



THE SPIRIT

Issue 17

Court Christ the Good Shepherd #2731

18511 Klein Church Rd, Spring TX

A new Year

Court Regent's Message

Priscilla Hargraves, Court Regent

Happy New Year Sisters:

I pray that you all had a wonderful Christ-filled Christmas with families and loved ones. We still have some time left to celebrate the incarnation of our God. Hopefully, we will take advantage of this time to truly commune with God, our loves ones, and our community.

With the new year comes new opportunities for service and spiritual growth. I ask all of us to look internally and ask the question, "Am I the woman God created me to be? Am I the best version of myself that God calls me to be?" If we are honest with ourselves, we can all probably answer with a resounding "No". In our humanness, we sometimes fall short of what we perceive to be the Lord's expectation. We all fall short, but this gives us more reason to keep trying. We are all challenged, this New Year, to find new ways to grow spiritually and in service to our God and His people.

There are plenty of service opportunities within the Catholic Daughters as well as outside of our Court. We can be involved with spiritual and educational classes offered by the Parish. We look forward to days of prayer and reflection for 2019 and are limited only by our imagination.

How about making "spiritual growth" our New Year's resolution? Join us at our meetings and help develop service and spiritual programs which are beneficial to our spiritual growth and our community. We can't do it without YOU!

May God bless you all in 2019!





Clergy Corner

Court Chaplain, Deacon Dub Hargraves



January – The Month of a New Year and Many Challenges

January is an interesting and challenging month. In the first part of January we continue to rejoice and celebrate Christ's coming to Bethlehem and in our hearts.

We have the wonderful feasts of Mary, Mother of God, where we honor Mary's highest title. We follow the Magi to the crib as they bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh on Epiphany. And, we reach the culmination of this season with the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John the Baptist. With a touch of sadness, we take down our decorations and enter the liturgical period known as Ordinary Time where we will devote ourselves to the mystery of Jesus, our Messiah, in its entirety as he walks the earth in the ordinary of his life. The name Ordinary Times come from the Latin word "ordo", which means numbered. So, we have number weeks in Ordinary time numbering to 34.

The new year offers us a time of growth and an opportunity to allow the dignity of Sunday, the Original Feast Day, to shine out in our lives in a new a more vibrant manner. And, besides the previously mentioned feasts, the month also includes: St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen (January 2), Holy Name of Jesus (January 3), St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (January 4), St. John Neumann (January 5), St. Raymond of Penafort (January 7), St. Anthony, abbot (January 17), St. Agnes (January 21), St. Vincent of Saragossa (January 23), St. Francis de Sales (January 24), the Conversion of St. Paul (January 25), Sts. Timothy and Titus (January 26), St. Thomas Aquinas (January 28) and St. John Bosco (January 31).

The feasts of St. Andre Bessette (January 6), Sts. Fabian and Sebastian (January 20) and St. Angela Merici (January 27) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

While the opening days of January may be cold and bleak, the domestic church still glows warm with the peace and joy of Christmas. We dedicate the New Year to Mary on the January 1st Solemnity honoring her as Mother of God; and on January 6th, the Solemnity of Epiphany, we rejoice with her, as her Son is adored by the three Wise Men.

In this liturgical season, the Church eagerly follows Our Lord as he gathered his apostles and announced his mission. At Cana's wedding feast (The Second Luminous Mystery) Jesus performed his first public miracle at the request of his Mother, and his disciples saw his glory and believed in him.

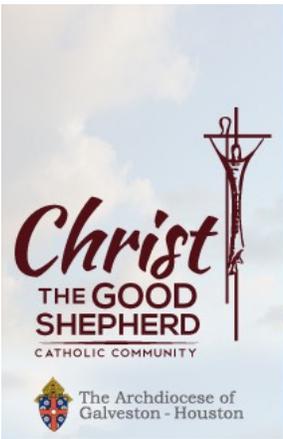
We, his present-day disciples, pray for a like-faith as we contemplate the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb and the unique role of the Blessed Mother in the plan of salvation. January is the month of a new and exciting year where we make our resolutions for growth in our lives. Let us prayerfully consider those resolutions that will move us to be more like the image and likeness of Christ and his Blessed Mother. And, should we feel ourselves falter in our resolution, let us prayerfully ask for help in our time of wavering. In these times let us remember the words of our Blessed Mother and wholeheartedly obey her words of counsel: "Do whatever he tells you."

New Year's offers new opportunities, new ideas and new resolutions. It is a sign of regeneration and a time of hope. A young man was asked: "What is your New Year's resolution? He responded: I have to walk with God. I have always walked alone and failed and been unhappy. This year I will not walk alone again. So, my number one priority this year is to walk with God. I know God will not let me fail again and I want the joy of God in my life." Do you have a new Year's resolution?

Wishing you a Blessed, Happy and Holy new Year!

Dcn. "Dub"





Court Officers

Priscilla Hargraves
Regent
cdacourt2731@gmail.com
 512.376.1488

Charlotte Prieve
Vice Regent
caprieve@aol.com
 281.639.8969

Mary Roberts
Recording Secretary
mroberts1949@hotmail.com

Jean Sanfelippo
Financial Secretary
jmsanfelippo@comcast.net

Sheryl Andrews
Treasurer
sheryl.andrews952017@gmail.com

Deacon Dub Hargraves
Court Chaplain
chapdub@gmail.com
 512.376.1497

Deborah Maly
District Deputy #54
dkdaley1027@yahoo.com
 713.494.5668

CCGS #2731 Website:
www.catholicdaughters2731.com

Court News!

Newsletter Editor:

Gizelle Williams
 Newsletter Editor
gnhargraves@gmail.com
 281.224.5288

Priscilla Hargraves, Regent, has asked all members to please turn in your COL service hours by February 7th!

Mass Cards Committee:

The fee for Mass cards is \$2.50. This is your opportunity to give the gift of prayer, as well as contribute to the Memorial Scholarship Fund. Please contact Peggy O'neil, 281-440-0286, or email at cda2731masscards@gmail.com, with mass card requests and/or questions. **Mass cards are always available at the meetings.**



\$200 in Mass cards have been sold in the last month!

Opportunities!

Needs a Chair and/or committee members:

- ✦ **PUBLICITY** - Chairperson, plus 1-2 members
- ✦ **CIRCLE OF LOVE** - Chairperson, plus members
- ✦ **SCRAPBOOK** - Chairperson, plus members

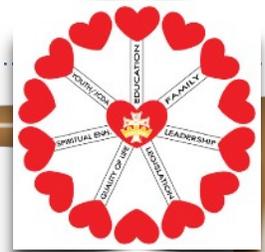


"Genuine love is demanding, but its beauty lies precisely in the demands it makes." - Pope Francis





Circle of Love:



1960 HOPE CENTER - Karen Doolittle

Our Manna Bag and sandwich making was just days before Christmas, however, through the generous support of many of our members and Congregation Jewish Community North we were able to assemble 50 well stocked manna bags for the clients of 1960 Hope Center. Originally, we were 'assigned' or relegated to two upstairs rooms in the PLC, however,

through the grace of God the Social Hall was vacant and we moved in there with 'permission' and the promise of being completely done and out of there by 5 p.m. With a little prep time before 3 p.m., we were completely done by 4:20 p.m., and enjoyed a little social chatter before heading home.

Delivery of the Manna Bags and sandwiches again was a true blessing to them and it was awesome seeing the joy on the faces of the clients who helped with the unload process. Dr. Bob who is the Executive Director and Paul who we think is a volunteer but always at the door, were thrilled to see Priscilla and me and our cargo load! Every third weekend, Catholic Daughters Court #2731 with the partnership of Congregation Jewish Community North ARE making a difference in the lives of 1960 Hope Center clients.

A bit of exciting news, 1960 Hope Center was successful in purchasing a two-story building on Peakwood just in from Red Oak if you are familiar with the area. They will not move into the facility until later in 2019 but they will have more laundry facilities for their clients as well as more showers! Right now they have one of each—pretty hard when they are serving up to 50 clients a day. Another great part of this story is that the new facility is around the corner and down the block from their present location just off of Cali.





We will prepare manna bags and sandwiches in January and the third Thursday is January 17th, so stay tuned for a food donation and volunteer to help email the second week in January. It does sound early in the month, but it relates to the third weekend of the month.

DUTCH MILL BULBS FUNDRAISER - Veronica Arnold

These are wonderful bulbs and produce beautiful flowers for the spring and summer time. The committee will be calling on sisters to assist with this project. For every \$10 we send them, they will send us \$5 back. We will be selling them at the community weekends, January 12th after 5:30pm Mass and the 13th, after the morning Massed, in the Social Hall AND January 23 after 5:30pm Mass and the 27th, after the morning Masses, in the Courtyard and the Back-deck. The committee will be calling on sisters to assist with this project. The below link is our personalized webpage:

<https://groups.dutchmillbulbs.com/shop/?affiliates=cdacgs2731>



Please signup to volunteer when you receive the SignUp Genius email. We need all hands on deck!



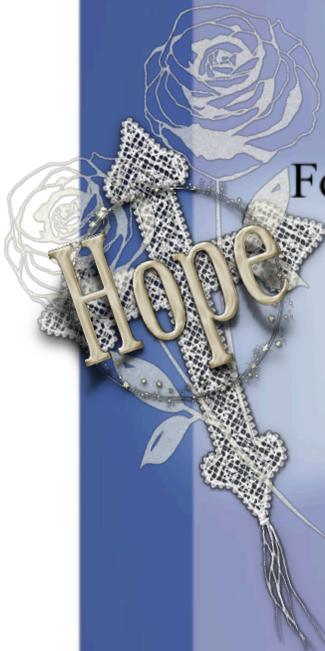
Events:

St. Gianna's Hope

Memorial Mass for Infant Loss

January 23, 2019 at 7 pm

Prince of Peace Mary Chapel



For families who have experienced the loss of an infant from miscarriage or early infant death

Reception to follow immediately after Mass

Please bring a stuffed animal which will be passed on to children through our Outreach Ministry.

Hosted by: Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court of the Holy Family #2597



19222 Tomball Parkway
Houston, TX 77070
281-469-2686
www.pophouston.org

More info:
Mary Jane Albert
281-381-0309
maryjalbert@sbcglobal.net



November 16, 2018

Greetings, from our Court #2084 Hempstead, TX to yours. We would like to take this opportunity to invite your court to our Second Annual "Fish Fry" January 18, 2019. This is our big fund raiser for the year to meet our budget For State, National & Local Projects and Scholarships.

2ND ANNUAL FISH FRY



Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Court Mary, Mother of God #2084
Hempstead, Texas 77445

Silent Auction & Live Music
Dine in or Plates to go available

Friday *January 18, 2019*
Knights of Columbus Hall
22892 Mack Washington Ln.
Hempstead, Texas 77445
Serving: 5pm-7pm

Plates are \$12
Includes: Desserts, Tea & Coffee

Proceeds go to Scholarships -
State, National & Local Projects

PosterMyWall.com

We are so excited that the Knights are going to help Us with this task again. They have great **Chefs** that will Be frying the fish and our own CDA sisters will be doing all the cold slaw, potatoes & beans with delicious desserts.

This is a great time to get a jump on the Friday night Fish fry before lent, load up your car, tell your friends.

We would love to serve you and spread Joy through out the evening. Check out the enclosed flyer, something for everyone, music & silent auction.

We'll be looking for you - Court #2084 Mary, Mother of God

Patsy Marburger
Chairman





“Our relationship with each other is the criterion the world uses to judge whether our message is truthful - Christian community is the final apologetic.”
- Francis Schaeffer



Our Court’s 2nd Anniversary is February 7, 2019! We will attend mass, followed by a short meeting. This will possibly be followed by a potluck meal and a cake (provided by the court). Please plan to attend! A picture of the group last year, in case you missed it!

Jim McIngvale (also known as Mattress Mack) will be speaking at CGS on May 6, 2019 at 7pm. He will be talking about “Unity in Community”. All religious communities in the surrounding area will be invited, so please plan to attend, and bring a friend! Priscilla Hargraves, Regent, is asking members to please consider helping with this function.



State News

The **Lone Star Messenger** has published a Fall 2018 Edition. Check out the link to read it: <http://www.texasda.org/Newsletter/2018/Fall%202018%20CDA%20Newsletter.pdf>

Please note on page 24, our newsletter, The Spirit, is recognized for the National Newsletter Contest 2018, in Division II, Category I. Thank you all for making The Spirit such a great success this past year!

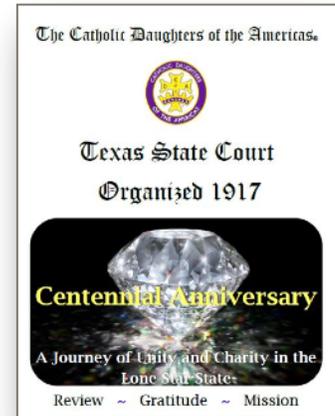
****The deadline for State Contests is March 1, 2019. State deadline for the Education Contest is February 1, 2019.**

Texas CDA website: <http://www.texasda.org/#loaded>

Texas CDA Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/texasda/>



To purchase: *The Diamond Anniversary Texas CDA History Book, "A Journey of Unity and Charity in the Lone Star State"*, compiled by T. Vacek, April 2017, for \$15. This 145-page book contains the legacy of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in Texas from 1903 through the next eleven decades.



"We are all one family in the world. Building a community that empowers everyone to attain their full potential through each of us respecting each other's dignity, rights and responsibilities makes the world a better place to live." - St Pope John Paul II



**Hotels in McAllen, TX started accepting reservations for the State Convention on December 1, 2018.

Our court is allowed 3 delegates and 6 alternates. We will be voting on these delegates at the February meeting. If you are interested in being a delegate or an alternate, please come to the January meeting and voice your opinion!



National News

Please see flyer for the France Pilgrimage for important dates:

12 day France Pilgrimage: https://www.catholicdaughters.org/events/Pilgrimage/2019_CDA_Pilgrimage_flyer.pdf

Catholic Daughters of the Americas National Court is holding a competition for the court who adds the most membership. Please see flyer:

WE'RE KICKING UP OUR HEELS FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP!

Announcing a new Court & State Competition

Alright ladies, it's recruitment time so kick up your heels and recruit new sisters! Remember, whether she wears flats, tennis shoes, flip flops or high heels, Catholic Daughters is for ALL ladies!

From August 2018 until June, 2020, Catholic Daughters of the Americas is offering a special incentive for all states and courts to develop new courts and recruit new members! There will be special prizes for all courts and states who participate and give recruitment their all.

<p>Prizes for Courts who add the most membership:</p> <p>1st Place - \$200 2nd Place - \$150 3rd Place - \$100</p> <p><small>Category 1: 1-75 members Category 2: 76-150, Category 3: 151+</small></p>	<p>Prizes for States who institute the most new courts:</p> <p>1st Place - \$500 2nd Place - \$350 3rd Place - \$200</p>
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We encourage ALL courts and states to participate. Be creative, be bold, and invite your Catholic sisters to serve alongside you! In the words of St. Clare of Assisi, "Love God, serve God; everything is in that."

Questions? Requesting Priest Packets?
 Email me: emthanga1@aol.com

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."
 - St. Mother Teresa



Legislation:

Texas Legislature Online: <https://capitol.texas.gov/> National website: <http://www.house.gov/>

To locate your state and national legislatures: Texas: <http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>
 National: <https://www.house.gov/representatives>

Two really good sources, to keep up to date on human rights and human dignity for ALL: <https://www.humanlifeaction.org/> and <https://www.humanlife.org/>

March for Life will take place in Washington, DC on January 18, 2019. Please see below flyer to prayer, for those who are unable to attend.

Let's March for Life

Connie Dronette
 National Chairman, Spiritual Enhancement

Leader 1: So many of us would love to be in Washington, D.C. to march in the yearly *March for Life* on January 18, 2019. The Catholic Daughters of the Americas have had an impressive presence at the *March for Life* for many years. For those of us who cannot participate physically in Washington, we can participate spiritually from all over the country. Let us join all who attend this year by praying together tonight at our January meeting and pledging to pray on January 18, 2019.

Leader 2: We gather today to join in support of our Catholic Daughter of the America Sisters and all who are traveling to The March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 18, 2019. In solidarity with our sisters, let us join the *March for Life* through prayer. *In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Leader 1: Please respond "Lord, hear our prayer" to the following petitions.

For the bishops and priests of our Church, that by their commitment to the innocent child, the Gospel of Life might be preached in each of our churches, we pray to the Lord. (Lord, hear our Prayer.)
 For all those who will attend the March for Life in Washington, D.C., that God will bless their efforts to defend life at all stages, we pray to the Lord. (Lord, hear our Prayer.)

For all who care for newborn children, that they may recognize the miracles they witness, we pray to the Lord. (Lord, hear our Prayer.)

For expectant mothers placing their children for adoption, may they receive loving support as they walk this journey, we pray to the Lord: (Lord, hear our Prayer.)

For an end to Abortion and the respect of all life, we pray to the Lord. (Lord, hear our Prayer.)

Leader 2: Let us end by asking for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our patroness. (Say the Hail Mary) In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Pledge to Pray for Life

On January 18th, in unity with the March for Life and our Catholic Daughters of the America Sisters, I pledge to pray for an end to abortion and those who have been hurt by abortion.

I pledge to pray for Life, so that, when abortion comes to an end in our country, all glory may be given to God.

Signed _____

Many Americans who are participating in the Affordable Care Act do not know if their health care plan covers elective abortion. The current law requires health insurance companies with plans that cover elective abortions to collect a separate payment for the abortion coverage. This is almost never done.



Please see information from the NCHLA:

To help fix this problem, the **Department of Health and Human Services has proposed a new rule** that would require insurance companies to **send their customers a separate monthly bill** for the part of their health premium that covers abortion. **That way, everyone with a plan that covers elective abortion knows just where their money goes.**

Many of you may be wondering, why can't we just change the law to prohibit use of taxpayer dollars to pay for health plans that cover abortion? That is still the goal, but in the meantime, until Congress takes that action, this "Separate Payments" rule will **allow consumers to see more clearly when they are paying for elective abortions** and to seek a plan that does not cover it. It may also motivate companies to offer more plans WITHOUT abortion coverage. For more background information on the Separate Payments Rule and why it is necessary, please [click here](#).

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has written [formal comments](#) applauding the government, and we invite you to add yours as well. Pro-abortion groups will write in as many negative comments about the rule as they can. All the more reason to raise your voice in support of it!

FAQS on the "Separate Payments Rule"

How can government plans from the Affordable Care Act cover abortion? Isn't taxpayer funding for abortion already against the law?

When the Affordable Care Act (ACA) became law in 2010, one major piece of the Hyde amendment (i.e., the law that prevents taxpayer funding of abortion) was missing from it. The ACA omitted the prohibition on use of federal funds to pay for **health plans** that cover elective abortions. Instead, the ACA required health insurance companies with plans that cover elective abortions to collect a separate payment (at least \$1 per month) from each enrollee for coverage of those abortions. And the insurance company must deposit these separate elective abortion payments into a separate account that only includes those payments, and that is used exclusively to pay for elective abortions.

So the rule is already part of the law. Why didn't it work the first time?

The separate payment provision is simply being ignored by many health insurers, according to a 2014 [Government Accountability Office Report](#). This may be because when the ACA was first put into effect, the Obama Administration failed to enforce that part of the law. As a result, many pro-life Americans seeking health insurance under the ACA are likely unaware that their plan covers abortions and that they are paying an additional premium to pay for them.

In order to fix this problem, the Department of Health and Human Services has proposed new regulations directing issuers of health insurance plans to follow this provision of the law. The regulations require issuers to send a separate monthly bill to the consumer for the portion of the premium that covers abortion.

In other words, the new rule will remind health insurers about the law, and give them reason to believe the government will make them comply with it this time.

Why don't we just change the law to prevent use of government money to pay for plans that cover abortion?

Ultimately, we are continuing to work to get the ACA amended to prohibit use of federal funds to pay for health plans that cover abortion. But it is **Congress**, not the Administration, who must take that action.

Until they do, adoption of this "Separate Payments" rule will allow consumers to see more clearly when they are paying for elective abortions and to seek a plan that does not cover it. It may also motivate companies to offer more plans WITHOUT abortion coverage.

Comments on the proposed rule are being accepted by the Administration through January 8, 2019, so [please write them as soon as you can](#) - before the holidays get away from you.

Letter from the USCCB.org:

<http://www.usccb.org/about/general-counsel/rulemaking/upload/2018-FINAL-cmnts-exch-prog-integrity.pdf>

'The good Samaritan recognized the dignity in the other and cared for his life.' - Luke 10:25



Euthanasia Prevention Coalition will broadcast a conference on January 25- 26. The conference will be physically held in Albuquerque NM. For those you who cannot attend, please watch it live online.

[https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2018/11/stopping-assisted-suicide-in-your-state.html?](https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2018/11/stopping-assisted-suicide-in-your-state.html?utm_source=News+%26+Information+Website&utm_campaign=4e41c05c22-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_27_05_24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b9d6bb980e-4e41c05c22-198474821)

[utm_source=News+%26+Information+Website&utm_campaign=4e41c05c22-](https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2018/11/stopping-assisted-suicide-in-your-state.html?utm_source=News+%26+Information+Website&utm_campaign=4e41c05c22-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_27_05_24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b9d6bb980e-4e41c05c22-198474821)

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_27_05_24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b9d6bb980e-4e41c05c22-198474](https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2018/11/stopping-assisted-suicide-in-your-state.html?utm_source=News+%26+Information+Website&utm_campaign=4e41c05c22-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_27_05_24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b9d6bb980e-4e41c05c22-198474821)

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FRI JAN 25
CAMPAIGN TRAINING SESSION:
 1:00-5:00 PM
FILM SCREENING: 7:00-8:30 PM
Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death

SAT JAN 26
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

FRIDAY JANUARY 25, 2019

CAMPAIGN TRAINING SESSION 1:00-5:00 PM



NANCY ELLIOTT is a former three-term New Hampshire legislator and President of EPC-USA.



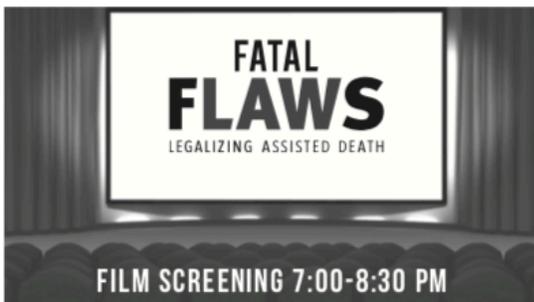
DIANE COLEMAN is President and CEO of the disability rights group Not Dead Yet.



AMY HASBROUCK is the founder of Toujours Vivant – Not Dead Yet and President of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. She is also a trained lawyer.



KEVIN DUNN is Producer of *Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death* and *The Euthanasia Deception*. He is an award-winning filmmaker and founder of DunnMedia & Entertainment.



FATAL FLAWS
 LEGALIZING ASSISTED DEATH
FILM SCREENING 7:00-8:30 PM

SATURDAY JANUARY 26, 2019

CONFERENCE 9:00 AM-5:00 PM



ALEX SCHADENBERG is Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. He is an author and has done speaking tours throughout the world.



CATHERINE GLENN FOSTER is President and CEO of Americans United for Life and a lawyer. She was the founding Executive Director of EPC-USA.



ALEXANDRA SNYDER is Executive Director of Life Legal Defense Foundation and the lead lawyer in the challenge to the California assisted suicide law.



ANNETTE HANSON is a Forensic Psychiatrist at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She co-authored the article, "Twelve Myths About Physician Assisted Suicide and Medical Aid in Dying" (*MD Magazine*, July 7, 2018).



NICK GOIRAN is a Member of Parliament from Western Australia. He is the author of the minority report opposing the legalization of assisted suicide.



KEVIN YUILL is a professor of history at the University of Sunderland in the UK. He is author of the book *Assisted Suicide: The Liberal, Humanist Case Against Legalization* (2013).



Click link below to see the Fall issue of SHARE, if you did not receive a hard copy in the mail:

<http://books.midstatesgroup.com/books/pgxs/>

(NOTE: you must have 'flash' to view)



National December 2018 Newsletter:

https://www.catholicdaughters.org/Qtr_Newsletter/2018_12/QuarterlyNewsletter_December2018.pdf

National CDA Website:
www.catholicdaughters.org



"In all created things discern the providence and wisdom of God, and in all things give Him thanks."
St. Teresa of Avila

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"*

The theme for the 2017 - 2019 term is:

"Be Not Afraid:" -

St John Paul the Great



The Texas State Court was organized January 25, 1917. Our Mission Statement is a reflection of the CDA motto of Unity and Charity; "The members of the Texas State and Local Courts love Christ and His Church. We are dedicated to leading others to Christ and to His service through active participation in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas."



Dates to Remember

CDA Calendar for January 2019

- Jan 10 - 7:00, General Meeting, Rm B207-209
- Jan 12/13 - Community Weekend, CDA table after Masses
- Jan 17 - 4:00, Hope Center Ministry, Social Hall
- Jan 26/27 - Sell bulbs after Masses
- Jan 31 - Memorial Scholarship Applications deadline

Call to Convention packet to Court

The Court's donation to State and National projects voted on and paid



Happy New Year!