



THE SPIRIT

Issue 22

Court Christ the Good Shepherd #2731

18511 Klein Church Rd, Spring TX 77379

Court Regent's Message

Priscilla Hargraves, Court Regent

Welcome back!

Welcome back from a summer that hopefully was restful, fun, and spiritually renewing!

Welcome to a new season of growth and togetherness with your sisters in the CDA!

I pray you are prepared to face September with renewed fervor, interest, and dedication to service and charity with the CDA, our parish, and our community.

We have had a busy summer with the mini retreat in July, gathering books from other CDA courts and delivering them to St. Martha's, CGS, and other locations, and our first Saturday serving lunch to the guests at The Hope Center, as well as, our ongoing monthly manna bag preparation for The Hope Center.

If you have helped or attended any of these functions, Thank you...Thank you...Thank you! If you have been unable to attend these events, I encourage you to make the commitment to participate in the Court's upcoming events this Fall.

Also, as we all know, our Blessed Mother is the patroness of the Catholic Daughters, but additionally please remember that September is dedicated to our Blessed Mother as Our Lady of Sorrows. We celebrate this feast on September 15th the day after the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Cross. She is our source of consolation and hope when we have sorrows of our own. During this month, we are encouraged to pray the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows. May we all go to Mary in our times of sorrow, as well as, in our times of joy.

Blessings,

Priscilla





Clergy Corner

Court Chaplain, Deacon Dub Hargraves

My Sisters in Christ,

September, A Time of Awakening!

There is an ancient Chinese saying, “a journey of a thousand miles must begin with the first step.” That is such a simple and yet profound statement! We can apply that wisdom to our life in many ways. We are always in the process of beginning a new journey or entering the final stages of an on-going journey. What are the journeys you are starting in your life, right now, as we enter the close of the summer vacation season, and move into our fall preparation season?

The most obvious, for many of us, is we are beginning another school year. There are always things we want to get off to a good start, not just for our school year, but for the long haul of serving God and His people. This is the time of the year when we renew and obey the divine call of the Lord to serve others for the good of the Church.

So, what new beginnings, important journeys, projects or endeavors are you facing right now as a “Catholic Daughter”? You see, it is all about getting in touch with that inner desire to be creative, constructive and productive, even though we’re not sure what the results might be. It is about putting our best self forward in those first tentative and vulnerable steps with more questions than answers. And, yet that first step includes a personal trust that God’s love is with us and, all along the way, bringing our efforts to completion through unity with your sisters in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

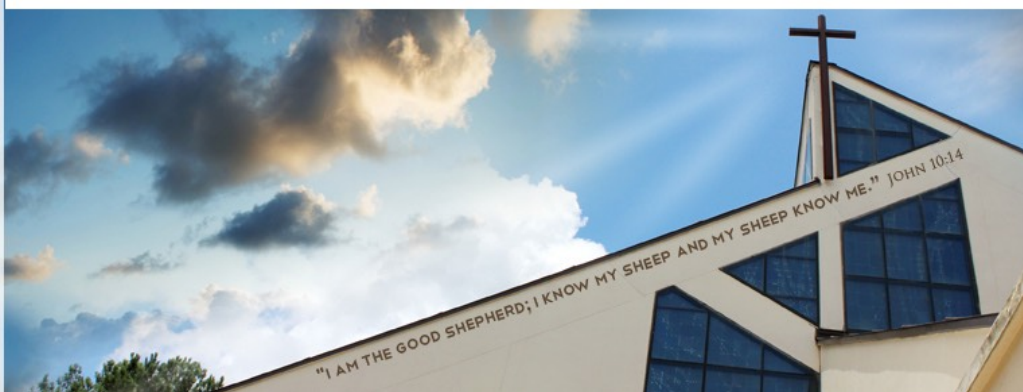
Have you ever thought of yourself as a “co-creator” with God? When God created the world and the entire unimaginable universe, Scripture tells us that God delighted in that act of creation and declared it to be “good.” The creation of humankind brought even greater delight with the words “it was very good.” Doesn’t it seem reasonable that God would delight in us whenever we are moved by the Spirit of God to create, begin and complete something that reflects the goodness of God in our world?

Sometimes the journey, the project or the mission we share with one another might seem impossible but if we claim the privilege of being “co-creator” and pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to work through us we can take the vision of the “Catholic Daughters” to a new and personal encounter. As “Catholic Daughters” you have chosen a spirituality which can be a source of strength and direction for you and your sisters as you begin and continue your personal journeys of charity through the unity of your court.

Above all, do not forget to pray for healing and strength for your CDA sisters and their families. Also remember to pray for the needs of our suffering world. We need to constantly give thanks for the good news and blessings we have all received! St. Benedict said, “to pray in harmony with the state of our heart!” That’s wisdom from the ancient past!

Peace and blessings,

Den. Dub. Chaplain



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Court News!

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2731

Welcome back from our summer break!!

I hope you all had a great summer and went on some great vacations. Or at least had a chance to rest!

I was able to spend almost 3 weeks in Texas this summer and it was a great trip!

My Mom, sister, niece and I travelled to Waco. There, we saw the famous Magnolia Silos, met some friends from CO at the Magnolia Café for breakfast (very good by the way!), then went to the Mammoth Dig. This was amazing! Highlight of the trip for me.





Mom and I took the boys to the Railroad museum in Galveston. If you have never been, you should really plan a trip! It's a really cool place. And then of course, we had to walk down the Strand for some ice cream!!



I was so blessed to have the opportunity to be at Fr. John Kappe's retirement mass and reception in Hitchcock. He was my priest while growing up. I have known him most of my life. While there, I was reintroduced to some of my friends growing up too. It was such a great day!



It was a really good trip. I was hoping to see some of y'all at the mini retreat, but had to make my way back to Colorado before it took place. Hopefully, I will get to see y'all soon! If you want to share your summer, please send me an email and I will include it in the next newsletter.

Thanks for reading the newsletter. It is truly a labor of love for me.



"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often." - Bl. John Henry Cardinal Newman

Mary Jane Brewster's Summer:

I attended the international Serra Convention in Mexico City, Mexico in June, 2019. We had a chance to take an eight day tour before the convention and it was wonderful. One of the best parts of the trip was getting to attend Mass in the Shrine of Our Lake of Guadalupe twice, once on the tour and once through the convention. We got to hear more about the apparitions and the cloth, which was imprinted by Our Lady of herself. The cloth has deep colors in it and has never faded all these years. One of the priests has studied the Apparition for around 40 years and has extensive knowledge about it. He talk was amazing.



I've enclosed a few pictures. The first one is looking at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The second one is a picture of the actual cloth imprinted with the incredible picture. We were on a moving sidewalk so we couldn't stand still and just look at it, but we went back and forth several times because it was so beautiful. The third one is my husband, T. Wayne, and me standing on the steps that lead to the Church and was built in the exact same place that Juan Diego saw the apparitions.

There is so much more to know about Our Lady of Guadalupe that I would recommend getting a book about this apparition. She is the Patron Saint of the Americas.



We went to the "Fullness of Truth" Conference in San Antonio, Texas, in Mid August. The theme of the conference was "Behold Your Mother". It was a weekend filled with talks and entertainment. Everyone was raising Mary up as Our Blessed Mother and our friend, with an emphasis on saying the rosary, a powerful prayer that has solved many problems in our world. Two of the speakers I enjoyed the most were Fr. Donald Calloway and Immaculee Ilibagiza. Fr. Donald Calloway has an amazing conversion story. Just look up his name on YouTube and you can find out more about him. Immaculee Ilibagiza's story is almost unbelievable, but it really happened. She was in Rwanda when the Rwandan Genocide started, and she survived against all odds. I want to hear more from her. You can google her if you want more information.

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=456



I'm also enclosing a couple of pictures. The first one is Fr. Donald Calloway with T. Wayne and me, and the second one is Immaculee Ilibagiza signing my book.



"And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." - Mark 16:15



Circle of Love:

HOPE CENTER - Summer Update - *Karen Doolittle*

Several members of the Court participated in our Thursday Manna Bag Assembly and PBJ Sandwich making in June, July and August. In July and August we performed our work of charity on Wednesday afternoon due to scheduling conflicts with the Social Hall and kitchen. We continue to assemble 50 Manna Bags each month and in August we reduced the number of PBJ sandwiches to 50 from 100. The reason for sandwich reduction is we enhanced our charity ministry by opening Hope Center on the Third Saturday. Four CDA members and two parishioners gathered at Hope Center on Saturday August 17th and served breakfast and made and served lunch. The Center is opened for guests who sign up the day before at 10:30 so light breakfast items, fruit and coffee were available for them while they waited for lunch to be served at noon. During the week lunch is served at noon so we kept to the same schedule. Lunch consisted of a sandwich of ham, turkey and cheddar cheese on honey wheat bread which the project team prepared and served. Mustard and mayonnaise packets were available for the guests to add to their sandwiches. Pickles were served and there were a variety of bagged chips for the guests to choose from. Desert was cake or cupcakes. Iced tea, lemonade and coffee were available. 34 guests signed up and 18 came! They consumed or took with them all the food we prepared,



including the PBJ sandwiches we delivered the previous day as they forgot to put them out for distribution on Friday. Court #2731 is funding the Third Saturday ministry subject to the availability of funds in our treasury. CDA expects a Court to utilize its proceeds to underwrite works of charity.



Our next Saturday to prepare and serve at Hope Center is September 21st. In order to be in the kitchen making sandwiches or serving, or just being in the kitchen for any reason, one has to complete the Texas Food Handlers Course. If you would like to come and visit with the guests and not be in the kitchen, anyone is welcome to come. Please let Patrice Hampton or Karen Doolittle know of your interest and if you will participate.

Thursday September 19th or Women's ACTS sendoff afternoon is our next scheduled time to assemble Manna Bags and make 50 PBJ sandwiches. An email with needed food items will reach your inbox on

Monday September 9th. We appreciate our members generosity in donating food items and time for this ministry.

Future planning: we will open Hope Center the Third Saturday of every month, including October which is CGS' Fall Festival. If you are certified as a TX Food Handler, if you can devote one hour to our Hope Center Ministry that Saturday it would be greatly appreciated.



Hope Center Website: <https://www.1960hopecenter.com/>

June Newsletter: [Hope Center June 2019](#)

And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." - Luke 3 10:11

Read Across America - Katherine Lee

This summer, the Read Across America committee conducted a book drive at Christ the Good Shepherd over the last weekend in July for St. Martha's in Kingwood, whose preschool and Mother's Day Out programs were flooded this past spring. We were able to drop off a dozen boxes of new and gently-used children's books, which the teachers greatly appreciated! We received a large donation of adult books from

Waller, TX, and spent an afternoon sorting them by category in preparation for donating them to various institutions, including the Hope Center, which received a box of donations of various genres to help found the library at their new location.



We also arranged children's book donations to St. Edward's and St. Ignatius's libraries, and stocked

several local Little Free Libraries with a nice variety of books. Future plans include stocking local assisted living centers, memory care centers, and low-income senior

apartments with our remaining stock of books. Many thanks to both the committee members and other volunteers for their hard work!



"When we pray, we speak to God; but when we read, God speaks to us" - St. Jerome



Tools of the Trade!

Everything anyone needs to know about running a local Court, whether you're an officer or member. Local Court information can be found under Section 5.

Catholic Daughters Tools of the Trade Section 5

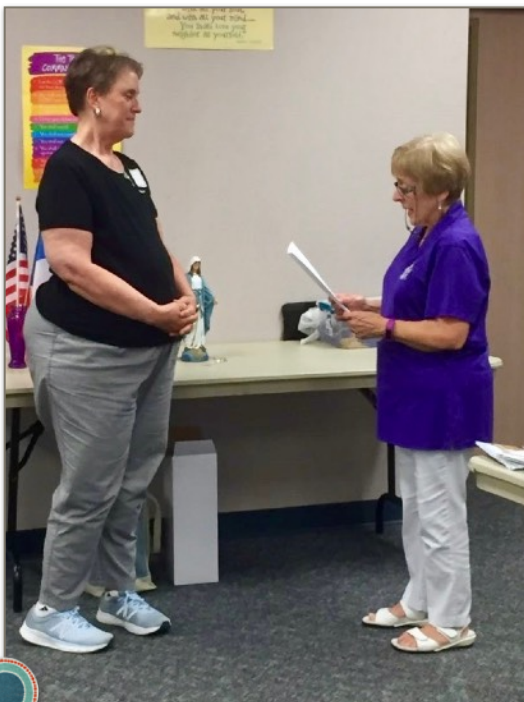


Membership:

At our last meeting, in June, we had to say goodbye to our District Deputy, Deborah Maly. We will miss you. We also were able to welcome our new District Deputy, Christine Maniscalco from Christ the Redeemer Parish!! We are excited to work with you!



Also! ...Please welcome Cathy Miller!



The best way
to predict the
future is to
create it. -
Abraham
Lincoln





Events:

Retreat – To Jesus and the Eucharist through Mary

First of all I want to thank everyone who came to the retreat on July 13th. We had 17 people in attendance and hopefully everyone had an uplifting experience. I know I did.

We had breakfast items including kolaches, sweet rolls, coffee, juice, fruit, etc. first and started promptly at 9am. We only had 2 ½ hours before our Mass began, so we had to get started.

St. Clare Monastery is a wonderful location and some of us were able to take a break outside and enjoy the beautiful grounds on our break.

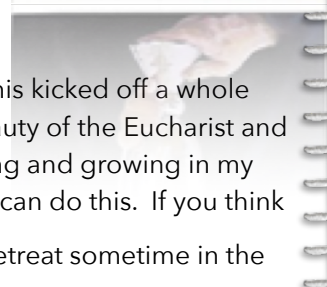
After Mass, some of us went to lunch at *Saints Restaurant*, which is very close to the Monastery. We enjoyed the food and visiting and sharing with each other.

From the title above, you can see that this was an important subject, and I didn't want to make any mistakes in my presentation, so I started doing a lot of research, reading, watching videos, etc. The more I got into it, the more I wanted to know. This kicked off a whole new "spark" in my life, and I wanted to keep learning. I am still digging into the beauty of the Eucharist and our Catholic Faith, and I think this will be a long term desire of mine, to keep learning and growing in my faith. I'm telling you this because I want YOU to know that if I can do this, anybody can do this. If you think you might want to learn more and grow in your faith, think about offering to do a retreat sometime in the future. You will be abundantly Blessed.

Submitted by:

Mary Jane Brewster

Spiritual Enhancement Chair





"Our love to God is measured by our everyday fellowship with others and the love it displays." - Andrew Murray





Please consider volunteering for one the following open positions:

PUBLICITY - Chairperson, plus 1-2 members

CIRCLE OF LOVE - Chairperson, plus members

SCRAPBOOK - Chairperson, plus members



State News

The **Lone Star Messenger** has published a September 2019 Edition. Check out the link to read it: [The Lone Star Messenger September 2019 Edition](#)

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

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



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 \$10. This 145-page book contains the legacy of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in Texas from 1903 through the next eleven decades.

TEXAS STATE COURT SALES

Diana Kammer
13193 Dave Moore Road
Willis, Texas 77378



The Catholic Daughters of the Americas.



Texas State Court
Organized 1917



A Journey of Unity and Charity in the Lone Star State
Review ~ Gratitude ~ Mission



This year, our new Regent Melodie Brunt has challenged all of us to become more spiritual, so that we may become more charitable. One of the ways to accomplish this, is to attend Spiritual Retreats. Below is a flyer for two retreats being held in the near future:

SAVE THE DATES FOR THE FOLLOWING RETREATS:

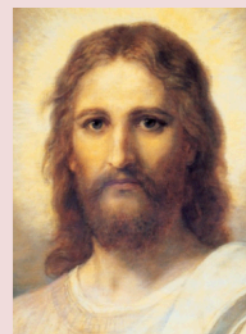
Multi District Retreat

September 14, 2019, Flatonia

“Contemplating the Face of Jesus with Mary”

Hosted by Court #2570 Sacred Heart of Mother Teresa

Bishop Brendan J. Cahill, National CDA Chaplain



Fall Retreat

November 2, 2019, Sugar Land

Hosted by Court #2211 St. Theresa of Lisieux

On April 14-18, 2021 - the 52nd Biennial State Convention will take place in Texarkana, TX. There is a need for volunteers for: Registration, Hospitality, Credentials, Friday Fun Night, Music, Liturgy and more. Please pray on whether you would like to volunteer and contact Mary Jane Schuster, via text or email at: 469-556-1549, maryjaneschuster@hotmail.com

While we were out...

The State and Territorial Officers Workshop was held in Scottsdale, AZ, July 18-21, 2019. The weekend was full of information from the national office.

The State Organizational Workshop was held at the Oblate Renewal Center in San Antonio August 8-11, 2019. There were six workshops: Ceremonials, Financial Review, Officer Training, Multi-District Meetings, Reporting Forms and Membership Tools. The State Board of Texas created an excellent opportunity for District Deputies and State Chairmen to bring back information to the local courts.



National News

2020 National Convention**Sheraton Dallas Hotel****July 15-19, 2020**

There are many ways in which you can help plan for the upcoming 2020 National Convention. The chairmen are working hard on decorations, luncheons, banquets, exhibits and fundraisers just to name a few volunteer opportunities. If you would like to join the team and be a part of this exciting event, please contact Carolyn Malik, Convention Chairman at 361-594-3170 or cdacarol@sbcglobal.net. Let's help make this a very memorable convention for National Regent Olga Samaniego.

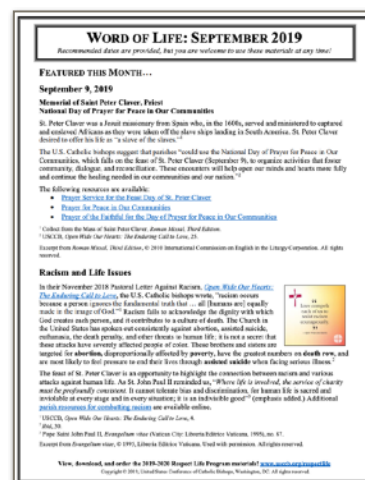
**Legislation:****Resources:**

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> and 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/>

Word of Life Flyer for September 2019: [Word of Life September 2019](#)



Be on the lookout for events and activities we can participate in, even if only in prayer. The USCCB site is a great source. Check out the website for more information. <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/index.cfm>

RUN & WALK FOR LIFE benefitting the Houston Coalition for Life and the Blue Blossom Pregnancy Centers ("Blue Bus") will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2019 from 8 am-11 am at All Saints Catholic Church in the Heights, 215 E. 10th St., Houston, TX 77008. 2 mile walk or 5K run.



I love this quote in the Lone Star Messenger. A great reminder!

"Always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented." --Elie Weisel, American Jewish writer, professor, political activist, Nobel Laureate & Holocaust survivor



National CDA Website:

www.catholicdaughters.org

Click link below to see the Summer 2019 issue of SHARE, if you did not receive a hard copy in the mail:

[Share Summer 2019](#)



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

National June 2019 Newsletter:

[National Quarterly June 2019](#)

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"*

***This is the day
the Lord as
made, let us
rejoice and be
glad. - Psalm
118:24***



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."



Birthdays

Mary Giles, September the 10th

Patrice Hampton, September the 19th

Caylin Jerome, September the 21st

Patricia Kocan, September the 28th

Peggy O'Neil, September the 12th

Anniversaries

Diane Harrison, September the 5th

Dates to Remember

CDA Calendar for September 2019

- 5th General Meeting-7:00 PM, Rm. B207-209
- 7-8th Community Weekend, after Masses, Social Hall
- 19th Hope Center ministry 3:00 PM, Social Hall
- 19th Bd. meeting, 6:30 PM, Library
- 21st Meal at Hope Center 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
- 30th Membership cut-off date for National and State dues



"I want the whole Christ for my Saviour, the whole Bible for my book, the whole Church for my fellowship, and the whole world for my mission field." - John Wesley