



THE SPIRIT



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Announcements!

For the remainder of this quarter, the Monthly Rosary will be held on February 8th and March 14th, by the Marian Windows.

Manna Bags for the remainder of this quarter, will be put together in The Social Hall at 3:00 on February 15th and March 14th. Evening Manna Bags will be February 26th at 7pm. Please be on the lookout for an email!

*"Where God guides, He provides" -
Isaiah 58:11*



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.

- ✦ *Be women of Faith*
- ✦ *Encourage Spiritual Growth*
- ✦ *Increase membership*
- ✦ *Promote the motto of "Unity and Charity"*





Court Regent Message

Patrice Hampton, Court Regent

I cannot believe it is time again to write a “blurb” about my amazing Court & sisters. In the past 18 months or so, our membership has doubled, our spirits have flourished & our involvements/commitments have grown in number. We love CDA, we love our parish & we love each other.

Our District Deputy wanted her 5 courts to get together for joint adventures this year and so far we have had a blast at our ice cream social (fun gathering), learned a lot about purgatory at our spiritual gathering, and looking forward to a family gathering this spring. Representatives from each of the 5 courts have worked with our D.D. to plan & organize these enjoyable gatherings where we can get to know CDA sisters from other courts in our area, & I think they have been successful. Our D.D. also wanted to have a New Member Reception which took place on Sat., Jan. 13th, at our home parish (so did the ice cream social) - it was such a special time to recognize the new members of our individual courts & those in District 54 and for them to see the “bigger picture” of CDA in our area.

Our part of Texas is in the midst of a winter freeze as I type, and I can honestly say I do not know how people live in this type of weather on a regular basis! This thin-blooded southerner freezes if it gets below 70, and I am about to hibernate until summer!!

I pray everyone had a beautiful, holy & blessed Advent & Christmas season. Lent is upon us and I wish you all a beautiful, holy & blessed Lent and Easter season. May God bless and keep you and yours always within His loving arms of protection & guidance.

Happy New Year!!





Clergy Corner



He is There

This is the time of year when we think about important things: the nativity, the journey of the wise men, the dwelling of our savior among us, the promises and challenges of another year. What will this new time bring us? “And the Word was made flesh.” (Jn 1:14)

We do not know what challenges, what joys, what sufferings this year will bring. But one thing we are assured of, “He dwelt among us.” He, your Lord and your God, is right here with you. We can see Him. We can experience Him.

When we receive the Body of Christ in our hand, we are touching the very One who created the universe. “All things came to be through Him, and without Him nothing came to be.” (Jn 1:3) When we gaze upon Him at adoration time we are gazing upon the “King of kings and Lord of lords.” (Rev 19:16) When we give someone a cup of cold water in His name, the King tells us, “Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” (Mt 25:40)

But we must be vigilant. You don't know when your Lord will come. He could come in need to you as a child, as a woman, as a man. We pray that we can see Him as He comes in the other person who comes into our path. He is there in the duty of the moment, in all the day-to-day encounters.

He is there. Keep looking.

Deacon Mark Clancy



Court Happenings:

Installation of New Members!



L-R: Josie Zanco, Maggie Zanco, Meagan Guidry, Sade (pronounced Shaday) Effiong & Phyllis Cassar

In the last quarter, we have had 9 new members join our court! We now have 74 members!!
Welcome new members!!



Lillian Kainer

'Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.' -
Romans 15:7



L-R: Magdalena Barrera, Lorena Ortiz & Yvette Gonzales



Circle of Love:

HOPE CENTER HOUSTON WINTER UPDATE - Karen Doolittle

Manna bag assembly continues and the Evening manna bag program is going very well! We were joined by American Heritage Girls and their moms from the Troop at St. Anne’s of Tomball on October 30 and December 18th. The girls were fantastic, jumped right in to sort, count and assemble 50 ‘double’ manna bags. (See pictures on page 7) They were great, excited to help and did an outstanding job! It is a joy having the girls there filled with their youthful enthusiasm and desire to work and earn their volunteer hours credit. We look forward to their participation in the coming months and thank Diana Samson for suggesting the Troop’s participation—it is working beautifully!

Manna bag dates for the coming months are:

Thursday’s at 3 p.m.: January 18; February 15; March 14; April 18; May 16; June 13.

EVENINGS at 7 p.m.: Monday January 29; Monday February 26; Monday April 8; Tuesday May 28; Monday June 24.

Future dates will be communicated once the room reservation process is underway and reservations confirmed—probably in April.

When manna bags are delivered to Hope Center Houston, they are received by someone in the kitchen, typically Linda Leach or Robert Tirone. Our Lord chose Linda to join Him on January 1st and she will be missed. Linda had a loving joyful spirit and was a beacon of hope for the guests/friends at Hope Center. She joyfully assembled various food items to serve the guests/friends breakfast and lunch each day she was volunteering. Whenever she received our cereal and manna bag deliveries, she was so grateful for our contributions which go a long way to help their guests/friends. In addition to being a kitchen volunteer, Linda was on Hope Centers board and served as Volunteer Coordinator. May Linda’s soul rest in peace with the souls of the faithful departed!



‘A joyful heart is good medicine’ - Proverbs 17:22

Mass cards:

Mass cards are always available at the meetings and at Community Weekends, the fee is **\$3.00**. Mass cards can be used for celebrating just about anything! Anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, illness, intentions, and many more! The Texas State Chaplain remembers the intentions listed in the Mass enrollments on the 1st Friday of each month. The recipients are enrolled for a period of one year. When you enroll a loved one, you are not only giving them the gift of prayer, but also contributing to the Scholarship Fund! **Last year you raised \$100,000!!!** To date local court members, district deputies, state chairmen, past state regents, and state officers have donated \$32,145.00 towards the \$55,000.00 goal for this year.



If you are not able to attend the Community Weekend or a Monthly meeting, but would like to purchase a Mass card (s), please send an email to cda2731masscards@gmail.com, with mass card requests and/or questions.

What We've Been Up To:

AHG troop doing volunteer work...





St. Anne Catholic Church in Tomball, is the charter organization for American Heritage Girls Troop #TX0471. This year the troop helped with Manna Bags for Hope Center. (See article above)

Their mission is: "Building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country."



Memorial Mass



On November 15th, our court participated in the Memorial Mass to remember all the K of C and CDA souls who had passed from this life to Heaven's life. At the mass, they read the names of the CDA members who had passed, Dcn Dub Hargraves and Nancy Seheult.



Memorial Mass Reception



Following the Memorial Mass, there was a reception held in the Social Hall. Patrice decorated the tables beautifully, and there were lots of finger foods! Much sharing of memories of our loved ones!

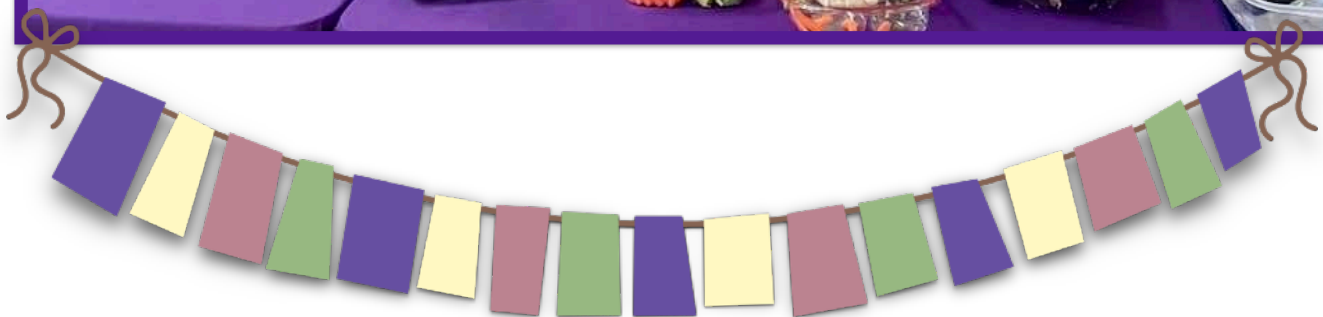


Knight's Pancake Breakfast Bake Sale

District 54 New Member Reception:



CGS hosted the New Member Reception for District 54. There was a great turnout!

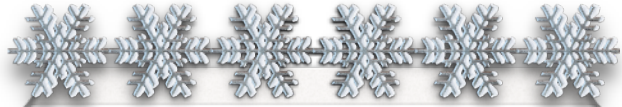




Court 2731 had the most members in attendance and has had the most new members added, in any of the courts in District 54. Christine provided gifts for all the new members. Thank you Christine! We love our District Deputy!



Members' Travels!

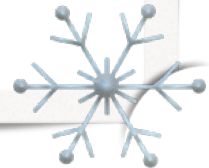


At the end of September, Mom and Jo Alice drove up to Colorado to visit me. They had told me they wanted to see 'the sights', so I booked a few things, and kept them VERY busy!

First, we attended my son's football game. It was very sunny!

We drove out to Red Rocks Amphitheater and walked around, went to the gift shop. It's a very cool place, if you have never been, put it on your bucket list!

<https://www.redrocksonline.com/>



"The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only one page" - St Augustine of Hippo





We toured the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park. I didn't see any ghosts THIS time!

Freelan Oscar Stanley was an inventor (Stanley Steamer). He had consumption, so he was told to move to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. He did just that, and his health improved greatly! ...the rest is history!

If you would like to know more: <https://www.stanleyhotel.com/about.html>

Infamous room 217. It is reported that Jim Carrey stayed here while filming Dumb and Dumber. He only spent a few hours in the room, and checked out, totally spooked, stating he would never return!



Columbine Girls Volleyball Team: each year they have a 'Pink Day', in which they hold a raffle and a varsity game. All of the proceeds go to Hope Held by a Horse. Hope Held by a Horse has a monthly program, where they provide Gestalt Equine Therapy to cancer survivors, at no cost to them. This is a great fundraiser and a fun evening!

To learn more:
hopeheldbyahorse.org



I think maybe the highlight of all the tours, was the historic Beckwith Ranch. We drove out to Westcliffe, to spend a night at our lakehouse, and were pleasantly surprised to discover the ranch was open for tours! It had been closed since Covid, except for special events. It was a very cool place. The Docent and her husband were from Texas, and the husband gave us a personal tour. It was awesome!

<https://beckwithranch.com/>



WORDS OF
WISDOM



Life's Little Instructions

Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated.

Look a person in the eye when you talk to them.

Watch a sunrise or sunset at least once a year, and thank God you can see His beauty.

Commit yourself to constant improvement.

Say "thank you" and "please" a lot.

Never waste an opportunity to tell someone you love them.

Be there when people need you.

Don't be afraid to say, "I made a mistake."

Don't be afraid to say, "I don't know."

Count your blessings...every day.

– Author Unknown

