

# Our Lady of the Prairie News

South Dakota Catholic Daughter of the Americas®

June 2020  
Volume 57, Issue 2



## 58<sup>th</sup> Biennial National Convention Canceled

After great discernment, our National Regent, Olga Samaniego announced on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 that our national convention in Dallas, Texas is canceled. There were many factors that were used in determining this decision. The covid-19 pandemic was a major part; the airports, flight itself, the fact that as careful as we can be, we all attend from across the country and beyond, we could pass on the virus and not know it. The other major factor was the contract with the hotel. The Sheraton canceled our contract because they were unable to guarantee that we would be allowed to gather in larger groups per Texas guidelines. If CDA would have canceled the contract, the fees and penalties cost would have been near half of million dollars; so waiting for the hotel to cancel was the correct financial decision. Delegate registrations were very low and it may have not been enough to have a quorum present for the voting of officers, bylaws and with the national office in New York City closed several days a week, getting things ready for the convention was just too much at this time. Canceling was the best decision for all these reasons.

National Regent, Olga has a video on Facebook, to explain what the processes might be as we go forward. A letter from Olga was emailed (it's on the national website) to all the court regents. The national board met the first weekend of June to develop a process and plan for completing the work of voting for new board members, directors, the nominating committee and for any of the by-laws that are proposed. More information will be coming from those decisions made. It was said that IF your regent mailed your delegate form to the national office, all delegates will receive a ballot; they will be mailed to the regent they have on record, past or present. Delegates, please be aware and ask your regent about this in time. One final item is that if anyone wants to run for national office or nominating committee, all the proper papers must be filed with Olga Samaniego, national regent by June 20, 2020; refer to the national by-laws as to what you need to do for paperwork.

Our chartered bus has been canceled, all deposit fees have been refunded. Thank you to those South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa members who had reserved your seat.

Again, please be expecting more from the National office concerning the voting and be aware of the deadline to submit these ballots. It is important that you vote and mail back soon after you get them. Watch for more details as they will be passed along to all local regents and will be uploaded to the SD CDA webpage. Next national convention is in 2022 with San Juan, Puerto Rico as our host. They guarantee a wonderful island convention.

### 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.

#### National Website:

[www.catholicdaughters.org](http://www.catholicdaughters.org)

#### State Website:

[www.cdassouthdakota.com](http://www.cdassouthdakota.com)

*Do you have news to share?*

*Email your stories and pictures to:*

#### Newsletter:

[SDCDA1918news@gmail.com](mailto:SDCDA1918news@gmail.com)

#### Web Page:

[SDCDA1918web@gmail.com](mailto:SDCDA1918web@gmail.com)



### Diocese of Rapid City Gets a New Bishop

Congratulations to all our Courts and Parishes that are in western SD. The Bishop's Bulletin (SF Diocese magazine) reports that a bishop has been selected. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Pope Francis named Fr. Peter M. Muhich (pronounced Mew-ich), to be the new bishop, most recently serving as rector of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary in Duluth, MN. He will become the ninth bishop of the diocese. Muhich grew up in Eveleth, MN and is the second of seven children.

South Dakota Catholic Daughters welcome Fr Muhich as the new Rapid City Diocese Bishop and look forward to meeting and working with him in the years to come. We hope to see him at our State Convention in Spearfish, April 15-18, 2021.

For more information on Bishop-elect Muhich, check out:  
<https://www.rapidcitydiocese.org/bishop-elect-peter-muhich/>

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#### **Next State Newsletter**

**Article Deadline:**

**September 10th, 2020**

## State Officers

### *State Chaplain*

**Rev Andrew Dickinson**

Pius XII Newman Ctr  
PO Box 730  
Brookings, SD 57006  
605-692-9461  
frandrewdickinson@sfcatholic.org

### *State Regent*

**Brenda Anderson**

PO Box 111  
Roscoe SD 57471  
605-380-1514  
andersonbrenda@hotmail.com

### *First Vice State Regent*

**Judy Konechne**

PO Box 76  
Kimball, SD 57355  
(605) 680-1558  
sdcдавice1@gmail.com

### *Second Vice State Regent*

**Michele Sage**

125 Gilley Ave  
Brookings, SD 57006  
(605) 695-5960  
michelesage2003@yahoo.com

### *State Secretary*

**Deborah Burdick**

17367 Sherry Lane  
Redfield SD 57479  
605-460-1123  
deborah.burdick-cda@midco.net

### *State Treasurer*

**JoAnn Hoffman**

PO Box 716  
Parkston SD 57366  
605-770-7928  
buttons\_molly\_50@yahoo.com

### *State Newsletter Editor*

**Laree Giovannettone**

SDCDA1918news@gmail.com

### *Website Manager*

**Amanda Konechne**

SDCDA1918web@gmail.com



### **State Regent—Brenda Anderson**

Several months ago, I looked at all the newsletter deadlines and choose the focus for the issues. The Holy Spirit knew that for June, we'd need strength to get us through everything. So, how strong are each of you? For me, it's simple; some days are good and others not so good. Strength is part of us, physically, mentally, emotionally and historically. Our Catholic faith is filled with battles of strength; Eve vs snake, Cain vs Able, Satan vs Jesus in the desert, Moses vs Pharaoh, the Apostles vs the unbelievers, the saints vs the persecutors, etc. Your battle may not be with a snake or persecutors, but your battle is real for you. CoVid-19 has kept many of you in isolation and away from those you love or from your CDA sisters and church family, that is a battle. Maybe your job or business has diminished. The decision to wear a mask or not may be your battle. Whatever it is, your faith can be your strength to protect yourself and vulnerable others in the weeks ahead. "Be not Afraid" is in the bible 365 times, daily we are reminded and given the strength to go on with faith and perseverance. "Let Go and Let God" is another reminder to give up our worries and have strength in knowing that God is in charge.

You, have been my strength. The prayers and notes you send have been there to give me the strength and increase of faith to help this state regent get through difficult times and decisions. My faith is in our Lord, who gives strength to each of us as Catholic Daughters of the Americas. May God increase your faith, give you peace and strength.

### **National Representative — Susan Moné, Second Vice National Regent**



*"I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Gives Me Strength" Phil 4:13*

If ever we have been challenged to have faith and believe in these words, it has been the past three months! It has been an extremely stressful time for all of us in many different situations and conditions. It has been painful and worrisome for those of our Catholic Daughters sisters who have personally been affected by Covid-19 either yourself and/or a family loved one. And my deepest sympathy goes to any of you who have suffered the loss of a family member or a court if you have loss a member. Having a loved one in the hospital is always a worry or sad to lose a family member or close friend but it has been unimaginable to not be able to visit in the hospital and intolerable grief to be denied the ability to be at the bedside as a loved one was in their final days and hours alone, and knowing that not even a priest could go into the hospital to give a blessing of the sick or Last Rites. Our faith is what has carried all of us through these strange days and given us the strength to remember God has been in control.

As CDA courts, your officers and you have drawn on your strength to find ways to conduct business and keep your courts moving forward, including conducting elections. A special "Thank You" to all the officers who faced these unique challenges as you ended your term and congratulation to the newly elected officers who will guide your courts through the return to meetings and events as time allows us to gather in unity and charity once again. Our lives have been affected in ways that none of us would have ever believed possible and that included the cancelation of our National Convention in Dallas. Those planning to attend were so excited and we all met the announcement with sadness and great disappointment. I assure all of you that the National Board worked hard to continue our planning for the convention as did the Texas convention committees. We took a very positive stand as the pandemic began that by July, convention would be a go. But in the end we all were hit by the effects of the covid-19 and the Executive Board, with tremendous sadness and tears in our eyes, had to make the difficult final decision with the health and safety of our CDA members as our top priority. On June 4-7<sup>th</sup> the Executive Board met in Mesa, AZ to work out all the details of how we handle the convention business without a convention. Your State Regent will receive communications from National Regent Olga Samaniego, to pass on to all the local courts as we proceed. Please keep us in your prayers as we carry out these procedures in uncharted waters. Know that I continue to pray every day for all of my CDA sisters for health and blessings for you and your family. Stay strong in the Risen Lord!



**1st Vice State Regent — Judy Konechne**

May God’s blessings be upon all of you during this ‘unknown’ time. Who knew we would be watching Mass on TV, a computer, or listening by phone. This should be a time where you are joined as a family to attend mass ‘at home’.

What a way to find our strength in the Lord and increase our faith as we look forward to the day we can openly attend mass in a Church. We need the love of God to give us strength to grow in him and get us thru all things.

You may have had Zoom meetings or held meetings by sending an agenda and asking for email votes. There were several ways you moved forward to complete the mission of CDA. Congratulations to all the newly elected officers. Thank you for stepping up and saying yes to moving CDA through the next two years. I look forward to working with you. Remember, you are not alone. The State Officers and District Deputies are here to help you. Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need any. Also, please watch for dates of the upcoming officer training and make plans for attending to help strengthen your knowledge of CDA.

As we continue through the summer months, find ways to continue the works of the Lord so that you may find strength in your faith, your families and in CDA. Pray that by Fall we can gather and show our love for God by doing our good works as we have in the past. Pray for the end of the virus and for the end of troubles in the world.



**State Treasurer — JoAnn Hoffman**

Wow, what an unbelievable past three months! God sure knew how to show the world who is in control! We may have questions of why our Lord would allow all this suffering from the Covid-19 and now the riots throughout our nation.

*“God of mercy, worthy of our praise, may your name always be honored, may all your creation praise your forever.” Tobit 3:15*

We have all drawn from our inner strength to get through this pandemic. Our local courts have refined how to conduct meetings virtually, either by Zoom meetings, emails and voting online, and meetings with masks and safe distancing. We have used our strength of our faith, while watching Mass on TV either from St. Joseph Cathedral with Bishop DeGrood or your home parish on local cable channel or parishes on YouTube, and EWTN.

We have the blessings to draw from our faith and the knowledge that Jesus will bring us through these times. We have a deep love of Jesus to bring us through all that is before.

Holy Spirit descend upon us. Lift our heavy hearts. Quench our thirst for your Body and Blood.

*Jesus told them another parable: “the Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man takes a mustard seed and sows it in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it grows up, it is the biggest of all plants. It becomes a tree, so that birds come and make their nests in its branches.” Matthew 13:31*

Let us all be as strong as the Mustard Seeds!



**2nd Vice State Regent — Michele Sage**

STRENGTH....according to one of Webster’s many definitions, the word means “the quality or state of being strong—having moral or intellectual power”. As I write this, the nation and the world has lost it’s moral and/or intellectual power. We have let the devil take over our

minds and our hearts, letting hate, prejudice, bitterness overwhelm us. We need to step back and look to the Lord God above for the strength through prayer to stop this hatred. We need to take this strength given by God, to use it for good in the world, our nation, our state, our communities and our homes. We must find the strength to help lift up our courts with new members; find new ideas for the “out-of-the-box” thinking we need to use to maintain our health and safety during this pandemic; find new and strong officers that will lead CDA during this time in our CDA history both on the local and national levels. Use this time over the summer when we usually are “resting” from our CDA duties to strengthen your courts, and your personal life with prayer. I offer you this prayer to help you with the latter.

**Renewed Strength Prayer**

“Mighty God, thank you that you are my strength and my song, you fill my heart with joy. You have promised that those who hope in you will have their strength renewed. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Strengthen me according to your word. Remind me that my strength is found in you and your mighty power. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, and power and strength, be unto you my God for ever and ever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.”

We look forward to seeing you this fall at the New Officer Training workshop. Hope we can meet face-to-face.



**State Treasurer — Deborah Burdick**

How has your strength grown over the last few months? I think everyone has grown in strength in ways we didn’t expect or plan to, for we are stronger than we know! Over the last few months, we’ve all had to dig deep and find strength we didn’t know we had. Our

monthly CDA meetings have changed, too. For the most part we’ve held elections, done our financial reviews, and now are installing those new officers. All are being done differently, but we’ve all found the strength to carry on regardless of the difficulty. If your court is struggling with something, please call. As State Officers, we are always available for ideas and suggestions to help you all come up with ways get things done.

The best way to deal with all the challenges that are testing our strength is to continue turning the challenges over to our heavenly Father, through it all He is the strong constant, unshakable figure. Always there when we call on Him – He is our strength.

Be sure to send in your new slate of officers and installation plans to Brenda. Spring Financial Reviews go to Brenda and myself, not Deb DeFries. I think I owe Deb a book of stamps as she’s had to forward lots of mail to me!

## National News

### What can we expect from National?

Refunds - Please be patient with the refund from the National office for your convention registration and meals. Refunds will be mailed soon. One check will come for the court for all delegates, which then should be refunded to the individual delegates if they paid personally. Be mindful again that the National office in New York City was closed much of March, April, May, and June thus far. They are working with a skeleton staff to create a healthy workspace and want to get your money back to you as quickly as possible.

Ballots—ALL courts who mailed in their delegate number will receive that same number of voting ballots. On that form, the name of the delegate was not noted, but your Court minutes will have that information. Regents will receive these ballots and need to make sure each delegate gets the ballot allocated to her. Return them per date requested. The new officers, directors, and nominating committee will be announced by mid-July.

Awards—Awards will be printed in the convention books. Again all courts will receive convention books for that number of delegates that was submitted. I am sorry that individual awards have to be done this way, but again, we have no control over how these things play out. Congratulations, all of the SD winners that will be announced. (I'm excited and looking forward to the awesomeness of our SD courts and members)

Books—Convention booklets were already printed, thus you will be getting them. Booklets to be received: the program, the awards, and the report. These booklets are a wonderful resource for your court to get ideas what your court could do. Think outside the box and try new things.

National Convention 'for sale' items: The CDA Store on the national website could be listing various items that will be available. Possibilities include, the NC pin, charity walk t-shirt, registration bag etc. Whatever was ordered for the convention will most likely be for sale on the website: [www.catholicdaughters.org](http://www.catholicdaughters.org). Remember there is no shipping fee for items you buy through the CDA Store. Payment through PayPal or your court check. Order you supplies for the upcoming fall season too.

### **National and State Dues**

All Spring dues have NOT been mailed out at the time of this printing. Again, with the national office closed, those numbers have not been calculated or processed. The state sends out their membership due statements after we get the numbers that national has on file. When you do get these statements in the mail, please get a check in the mail, no meeting needed to pay dues. In November, we should be back on schedule for your Fall dues.

### Officer Installations

Some courts have completed with the election process: nominations, voting and the installation ceremony. Some courts have not gotten past the first step. Every court needs to do what they can depending on the comfort of getting together and the required social distancing. Ideas on how to hold a meeting at a distance were given in the last Ramblings from the Regent and these have worked for quite a few courts. If you just keep skipping your meetings, you will have a mountain of items to attend to at a later date. Please try to have your meetings; NINE are required per year to be in accordance with the national by-laws. You can have 12 if you want, but only required to have nine. Due to the restrictions, courts are finding it easier to have the Courtroom installation. This ceremony is in the 'Tools of the Trade' and very simple to use, especially if gathering is out of your comfort zone. I ask all courts to notify all the state officers and your DD on the night you will be doing this installation, even if it is on your normal meeting night. Etiquette in the past was a formal invitation to join the ceremony, but a simple email now is all we ask. Another possibility is that we join you via the computer for this ceremony or for your meetings. Communicate to us when you are meeting, (many courts have changed their meetings due to the pandemic) and maybe you will get to see us at your meeting and be able to have many questions answered right there on the screen. Do not forget, robes are still worn for the courtroom ceremony, so it is 11" from the floor with your white shoes on.

### RIP Regent Ramblings—Note from Brenda

Every quarter, I put together another newsletter for all the local courts, which was first issued by Past State Regent, Vickie Feist a few years back. This is a great way to stay connected between the issues of the state newsletter, "Our Lady of the Prairie". Barb Wiechmann and I have continued but sometimes I called it Ramblings from the Regent. I was talking about the last issue, with my trusted marketing manager (my daughter Rachel) and she made a good point. "Who wants to read something that says it's just rambling on and on?" She was right! Therefore, from now on, it will have a new name: **SD Regent Report and Review** (the RRR). I have also included other court officers on the emailing list, past regents, maybe the vice regent and/or book officers. If you have a court newsletter, give me the email address of the editor as they are often looking for additional information to include in your court newsletter. NOTHING in the RRR will ever be private or top secret, as I have always felt the more communication, the more information that is shared, the more others understand and become involved. The next issue should be out later in July/August. Until then, good luck with your meetings on a back patio, in the park, at the parish hall with wide tables or any other way you can think of. Changing things is not a bad thing and you might find attendance increase.

**State Education Co-Chairs – Sally Dolan & Cleo Kast**

We hope you are all staying well, staying safe. Even with the virus crisis, we had 20 courts submit Education entries. In addition, 21 courts sent in their Circle of Love Reports. We had some neat projects, which we will share with you at a later date. The Education winners, as well as the top three Circle of Love reports, are listed below. May we all continue to pray for the end to the pandemic with a return to normal/new-normal life! We also need to pray for peace and a coming together in our country.

**2020 Education Circle of Love Winners**

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Court St. Rita, #916 Rapid City—“Celebrating Women”
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Immaculate Heart of Mary, #2654 Lemmon—“Human Trafficking Awareness Conference”
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Our Lady of Fatima, #1518 Orient/Polo—“Unplanned, A Testament to the Truth”

**2020 Education Contest Winners**

**Art**

Division I (Grades 4 & 5)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Molly Olson, St. Ann #1121, Pierre/Ft. Pierre
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Karina Driedger, Margaret Mary #2453, Mitchell
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jessalyn Zimprich, St. Rita #534, Watertown

Division II (Grades 6,7,8)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Sophie Schwebach, Sancta Maria #368, Dell Rapids
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emma Hegg, Margaret Mary #2453, Mitchell
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Alejandro Rodarte, St. Rita #916, Rapid City

Division III (Grades 9,10,11,12)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Maya Heinitz, Sancta Maria #368, Dell Rapids
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Auburn Pulse, St. Patrick #1699, Kimball
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Joshua Weaver, St. Rita #916, Rapid City

Adult Division

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Amanda Konechne, St. Patrick #1699, Kimball

**Poetry**

Division I (Grades 4 & 5)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Tai Charlson, St. Ann #1121, Pierre/Ft. Pierre
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emersyn Herber, Sancta Maria #368, Dell Rapids
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jaida Skyberg, St. Thomas #1533, Humboldt

Division II (Grades 6,7,8)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Allison Case, St. Pius X #1827, Waubay/Webster
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lizzie Pavlis, Our Lady of Peace #1708, Flandreau
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Nicholas Ambrosion, St. Willard #967, Yankton

Division III (Grades 9,10,11,12)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Joshua Weaver, St. Rita #916, Rapid City
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Erin Case, St. Pius X #1827, Waubay/Webster
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Alex Gaspar, Sancta Maria #368, Dell Rapids

Adult Division

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Charlotte Hoverstadt, St. Pius X #1827, Waubay/Webster
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Audrey Konechne, St. Patrick #1699, Kimball

**Essay**

Division I (Grades 4 & 5)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Gabriella Klein, St. Thomas Aquinas #1949, Madison
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Isabella Escalante, St. Rita #916, Rapid City
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jaxon Baumberger, Sancta Maria #368, Dell Rapids

Division II (Grades 6,7,8)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Maggie McKeown, St. Pius X #1827, Waubay/Webster
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ben Hebda, St. Willard #967, Yankton
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Alex Kidangathazhe, St. Agnes #618, Brookings

Division III (Grades 9,10,11,12)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Kiley R. Klein, St. Thomas Aquinas #1949, Madison
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Aubrey Hansen, Sancta Maria #368, Dell Rapids
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Joshua Weaver, St. Rita #916, Rapid City

**Computer Art**

Division I (Grades 4 & 5)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Olivia Homan, St. Christina #2336, Lennox
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bree Rockwell, Margaret Mary #2453, Mitchell
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Karson Walti, St. Ann #1121, Pierre/Ft. Pierre

Division II (Grades 6,7,8)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Harlee Guindon, Madonna #1952, Plankinton
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Shourya Goyal, St. Rita #916, Rapid City
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Hunter Magee, Margaret Mary #2453, Mitchell

Division III (Grades 9,10,11,12)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Trinity Mutchler, St. Rita #916, Rapid City

**Photography**

Division II (Grades 6,7,8)

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Sabrina Strand, Madonna #1952, Plankinton
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Addy Tesch, St. Rita #534, Watertown
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Izabella Johnson, Mother Teresa #2510, Sioux Falls

Adult Division

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Charlotte Hoverstadt, St. Pius X #1827, Waubay/Webster
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Irma J. Fees, Our Lady of Lourdes #2056, Hot Springs
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Dianne Thyen, St. Rita #534, Watertown

All courts with winning entries will be getting a check from the State for the total amount. Courts then need to divide the winnings per entrant accordingly. The Education Chairmen will return your entries to you, but all 1<sup>st</sup> place winners were mailed to National. Those winners have not been announced yet. Those entries and prize money will come from National. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to the local Education contest chairpersons who encourage entries at all levels.

**Local Officer Workshop**

An officer workshop will be held on *Saturday, August 23rd*. Location is to be determined. All court officers are asked to attend. Bring your enthusiasm and questions with you. You will be working with the State officers as well as others in your office.

## State News

### District Deputy – Carolyn Downs

With all of the uncertainty and challenges that our CDA organization has been experiencing these past months and will continue to be encountering in the months ahead, I wish to praise our Catholic Daughter leadership teams for the wonderful job they have all been doing to keep our membership focused on the work that we have to accomplish to keep our courts in compliance. Our courts in Colman, Brookings, Flandreau and Dell Rapids have completed their financial reviews and elections in great order and have kept in touch with their members through some creative maneuvering. We have all faced the canceling of our fundraisers, social gatherings, and meetings to the point that we are now aware of how meaningful these are in our personal lives and the workings of our courts. We miss the fellowship and spiritual benefits of being able to share, pray, eat and have fun together. I want to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing officers for their tireless and caring work in leading their courts through the past two years and their willingness to adapt to the challenges which they faced together. It is wonderful to welcome the new officers to leadership positions, both returning and new. All are ready to inspire and guide their members in the work of our Catholic Daughters of the Americas organization. Let us all go forth and find women to join us in our work and pray that our mother, Mary, will give us the grace that we need to work in Unity and Charity!

### Past Regents mini convention

What a time we have been through! I hope we are all out and about and the pandemic is past when you receive your newsletter. If not KEEP PRAYING for this to resolve.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Past Local Court Regents meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2020 at the Red Barn Inn, Kimball, SD. Plans are to start at 10 AM that Saturday. Please ask your Regent about more details in July/August. I will have the State Regent include more in the RRR and it will be on the State CDA webpage. The officers are planning a fun and hopefully educational day for all the past regents at the Red Barn Inn. If you wish to come on Friday there is plenty of room at the Inn. Please call Kayla at 605-730-0350 for rates and to make reservations. The rooms are for 2 to 5 people so plan on bringing a car load of ladies.

We will need to have a head count for the food as we cannot divide the fish and loaves to serve everyone. LOL. It was a fun time at the last gathering at the State Convention. The officers are looking forward to seeing all of you. It will be a day of sharing and praying together.

Barb Wiechmann, President of Past Regents  
Sandy Seiner, Vice President  
Audrey Konechne, Secretary/Treasurer

***Next State Newsletter Article Deadline:  
September 10th, 2020***

### District Deputy – Paulette Fischer

Congratulations to Carolee and Dennis Kapperman on the ordination of their son, Michael to the priesthood at St. Joseph Cathedral in Sioux Falls on May 29. Carolee is the Regent of St. George Court in Hartford. Fr. Kapperman has been assigned as Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Aberdeen, SD.

### District Deputy – Bonnie Spratte

This has been a very trying time. With everyone self isolating, elections were made more difficult. Court St Rita, Rapid City, held theirs by mail and email and Our Lady of Lourdes, Hot Springs, held theirs at the end of May. Most activities had been canceled but members of both courts have been helping out in the community: food pantries, priests meals and gift cards, the elderly, cornerstone mission meals, and assisting with all aspects where needed. God bless all of you! A member of Ct. St. Rita, Rapid City, donated a Right to Life billboard. Hopefully we will be back to meetings and installation soon. Please pray for our new Bishop-Elect Peter Munich. Think ahead to next year's state convention in Spearfish with Hot Springs being the hostess and with west river courts helping.

### Military Projects Chair – Colleen Leer

Usually I find myself asking 'for' something when I pray. The times that I thank Him for what He has done for me are shamefully far less. Many think when I remind everyone to pray for our service members, I only mean those deployed, but we also need to think of those serving here in the continental United States. The events of the last few weeks have made us even more aware of what may be called upon by these young men and women. A more alarming event, that never made national network news, falls into the Thank You Jesus category. According to the FBI, an incredible act of heroism by a young Corpus Christi, TX Naval Policewoman guarding the entrance to an aviation training base, saved countless lives. A Syrian-born US citizen turned terrorist approached the gate early one morning the end of May 2020. After stopping to present his ID, he drew his pistol and shot the gate guard directly in the chest knocking her to the ground. She was protected by a Kevlar vest and was able to get up and activate the pop up barricade to stop his vehicle from entering the base. He then exited the vehicle and raised his assault rifle to finish his mission for Allah. She was forced to make the decision to save her own life along with many others on the base who were unaware of what may have been. Documents found later connected him to the months-earlier attack at Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL. As we say our prayers every day, may we always remember to say one for ALL our service members, no matter where there are.

**Legislative Chair—Kathy Feuerhelm**

Voting by mail is SAFE! Contrary to what you may have heard, South Dakota residents have been voting by mail safely for years. The state sent an absentee application to all registered voters in April. If you did not receive the application, please check that you are still registered to vote. This is not the time to shirk your civic duty. You can obtain an Absentee Ballot Application on-line, at your County Auditor's office, and in some towns, at City Hall. Some of our courts have held voter registration drives. It can be done with the proper paperwork acquired from the state.

Just because you have an absentee ballot doesn't mean you have to use it. You can still visit the polls to vote in person. You just can't do both! The important part of all this is to Please Vote. I voted by absentee ballot. I did not mail mine in. Ours were dropped off at election headquarters. It bogged down the counting process in Minnehaha County because of the volume of ballots. I was not unhappy the results were delayed because it turned out to be the largest percentage of votes cast in many years.

It is important that we are all informed and up to date. There are many websites available with information to read and ponder. It is important to remember we can personally endorse a candidate but not use the Catholic Daughter organization to do so. I am available to answer questions, provide information, and talk to your Courts.

**Court Holy Heart #163 — Woonsocket**

Court Holy Heart scheduled their annual Mini Lenten Retreat for Sunday, March 8 and were so happy that it was able to be held! State Spiritual Enhancement Chairman Patty Fuegen was the main speaker. She gave a timely and thought provoking presentation. The retreat also included holy hour and confessions.

The court spear-headed two cleaning projects while the church was closed. The first was washing pews and vacuuming the carpets before the May 15 church reopening. The women did more than asked by cleaning the entry, dusting all the woodwork and furniture and cleaning around the side altars. The second project was cleaning the high altar. After Father removed the Blessed Sacrament, the women scraped wax, removed tape residue, cleaned bulbs and candelabras, and washed the altar and statues.

The Court was able to elect officers and hold their Financial Review by patiently using email and texting.

Altar Server Scholarships were presented to Kaylee White and Megan Linke for serving mass from their First Communion to high school graduation. The Court maintains and holds fund raisers for the scholarship program.



Kaylee White  
Megan Linke

**Quality of Life Chair – Mary E Althoff**

Quality of Life calls for us to be socially aware and involved with others. Lending a hand, offering encouragement to those less fortunate; offering the Love that Christ has shown us in our own lives. The time of isolating has separated us from family, friends and strangers. Instead of visiting with friends and neighbors as we grocery shop, we avoid crossing another's path. Wearing masks prevents us from possibly sharing our germs with others but makes it difficult to understand what someone is saying and fogged up glasses are a hazard for anyone wearing them!

For those in eastern SD, we have learned to love and get to know our new Bishop DeGrood through his Sunday homilies on TV. His warm smile and heartfelt homilies have helped us through another week. Time spent in prayer and adoration, sharing our own thoughts, concerns and fears have given perspective on all our blessings. A saintly woman, Sr Rosemary Ford, once told me that any thoughts of others I received during prayer, should be shared or acted upon. So, phone calls or messages flow from prayer time. Communication with others and the virtual means of connecting is the greatest blessing through this pandemic but will never replace the interpersonal time spent with others. The non-verbal look into another's eyes; the feel of another's hand in yours; the smile, the laugh that you share. We get daily posts on Instagram from our son on the events of our 20<sup>th</sup> grandson's day, living in NYC. It's a highlight for my day, but a video call and catching his recognition of my voice with a smile that lights his face really warms my heart! Will technology ever let me feel a hug from him?

Dear sisters in CDA keep praying for others, and call, write, be in contact with all those that the Lord suggests. We need one another all along the way. As we carry this cross of separation, ask the Lord to lift your load. God bless you.

**State Leadership Chair – Charlotte Hoverstadt**

I would like to suggest a leadership activity that each of you can do over the summer. Send cards and letters to your members who are in care facilities. Most have been confined to their rooms and I cannot imagine how lonely they must be. Perhaps some of you could go and visit outside their window with them. Bring lawn chairs and put your cell phone on speaker to talk to them on their phone. I promise you that it will make your day! And probably theirs, too!

I was extremely pleased with all the Circle of Love reports that I received. It was an extremely difficult decision on the placement of winners. I based my choices on the projects that affected the most people as well as promoting the Catholic Daughters. Ladies, you are doing a great job so keep up the good work.



SD Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
 Our Lady of the Prairie News  
 Judy Konechne, Circulation Chrm  
 PO Box 76  
 Kimball SD 57355

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Regents, contact all your members and ask if they received the newsletter either by email or by US Postal. If they did not, please make sure they get one. Extra copies are available and can be mailed out if need be. Keeping our email and mailing addresses current is a monumental task. Please send any changes to the following people:

Judy Konechne, Newsletter Circulation  
 circulationsdcda@gmail.com

Deborah Burdick, State Secretary  
 deborah.burdick-cda@midco.net

National Office  
 cynthia@catholicdaughters.org  
 (need this for dues and SHARE)

Brenda Anderson, State Regent  
 andersonbrenda@hotmail.com

\*\*One email with all these addresses will take care of it. If you have NEW MEMBERS, please mail the original membership form to the National office.

### National Unrest

The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis MN has caused many to protest, attempting to bring awareness to the racism that exists across America; our country is in chaos. Racism has existed for centuries where one group of people, one neighborhood, or one country thought they were better than the other. The thought that God created one group of people to be superior to another is not right. He made us all in his image and for the good we can do. He gave us the Ten Commandments as a directive on how to treat others.

South Dakota has citizens of every ethnicity, every dialect and has seen families blended together with their differences. The goodness that exists in every person needs to rise up and protect all of God's children, white, black, or any other. Speak up for those who have no voice, those that are fearful of speaking up. We say, "Peace be with you" at our Masses. Be the first to lend a hand to those that do not look like you. As a reminder, it is written; the most important of the commandments is to "Love thy neighbor as thyself". Go forth in Peace and Love.

#### E-mail Address Reminder...

State Secretary, Deborah Burdick's email is:  
 deborah.burdick-cda@midco.net

State Treasurer, JoAnn Hoffman's email is:  
 buttons\_molly\_50@yahoo.com

These addresses are no longer used and not monitored consistently, please discontinue sending to them:  
 sdcdaSecretary@gmail.com and sdcdaTreasurer@gmail.com

### State Newsletter/Scrapbook Chair–Janice Stainbrook

As the State Chairman for the Newsletter Contest, I am here to report the results of the 2020 Newsletter Contest. I received only 5(five) entries. I am encouraging all of you to try to enter a newsletter for next year. I would like to thank my judges: Mrs. Munsen, teacher, Parkston Public School; Jody Wagner, Delmont; Peggy Bader, Parkston;

The winners for 2020 are:

#### Category I (100 or less members)

**Division I (1-4 issues per year)** (only one entry)

1<sup>st</sup> – Ct. St. Rose of Lima #700, Wagner

**Division II (5 or more issues per year)** (3 entries)

1<sup>st</sup> – Ct. Mother Teresa #2510, Sioux Falls

2<sup>nd</sup> – Ct. Santa Maria #368, Dell Rapids

3<sup>rd</sup> – Ct. St. Patrick #1699, Kimball

#### Category II (100 or more members)

**Division II (5 or more issues per year)** (only one entry)

1<sup>st</sup> – Ct. Willard #967, Yankton

All 1<sup>st</sup> place entries were sent on to national the end of March, and the state will hear from national as to the winners. Please try to do a newsletter for your court and enter the contest. The more the merrier, as they say. If you need suggestions on how to do a newsletter, check out the website or email me at [wildman@santel.net](mailto:wildman@santel.net). Congratulations to the winners and happy writing to the rest of you. In this trying time we all need to stay connected and a newsletter is just one way to keep informed.