Our Blessed Mother. I look forward to participating in the *Virtual Book Club*. See you all online!

Yvette Griego

STATE REGENT ~ LORINE BAKOWSKY



Thank you from CA State Regent

My dear sisters, thank you so much for attending the Mass on August 30th at my parish in San Leandro and for attending the reception afterwards. I am so honored that you took the

time to come and sharing in the Eucharist with me and the state board. I feel so honored to be a servant leader who was able to be your Extraordinary Eucharist Minister at this mass. It is a mass I will always remember and your kindness will live deep in my heart.



*My Lady, Your Lady, Our Lady,
Of Walsingham, Pray for Us*

September 24th is the feast day of Our Lady of Walsingham. In the Middle Ages, Walsingham – ‘England’s Nazareth’ was a Marian Shrine of a size that rivalled Compostela. It owed its origins to a Norman Earl’s wife, Richeldis de Faverches. Richeldis had a deep faith in God and devotion to Our Lady and Richeldis was known for her good works. In 1061 she had the privilege to have a vision of the Blessed Mother, who transported her in vision to Nazareth. Richeldis was shown the holy house where the Holy Family lived, and she made it clear to Richeldis that she wanted this house built in England telling her:

“Do all this unto my special praise and honor. And all who are distressed or in need, let them seek me here in that little house you have made me in Walsingham. To all that seek me there I will give my help....”

Legend has it that the craftsmen could not break the ground or get a square footing on the building. Lady Richeldis, determined to have this house built, went with hammer and spade at 3am to work on the house herself. She is said to have viewed angels building the house. She left the area and in the morning the house was built.

I adore this part of the story about Lady Richeldis as she, like those of us in CDA, was determined to do what Our Lady asked of her to the point of building the house herself!

My devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham is rooted in the history of the Reformation in England and that even though Henry VIII had her abbey and house torn down, the Slipper Chapel for pilgrims still exists and the devotion to her at Walsingham is still quite alive.

I find Our Lady’s desire to have us know that her home is a refuge to be most inviting and comforting. May she inspire in me to be an agent of welcome in my family, work and community.

The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you,

Lorine Bakowsky

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

FIRST VICE STATE REGENT ~ SHERI KANAGAWA



Are you Martha or Mary?

As our summer is winding down, I hope you and your courts are beginning to start having meetings, membership drives and Circle of Love activities again. In July, I and your State CDA board joined other State and National officers in Scottsdale, Arizona to learn and enrich ourselves in CDA.

On Saturday evening the Scriptures and Homily hit home to me. Father Jason Palermo from New Orleans, Louisiana (some of you will remember Father from the National Convention) had a very encouraging message for our Catholic Daughter sisters. In the reading, it was about when Jesus was a guest in Martha’s home. Martha became preoccupied with preparing the food while her sister Mary was at Jesus’ feet listening to him. Martha complained to Jesus that her sister is not helping. Jesus gently rebukes Martha explaining that Mary has the “good part” which is to sit and listen to him, a spiritual focus that will not be taken away.

During the Homily, Father Jason Palermo asked us, “How many of you are Martha’s and how many of you are Mary’s.” After thinking about it he continued saying that many of our Cather Daughter sisters are Marthas as we are doers by nature. He explained that we are Marys too because we do listen to the word of God. But maybe we need to bring more spirituality into our activities.

Father Jason opened our minds to think about ourselves and decide if we are Martha or Mary, which both are awesome, but we also need the other women’s attributes in our lives. The goal is the importance of prioritizing spiritual growth and learning from the bible and Jesus. It is often interpreted as showing that both service and devotion have their place but there are times when one is more important than the other. Just some food for thought. Here is something else to ponder about.

Spiritual Daily Checklist

Love- Did I speak or act in Love today?
 Joy- Did I choose joy despite the circumstances?
 Peace- Did I make the time for prayer?
 Patience- Was I calm and patient in challenges?
 Kindness- Did I show compassion or help someone?
 Goodness- Did I make a choice rooted in integrity?
 Faithfulness- Was my trust in God unwavering?
 Gentleness- Was I gentle in my words and actions?
 Self-control- Did I pause before reacting or speaking?

Wishing you each and every one a beautiful fall season.

In Unity and Charity,
Sheri Kanagawa

STATE TREASURER ~ MICHELLE ECK



With Fall comes the beginning of a new season. Students are going back to school for a new school year, Courts are having their first meetings from the Summer break, religious classes are starting again and parishes are having fall festivals or activities. Even though it is not the start of a new year, it is a time to think what can I do before the end of the year? What can I still give to my sisters in CDA and fellow parishioners? If your parish is having a Fall festival like mine, you can help out. Help run a booth or activity, bake a cake or support just by attending and have fun. It is also a time for planning. Courts are planning their CDA year and activities. Help your court by suggesting an activity (either a fundraiser or spiritual activity). See if there is a ministry you might want to join or support. Even if you do not have time to join a ministry, you can still support them by buying a ticket to the fundraiser or helping with the activity of the ministry. Everyone can use help. Here are some ways you can help even if you are not rich:

Donate old clothes and shoes.
 Be a patient listener.
 Donate blood.

Compliment someone to increase their self-worth.
 Spread positivity.
 Pick up trash in public areas, even if it is not yours.
 Teach children to be kind to everyone.
 Share your knowledge and expertise.
 Respect everyone's beliefs.
 Understand instead of passing judgment.
 Thank the people who rarely get gratitude, like the service workers, housekeeping staff, and security personnel.
 Talk to the people nobody bothers to talk to, like the cleaning staff, the grocery bagger, etc.
 Let the person with an armful of groceries go in front of you in line.
 Return your or other people's grocery cart so the store staff will not have to.
 Smile. You never know who's day you brighten with your smile.
 Hold the door for someone else.
 Teach your children the importance of giving back.
 Encourage your kids to do small acts of kindness towards other people.
 Help someone struggling to carry their grocery bags.
 Donate your old glasses to organizations helping visually impaired people.

No task is too small. Have a great Fall season and I hope you can brighten someone's day. All of you brighten mine.

In Unity and Charity

Michelle Eck

STATE SECRETARY ~ YVETTE MANARD



WE RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS

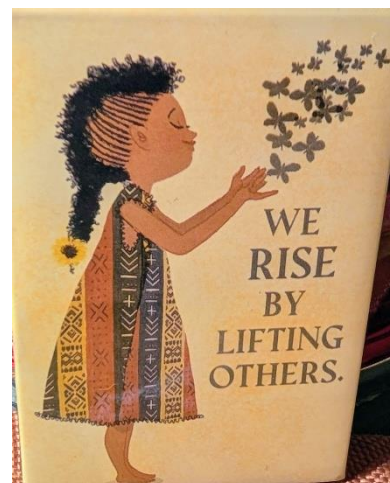
Yvette Manard, Secretary

"We rise by lifting others," is a quote that we have heard before. This quote by Robert G. Ingersoll, a 19th century orator and human rights activist, speaks volume to us as Christians and as members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA).

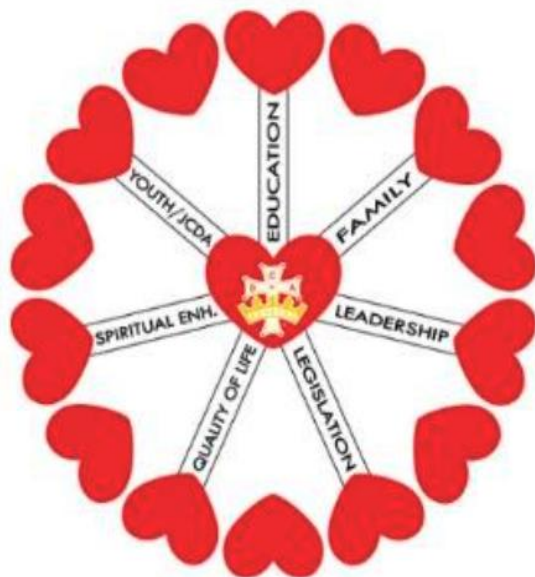
"We rise by lifting others" when we put into action, kindness, generosity, and compassion to others. By doing so, we create a positive ripple effect that benefits our Court, the community and us.

As CDA members, are we living up to this value? What charitable projects are we doing? What spiritual events and parish activities do we sponsor or participate in? What projects are we promoting within our Circle of Love spokes?

As a 10+ year CDA member, I can attest that we are doing quite well! I am very proud of the many inspiring charitable projects that our local California Courts are doing and the many events



that are featured in Share magazine. These projects exemplify our motto, "In Unity and Charity" and our excellent examples of lifting up others.



As we begin our planning for the 2025-2026 term of CA CDA activities, let us remember to plan activities/or projects for each of our Circle of Love spokes. Each spoke, Education, Family, Leadership, Legislation, Quality of Life, Spiritual Enhancement and Youth/JCDA are equally important. Every spoke of the circle is an equal distance from the center and bound together by the common thread...LOVE.

This aligns with our principles and teaching of our faith of; loving one another and understanding that acts of service and love are how we honor God and our Blessed Mother.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is never wasted."– Aesop

By lifting others we experience a positive impact that has not only felt by other people but on ourselves.

Many continued blessings.

Yvette Manard

THANK YOU

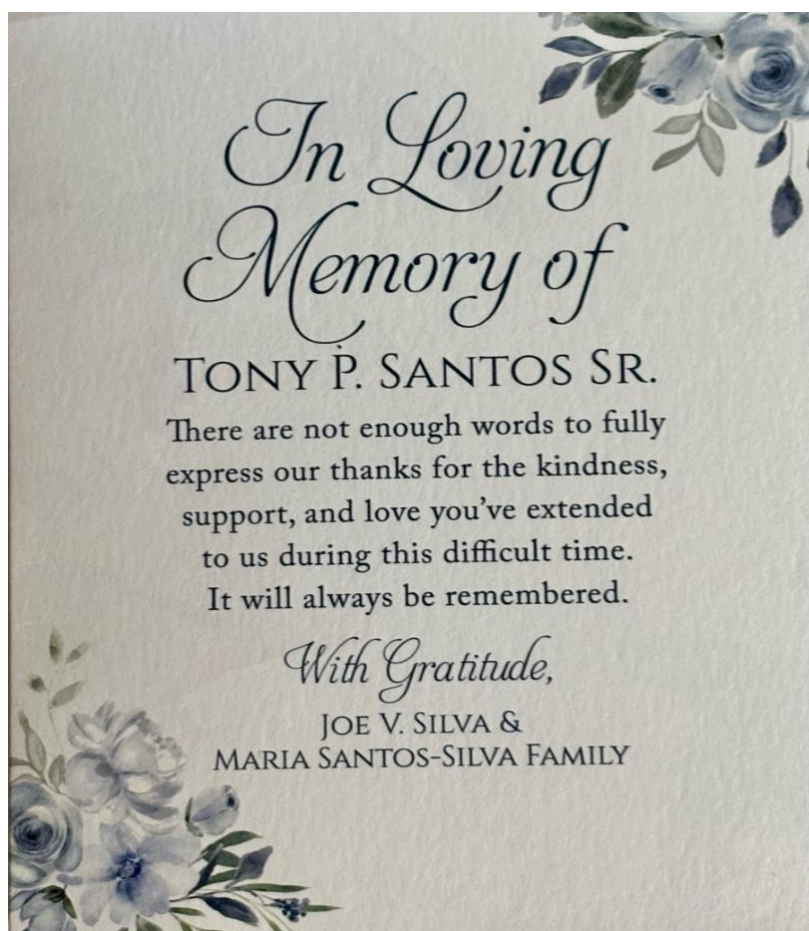
Thank you, CA CDA members, for all of your; thoughts, prayers, phone calls, cards, Masses and flowers for my father, Tony P. Santos Sr, who passed away in June.

It is during these times of need that we truly understand and appreciate what membership in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas offers us.

The overwhelming feeling of Love and Support was much needed and appreciated.

Love & thank you all so very much.

Maria Santos-Silva,
CA CDA, I.P.S.R
& Family





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.

EDUCATION ~ MARIA ARECHIGA ~ mfarechiga@yahoo.com



Hello Sisters in Christ,

As your Education Chairman I had written a very practical plan for the beginning of the school year. However, the senseless act of violence in Minneapolis made me rethink my message all together. I simply want to ask all of you to pray to God for compassion and strength for all those affected by this tragedy. The mass shooting at Annunciation Catholic Church and School calls us to pray more rigorously for all students in both private and public schools. That being said, this school year will be especially difficult for Catholic school children and staff. They will need our support and spiritual accompaniment. I hope the following list can help us discern other ideas on how our courts can get involved in the healing process of our school communities.

The entire court can pray a Rosary or attend adoration for the school.
Individual members can adopt a classroom and offer a weekly or monthly rosary.
Courts can provide a small treat (cookies or donut holes) after a school mass.
Courts or individual members can provide an image of a Saint or Angel to a classroom.
Communicate with the principal to see what students and staff are asking for or needing.

Please share any other ideas or suggestions with me so that I may have them when other courts reach out to me for support. May God bless you all and may the Holy Spirit guide us.

Your Sister in Christ,
Maria Arechiga

2025-2026 EDUCATION THEMES:

The Least of These. Matthew 25:40 or
The Least of These: Lifting Others Up.

FAMILY ~ LAURA McQUOID ~ L_mcquoid@yahoo.com



I was thrilled to attend the State Convention and to meet so many of you. My name is Laura McQuoid, and I wanted to share a bit about myself. I was born in Alameda Hospital in Alameda, CA, the youngest of six children. I was raised in Hayward, CA.



My husband, Greg, and I were married on December 19, 1970, during college quarter break. Four years later, we welcomed our first child, Tara. Three years after that, Brian was born, followed by Eric thirteen months later. To this day our children and their families bring joy and laughter into our lives every day.

When our daughter, Tara, began Kindergarten, I embarked on a journey of volunteering. Initially, I became involved with Parent Teacher Groups, and my volunteer efforts expanded from there.

Presently, I serve Saint Michael Church as an Extra Ordinary Minister, a member of the Welcoming Committee, and Knights of Columbus volunteer.

I am a charter member of Court Sister Emmanuel Cardinale #2745, in Livermore, CA. Our Court Institution date was July 28, 2018. It was a memorable day with many sisters present from various parts of California. I currently serve as a court member, Circle of Love State Family Chairperson, and District Deputy.

I am the creator of "Adventures are Great with Flat Pat." Flat Pat traveled throughout the state visiting courts and learning about our sisters that we may never meet or so I thought. At the convention Flat Pat and I attended the picnic, social hours, dinners and so much more. Flat Pat was a welcome guest, a great ice breaker.

Going into the convention I had no idea that Flat Pat had made such an impression on the courts in California. For those who had not met her, she was received at once and of course cameras were out in a flash.

As State Family Chairperson, this was my opportunity to emphasize that we are together one family, The Catholic Daughters of the Americas. In unity and charity.

Laura McQuoid

LEADERSHIP ~ ISMAELA MUNIZ-HEIDEN ~ Ismaela.muniz@gmail.com



Blessings CDA Sisters in Christ,

Now that the summer is behind us it is my prayer that you are all doing well. I trust that the Courts that go dark during part of the summer have had time to relax, renew, and recharge.

I want to thank the Courts that have welcomed me to their meetings and events and allowing me a few minutes to remind their members to be sure to please submit their Circle of Love Leadership entries. They have held many events throughout the year that will qualify and meet the requirements.

The CA State Board has been actively engaged in extensive planning for numerous upcoming events. I encourage everyone to participate in as many of these events as possible. I'm looking forward in attending the Installation Mass of our new CA State Regent, Lorine Bakowsky, as well as spending time with the rest of the incoming CA State Board and Chairmen.

I also look forward to participating in the upcoming District Deputy (DD) Trainings scheduled for September. These sessions will provide an excellent opportunity to reconnect with CDA Sisters, both familiar and new. I also encourage all members interested in becoming a DD or learning more about DD responsibilities to take advantage of the DD training available throughout the State.

As a leader, some of the ongoing themes are communication, collaboration, recruitment, being creative, and sharing of knowledge. Please keep those themes in mind as YOU assist in fulfilling OUR CDA mission and motto!

Blessings to you and all of yours!

Ismaela Muniz Heiden

LEGISLATION ~ Maureen Laubacher ~ maurlaub@aol.com

California Catholic Conference

<http://www.cacatholic.org/>

Greetings from your State Legislation Chairman. I hope you have enjoyed this pleasant summer weather. I am afraid we are now heading into the heat-filled days of summer, just as the kids go back to school. I have really enjoyed this summer as I had several of my distant family attend my summer birthday celebration; 2 of my sons with their wives and children, my stepdaughter and her family, my six siblings with their spouses and some of my nephews and nieces. Add in some neighbors and church friends and we had a birthday BBQ with 76 family and friends. What a joyous weekend!

I shared with you in my last article the website that is most helpful in tracking bills in the California legislature. I hope you have accessed the California Catholic Conference site <http://www.cacatholic.org/> and saw what it has to offer. It is currently looking at the following bills as high priority for action.

1. AB 40 redefines emergency health services to include abortion.
2. SB 403 would make the End of Life Option Act permanent, removing the sunset date without any kind of required comprehensive review.
3. AB 84 cut funding for non-classroom-based charter public schools by up to 30%.
These schools serve students who need flexible, safe, personalized learning.
Students who need these options are frequently escaping difficult family situation or suffering from long term illnesses.

Please review the website for more information.

Another website for the California Family Organization <https://www.californiafamily.org/> is also monitoring bills as a Christin coalition. Current monitoring activity is focusing on AB 495. AB 495 makes sweeping changes to the California Family Code by expanding who can fill out a [Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit](#), a legal form that gives adults authority to make decisions about where children attend school and what healthcare services they receive. Previously, [this form](#) limited significant healthcare decisions to certain "relatives." AB 495 expands that definition to include vague categories like "nonrelative extended family member": any adult who claims to have a mentoring or familial relationship with the child or the child's relatives.

Most disturbingly, the updated [affidavit](#) explicitly states *three times* that "a parent's signature or a court seal is not required." That language is not found in the [current form](#) but is repeated multiple times in the [updated version](#) proposed by AB 495. This change is not cosmetic. It removes any doubt that a caregiver can act without the knowledge or consent of the child's parents.

I am offering these websites to allow you to research bills and contact your state representatives and senators to make your opinion known. Information is a powerful tool.

Maureen Laubacher

QUALITY OF LIFE ~ MARY BEASLEY ~ marybeasleycda@yahoo.com



Good day to my beautiful sisters throughout the state. Last quarter I challenged you all to make someone smile every day. I hope it brought you and continues to bring you joy to make others smile. This quarter, my challenge goes one step further. Beyond the smile we are going to do acts of kindness. These acts can be for someone you know, a stranger or anyone who you feel needs an act of kindness. Doing kind things for others does not just help them, it also helps us. I have attached an article on kindness. I hope you take the time to read it.

[Kindness matters guide](#)

I have also promised to keep you updated on the progress of Olive Crest and their successes of helping the victims of sex trafficking. Here is a link where you can take a virtual tour, to hear some success stories and to find out more information,

[Human Trafficking Prevention](#) however, we have all been invited to take an actual tour of the facilities in person. What a wonderful field trip this could be for your court. Find out ways you can help.

I have been very blessed with a beautiful family full of love as many of us are. It does not take money to live a quality life. It takes love and happiness to fully have a good quality of life. Whose life will you touch?

Let us share our love and gratitude with others.

Mary (JoJo) Beasley

JCDA/YOUTH ~ Carmen Giron ~ dancqueen50@roadrunner



I have been a Catholic Daughters for the past eleven years and during that time served as Secretary, Regent and Vice-Regent for Immaculate Conception #1454.

I am a retired correctional officer and mother of three children and eleven grandchildren. My passions include volunteering for worthy causes including LAPD Pals Program in East Los Angeles, Leader of the Patton Senior Center TOPS Program, and the Knights of Columbus fund raisers. In addition, I am the caregiver for my 92-year old mother.

In my free time I enjoy Scrapbooking, dancing, traveling domestically and internationally, raising money for different charity events, visiting our Ranchito in New Mexico with my husband, and spending time with family and friends.

It is truly an honor to be chosen for the Chairmanship for Youth/JCDA (Circle of Love) and shall strive to lead, inspire and promote our core values from the mission statement throughout our youthful participants.

Carmen Giron

See the JCDA Save the Date Flyer on Page 34

SPIRITUAL ENHANCEMENT ~ CAPRIA WOODSON-TABOR~faithfulgalme@aol.com



“Not My Will But Thy Will”

Summer is coming to an end, and I am hoping the rest of the year will be calmer. For every sunny day there seems to have been three rainy (weather and life). I, actually, enjoy hot sweaty days. Hot days mean sunshine, walks, and mowing the lawn. But this summer has been different. I was motivated and excited after spending April at our State Convention. I thought I would get my mental and physical energy back and I could/would do great things. What I got was a summer of sadness. Friends and acquaintances experienced multiple deaths, then on July 2nd the Texas floods (at least 135 lives lost), my coworker and my bandmate from college both died unexpectedly. By that time, I was just tired. July had not ended, August would bring “Back to School” accidents (I live in a college town), then Labor Day. Just when I had calmed myself down and was thinking happy thoughts (maybe it will not rain all summer), the sadness returned.

Proverbs 3:5 – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight”

I have always preferred the phrase “lean not unto your own understanding” and that is what I kept hearing. On July 28, 2013, I took a rosary to church to be blessed. I asked our younger priest, Fr. Rick, who was covering for the summer, to bless it for my friend who had cancer. It was based on St. Peregrine. I tried to hand it to Fr. Rick, but he pushed my hand back and curled my fingers around it. He wanted me to hold it while he prayed. I was excited full of hope, as I left church, the most important part of her care package was completed. I went home and mowed the lawn. It must have rained a lot that week because I was mowing on Sunday instead of Saturday and the lawn mower kept clogging. I, now, understand what the warning signs that say “Do NOT operate when fatigued” mean. I have a scar on the middle finger of my right hand. That is the hand that held the rosary.

Here we are almost twelve years to the day, and my friend sends a text saying ‘in two days I will be placed on hospice.’ UGH! I would not answer her text for several hours. We had been discussing her, current, medications and the doctors reaction to her concerns. We went full “Nurse”, full “Army Med Corps”, full “Only God can decide that” (she told the doctor that one). So, what happened? Where did we fail? We celebrated her 70th birthday in May with a life-giving party. Friends and family from around the country showed up. We spoke LIFE into her. She danced! That is her thing, dancing. Now, two and a half months later, we are acknowledging the end is near.

How can I lean on ‘my own understanding’ when I do not have any?

We often believe if we pray hard enough in the “right” way or believe deeply that our prayers will be answered. But God does not always give us the answers we asked for. Why not? We can speak of the chain reaction that occurs when one thing or another happens. Being late to work and noticing an accident that happened five minutes before. Being late to mass but overflow mass has the priest you were going to visit. While we only quote verse five of Proverbs 3, the entirety of Proverbs 3 speaks about following the proper order of things, in so doing we demonstrate trust in God, and we are rewarded with a protection we did not know we needed.

It takes some work to get past our worldly understanding, to exercise complete trust in God. Especially, when our hearts are involved. When we pray “The Our Father” we say “Thy will be done”. It serves as a reminder that God has a greater plan than our minds can imagine. When we release ourselves to God’s will, we can witness and receive beauty, hope, and joy. Trusting that there are greater things to come helps release the tension of trying to fix everything. God’s will is explained

in Proverbs 3, “It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.” I saw as I let go of my denial about my friend’s upcoming transition that my stress decreased. My mind filled with memories of her dancing at my wedding and insisting that nothing worry me. At her 70th birthday party this year, she made sure everything was just so. Then, she slipped out of the room, changed into her party outfit. She made a grand entrance and danced the rest of the night!

There is JOY to be had. While this summer has seemed full of sadness, knowing that God has a greater plan has kept me floating on the clouds. Revelations 21:4 starts “he will wipe away every tear from their eyes” and surprisingly I have not shed many tears. I have wonderful memories of those whom I have mourned this year. I have prayed for happy memories to be all that there is for those experiencing the loss of a loved one. I know I will be loud and exhausted as I dance because “mourning will be no more.”

St. Peregrine is the patron saint of cancer, celebrated May 1st, and his colors are blue and silver. His devotion and the miraculous healing of his cancerous leg set an example of hope in God’s time and plan.

Sisters, hold on to HOPE in God’s unchanging words. Share your favorite passages of hope and joy. May your trust in God be sustenance for someone struggling to SMILE.

In Unity and Charity,

Capria Woodson-Tabor

DISTRICT DEPUTY SUPERVISORS

CENTRAL ~ *Lilian Draxler* ~ lilidraxler@yahoo.com



Living with Grief

At some point in our lives, each of us will experience the loss of a loved one. Grief never truly goes away—it becomes something we learn to live with. It weaves itself into our daily lives, quietly accompanying us in both ordinary and significant moments.

Grief resurfaces unexpectedly, often triggered by anniversaries: a birthday, the day of passing, holidays, or milestones you long to share with the one who is no longer here. These reminders stir emotions that never fully fade.

The loss of someone deeply cherished—a child, spouse, parent, or close friend—is not something one “gets over” or forgets. Their presence lingers in familiar places, in everyday routines, and in the quiet spaces of your home. When special dates arrive, the ache of their absence returns with renewed intensity.

Yet, for those of us who are Catholic, grief can bring us to the foot of the Cross. It unites our suffering with Christ’s, in a way few other experiences can. When we offer our sorrow to Him, He gives us the grace to continue. Our faith assures us that this suffering is not in vain—it has meaning, and enduring it becomes part of our journey toward eternal life.

Ways to Help a Grieving Person

1. **Be present at the wake, funeral, or both.**

Witnessing grief is never easy, but your presence is a profound act of love and compassion. Simply being there can mean more than words can express.

2. **Offer specific, tangible help.**
Whether it is preparing meals, writing thank-you notes, watching children, or running errands—specific offers are far more helpful than vague ones like, “Let me know if you need anything.”
3. **Avoid clichés.**
Phrases like “It happened for a reason” or “They’re in a better place,” though often well-meaning, can feel dismissive or even painful. A sincere “I’m so sorry for your loss” is simple, honest, and far more comforting.
4. **Pray for them—and let them know.**
Offer a Mass in their loved one’s name, send a spiritual bouquet, or invite them to pray the Rosary with you. Knowing others are lifting them up in prayer can be a deep consolation.
5. **Support them long after the funeral is over.**
Grief does not end with the burial. Ordinary days can feel unbearable. Your continued patience, compassion, and gentle check-ins in the weeks and months ahead are invaluable.
6. **Talk about their loved one.**
One of the greatest fears in grief is that the person who died will be forgotten. Share a memory, speak their name, ask about them. Even if it brings tears, it often brings comfort, too—it means their loved one is still remembered.

Lilian Draxler

NORTH ~ Sylvia Solíz ~ sylviasoliz1@comcast.net>



I would like to thank our Worthy Regent, Lorine, for her vote of confidence and inviting me to serve as special assignment Northern Calif DD supervisor. I look forward to working with the district deputies in support of their important roles with their assigned courts. Together we will demonstrate what it means to live our mission of unity and charity. I have been a catholic daughter since 2007 but did not become involved with activities until 2015, after my retirement. I served as Regent of St Mary Margaret 1450, District Deputy and State Treasurer. I am married to my high school sweetheart, soon to be 57 years. We have 3 children, our youngest son being an angel, and 5 grandchildren. My life is centered around my family, church and now Catholic Daughter activities. I am very excited to serve under the guidance of the current board and chairmen; they are such a wonderful group of talented spirit filled women. I cannot wait to see what the Lord has in store for us!

Sylvia Solíz

STATE WEBSITE ~ Yvette Manard ~ proactivepatient@verizon.net

State Webmaster



<https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/>

Welcome back from your summer break! I cannot wait to see what events and projects you are planning for your Courts for the September 2025 to June 2026 term. As your State's webmaster, I encourage you to submit your pictures and captions to not only GST but to me so I can post on our "Featured Courts" page.

<https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/news/featured-courts/>

You can not only display your Court Member's activities but also provide ideas and inspiration to other Courts.

Be sure to consider the spokes of the Circle of Love when you are planning your projects so that each spoke is actualized by an activity. In the planning, discussion, and implementation of your activities, remember, Worthy Regent Lorine Bakowsky's theme, "Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3. With this scripture in mind, you can ask for God's guidance and trust in his direction. "Put God in charge of your work, then what you've planned will take place."

Important Website Resources

Please continue to refer to the State website, <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/> for educational, informational, tools and resources. All of our **Releases** are posted on the website for your quick and easy reference. Let your members know where they can always get our CDA National and State news! <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/state-releases/>

Check out our **updated Forms and guidelines** page for downloadable and online fillable forms: <https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/about-us/tools-of-the-trade/forms/>

We have also include a handy, Quick User's Guide to Forms, that tells you which form and the officer that receive the forms.

The **Training and Retreat** page is another good page to bookmark.

<https://www.californiacatholicdaughters.org/about-us/member-resources/training/>

Our CDA CA website* is a valuable tool to promote the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. The State Board invites you to frequently visit and refer others to our website. Make sure to have the **URL handy and bookmark our website** on your cell phone and other devices! This way you can easily share the information with your Court members, families, friends and others.

Yvette Manard

GOLDEN STATE TIDINGS ~ KAREN JONES ~ kdj4237308@gmail.com



Share what your court is doing with your 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 DO NOT SHORTEN YOUR ARTICLES).**

THEMES FOR THE ISSUES

FALL	Welcome, Recruitment, CDA Sunday, Conventions, Hospitality, Service
WINTER	Advent/Christmas, Trainings, Fundraisers, Leadership Reflections, Volunteerism, CDA Sisterhood
SPRING	Lent/Easter, Priests, Stewardship/Piety, Empathy/Compassion
SUMMER	Technology help, Parliamentary help, Fundraising, Faithfulness, Generosity

DUE DATES

FALL 2025	Submit article between August 1 – 31, 2025
WINTER 2025	Submit article between November 1 – 30, 2025
SPRING 2026	Submit article between February 1 – 28, 2026
SUMMER 2026	Submit article between May 1 – 31, 2026

Karen Jones

PRAYERS OF WISDOM

Blessed are those who find wisdom,
those who gain understanding,
for she is more profitable than silver
and yields better returns than gold.
She is more precious than rubies;
nothing you desire can compare with her.
Long life is in her right hand;
In her left hand are riches and honor.
Her ways are pleasant ways,
and all her paths are peace.

Proverbs 3:13-17 NIV

Do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight,
Preserve sound judgment and discretion;
They will be life for you.

Proverbs 3:21-22 NIV

The wisdom from above is first of all pure.
It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to
Yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows
No favoritism and is always sincere.

James 3:17 NLT

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER

COURT #	COURT NAME	CITY	ANNIV DATE	2025
1158	St. Theresa	Gustine	9/7/1930	95
1939	St. Felicitas	N. Highlands	9/25/1965	60
2517	St. Anne	Banning	9/6/2003	22
2637	Our Lady of Grace	Reedley	9/11/2010	15

OCTOBER

COURT #	COURT NAME	CITY	ANNIV DATE	2025
1162	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	10/12/1930	95
1520	Guardian Angel	Montebello	10/2/1949	76
1521	Regina Coeli	Porterville	10/3/1949	76
1652	St. Francis of Assisi	Hanford	10/4/1953	72
2418	Queen of the Americas	Sylmar	10/29/1995	30
2520	Santa Sophia	Spring Valley	10/11/2003	22
2525	St. Basil the Great	Vallejo	10/25/2003	22

NOVEMBER

COURT #	COURT NAME	CITY	ANNIV DATE	2025
1450	St. Mary Margaret	Pittsburg	11/13/1947	78
1661	Our Lady of Good Success	Clovis	11/15/1953	72
1707	Our Lady of the Miracle	Navato	11/2/1955	70

2025 QUALITY COURT AWARDS

COURT NAME	COURT #	QUALITY COURT AWARD
Whittier	519	Gold
Compton	942	Gold
St. Catherine	1378	Gold
Santa Maria	1079	Gold
Our Lady of Peace	1306	Gold
Holy Spirit	1803	Gold
Mary, Queen of the World	2400	Gold
Our Lady of LaSalette	2499	Gold
St. Anne	2517	Gold
St. John	2526	Gold
St. Joachim	2533	Gold
Guardian Angel	1520	Silver
John Paul II	2563	Silver
St. Alphonsus de Liguori	2696	Silver
Ramon Mestres	1505	Silver
Our Lady of the Desert	1629	Bronze

UPCOMING COURT EVENTS

MONTHLY PATRIOTIC ROSARY	When: 1st Monday of every month Where: 3737 W. McKinley Fresno, CA 93722 Time: 6:00 p.m. Info: Monica Herrera at 559-269-1538 Or via Zoom: Meeting Id: 917 628 7316 Passcode: 2526
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.
SEPT. 13, 2025	DISTRICT DEPUTY TRAINING: CENTRAL CA – FRESNO Where: Retreat Center 3737 W. McKinley Ave., Fresno, CA 93722 Time: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm Continental breakfast & lunch Cost: \$20.00 – includes: sandwich, salad, chips, drink, dessert RSVP: Order & payment due by Sept. 4, 2025 Make checks payable to: Court St. John #2526 Send names, lunch selection, & payments to: Yvonne Connolly, 2nd Vice Regent 1433 Jesusita, Santa Barbara, CA 93105
SEPT. 13, 2025	DISTRICT DEPUTY TRAINING: SO. CA – LOS ANGELES AREA Where: St. Mary's of the Assumption 7215 Newlin Ave., Whittier, CA 90602 Time: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm Lunch is provided Cost: \$25.00 (includes tax & tip) RSVP: Order & payment due by Sept. 8, 2025 Make checks payable to: Court Whittier #519 Send names, lunch selections & payments to: Yvette Manard, State Secretary 12320 Hedda Drive, Cerritos, CA 90703
SEPT. 27, 2025	DISTRICT DEPUTY TRAINING: NO. CA – SACRAMENTO Where: St. Paul Church, Classroom 1 8720 Florin Rd., Sacramento, CA 95828 Time: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm Lunch is provided: Cost: \$5.00 - Hot dog, chips, drink & cookie RSVP: Order & payment due by Sept. 8, 2025 Make checks payable to: Court Sacramento #172 Send names, orders, payment to: Michelle Eck, Treasurer 8517 Middlesax Way, Sacramento, CA 95828

SEPT. 27, 2025	DISTRICT DEPUTY TRAINING: SO. CA – SAN BERNARDINO Where: St. Adelaide Parish Hall 27457 Base Line St., Highland, CA 92346 Time: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm Lunch will be provided from Jersey Mikes Subs – donated by Court Good Shepherd #1930 RSVP: Order due by Sept. 19, 2025 Send names, lunch selections & payments to: Yvette Manard, State Secretary 12320 Hedda Drive, Cerritos, CA 90703
SEPT. 27, 2025	CDA COURT OUR LADY OF VICTORY #1344 TEA Where: St. James School O’Gorman Center 4625 Garnet St., Torrance, CA Time: 12:00 pm Cost: \$25.00 donation (includes Tea, Tea sandwiches, Scones, Desserts, 1 Raffle ticket) (2 nd raffle tickets available at the door \$1 each) Ticket Info: Lucy Reinhardt-Ulatowski @ 619-201-9254 Proceeds to: Court Our Lady of Victory General Fund Please bring Shelf Stable Food for Donation to: House of Yahweh
OCT. 5, 2025	SAVE THE DATE: 95TH ANNIVERSARY TEA PARTY Mass Time: 11:00 a.m. Where: Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa 751 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA Reception Time: 1:00 p.m. Where: San Luis Obispo Elks Club #322 222 Elks Lane, San Luis Obispo, CA Cost: \$25.00 RSVP: By September 15, 2025 Ticket Information Contact: Kathy Clifton – 805-215-2464
OCT. 11, 2025	SAVE THE DATE: GARDEN PARTY Where: San Roque Catholic Church Courtyard 325 Argonne Cir, Santa Barbara, CA Doors open: 11:00 a.m. Lunch served: 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$40.00 per person – payable to SB CDA 293
SEPT. 27, 2025	TRAVELING ROSARY ST. MALACHY #2360 Where: 407 West E Street, Tehachapi, CA 93561 In Prayer Garden Time: 10:30 a.m. Contact: Beatriz Buoni at 661-557-8435 Sponsor: Court St. John #2526

NATIONAL NEWS

VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

Hosted by National facilitators: Fr. Erick, Connie Dronette, Susan Killian

Book Title: “Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary” “Unveiling the Mother of the Messiah”

By Brant Pitre

When: Starts September 15, 2025

Where: Zoom – for the Zoom link or more information, please RSVP to

Susan Killian – susankillian@gmail.com or 909-519-3719

Time: 4:00 pm – Pacific Time

5:00 pm – Mountain Time

6:00 pm – Central Time

7:00 pm – Eastern Time

Book cost: \$14.28 if purchased from Amazon, Walmart, or Target

\$25.00 if purchased from Barnes and Noble

A GIRL’S TRIP TO CDA NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS – for up to 5 guests

Includes: 4 days and 3 nights stay at the Grand Old Lady (Dorm style) in NYC

A Broadway ticket for each guest (up to \$200.00 each)

A Travel Voucher for each guest (up to \$500.00 each)

A Food Voucher for each guest (up to \$250.00 each)

Purchase entry ends December 31, 2025

The recipient winner will be drawn at the March for Life in DC on January 23, 2026

For more information: Download flyer: [Release16_-New-York-Trip-Flyer.pdf](#)

Entry form: [Release-16_Tickets-for-NY-Trip-2025.pdf](#)

2 PILGRIMAGES

12 DAYS FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL GREECE – OCTOBER 17 – 28, 2025

Led by: National Regent Susan Monè and National Chaplain Fr. Erick Villa

Price: \$5,600 all-inclusive except lunches

\$100 early bird special – book by December 31, 2024

Open spots: 0

Enrollment fee: \$800 (payable on booking)

50% due – May 17, 2025

Full balance due – July 17, 2025

Contact: Email: www.Lpjp.com

Mail: L.P. Pilgrimages

P.O. Box 2015, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Phone 1-833-944-8242

12 DAY ITALY PILGRIMAGE – The Jubilee of Rome 2025 CDA NY

November 3 – 14, 2025

Led by: State Regent Connie Breindel with State Chaplain Father Rob Orlowski

Price per person sharing room: \$ 4,790

Deposit: \$400

Open spots: 21

Single Supplement: \$750

Land only price: \$3,900

12 DAY ITALY PILGRIMAGE The Jubilee of Rome 2025 CDA NY (lpjp.org)

SAVE THE DATE: CDA NATIONAL CONVENTION

When: July 22-26, 2026

Where: Coralville Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center

300 East 9th Street, Coralville, Iowa

Concert and Workshops are on July 21, 2026

Tours will be prior to July 21, 2026

More information is coming soon.



JCDA Turns 100!

Save the Date

June 9 – 12, 2026

LOVE YOUR #SELFIE RETREAT

To be held in
Lake Charles, Louisiana



JCDA ACTIVITIES

COURT OUR LADY OF GRACE #1306

JCDA Court Our Lady of Grace #1306, San Bernardino, CA celebrated their one year anniversary on August 10th. They participated at mass on August 17th and processed in with the symbols, renewed their pledge and they received a blessing.



JCDA Court & St. Michael Catholic Warriors



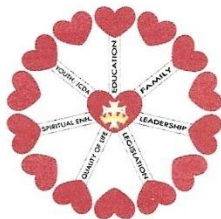
JCDA Patron Saint: Our Lady of Grace, Banner and our Symbols



We had so many brothers wanting to join JCDA, and a Squires group was not available, that **we decided to create a group for the boys, named Saint Michael Catholic Warriors. Their symbols are the Armor of God.**

We had a membership drive after Mass for both groups and are excited for our September meeting.

COURTS ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE STATE

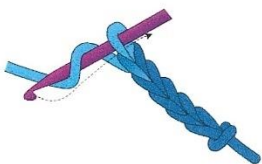
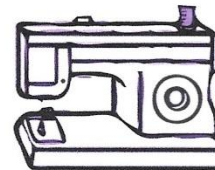


Court #2733 Daughters of St. Joseph the Worker

Circle of Love Project: Quality of Life

NICU Blanket Preparation Day

Several of our court members met on Saturday, May 3rd to create and assemble blankets for the Loma Linda University Medical Center NICU. We made all white blankets for baptisms and colored blankets for any NICU patients. There was a task for everyone: pinning flannel pieces together, sewing the flannel blankets, crocheting edges around fleece, perforating the edges of fleece so they can be crocheted, learning to crochet, ironing flannel, cutting out fleece and flannel, and other tasks as well. The time was lively with positive conversation and the enjoyment of each other's company. Several blankets were completed and some of our sisters took home stacks of fleece to finish the edging. Food was brought and shared. It was a beautiful morning spent in fellowship, productivity and service!



COURT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI #1652

We hosted our Annual Spring Luncheon, and it was a great success! Members decorate each table as they choose, so you never know if you will be eating with bees, leprechauns, football teams or Starbucks. Aside from over 100 Opportunity Items, we also featured a Bishop's Bourse item, which 100% of the proceeds goes directly to them. Our ladies work hard, especially this year, where many of our ladies stepped out of their comfort zones and worked in different areas so they can be cross trained! Thank you to all for always giving 100%! Christian women working together to share a wonderful afternoon while raising funds to allow our Court to help our community is what CDA is all about! Thank you for supporting us and thank you to our members for a job well done!



COURT OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE #2499

Court Our Lady of La Salette #2499 honored our outgoing chaplain Fr. James Gibson with the gift of a mass card, gift certificate and bobble head likeness. We wish him many blessings in his new parish assignment and thank him for all of his spiritual guidance.



BLESSED SACRAMENT #2024

August 14, 2025 members of Court Blessed Sacrament #2024 presented backpacks, full of school supplies, and teacher support items to Blessed Sacrament Catholic School.



THE SAN DIEGO COURTS

San Diego Comes Together The Catholic Daughters of the Americas courts in San Diego and two supporting Councils of the Knights of Columbus come together to raise money for a mutual charity. The Garden of Innocence is a charity that provides dignified burials for unclaimed or abandoned infants and children. They provide beautiful burials in beautiful gardens at cemeteries where they have obtained land for such burials. gardenofinnocence.org



Pat Postal, former California Quality of Life Chairman (Court Teresa of Avila) during the early 2000s approached current California Quality of Life Chairman Mary Beasley (Court Santa Sophia) to host a mystery dinner fundraiser benefiting the Garden of Innocence. Knowing this was something Pat had been wanting to do for over 20 years, and has put her own personal time and funds in for the event, No was not an option. The two of them invited the Knights of Columbus from each of their parishes and another Catholic Daughters of the Americas local court in San Diego (Our Lady of the Holy Spirit) to participate with them, Pat Postal wrote a mystery skit which took place in the Lucky Ducky Casino aboard the Magnolia Blossom Paddle Wheeler Cruise, floating down the Mississippi River AKA the Santa Sophia Parish Hall, which was decorated in a casino theme.

Through the various silent auction items, raffle bags and other donated items, the dinner raised enough money to present the Founders of the Garden of Innocence with a check for \$6,500, who were present at the dinner. This was the largest donation given to the Garden of Innocence to date. It was a very successful event and the founders Rebecca and Elissa were very happy. Not only were we able to provide much needed funds to keep this program growing, but they were able to share information about the charity. We invite you to click on the link above to learn more about this charity.



Pat says "The event was blessed by the Bethlehem Star brightly shining in the sky above the hall." She saw it as she was leaving for the evening. "Thank you Holy Spirit!" from us all.

COURT ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI #2696

August 24, 2024 members and officers of Court St. Alphonsus Liguori #2696 celebrated their 10th Anniversary at Mass, followed by a reception at San Antonio Winery



FATHER ERICK VILLA

The installation of Father Erick Villa as the 5th Rector of the Cathedral of Christ the Light was held on August 14, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.



Pictured from left to right: Lorine Bakowsky, Susan Mone, Sheri Kanagawa, Lil Draxler and Father Erick

CONGRATULATIONS TO STATE REGENT LORINE BAKOWSKY'S ON HER CELEBRATION



The Official State Charity of our CA CDA Worthy State Regent, Lorine Bakowsky is Homes of Hope India. Click on the link below to learn more about this charity.

<https://www.homeofhopeindia.org/>



A special, spiritual, sunset rosary to close out a beautiful CA CDA day of celebration, sisterhood and unity.

