



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

The Angelus

Pennsylvania State Court

Peggy Guckin, Pennsylvania State Regent

Volume IV - Issue 3

May God Always Hold You in the Palm of His Hand

Winter 2014

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Message from Peggy Guckin *State Regent*

Dear Members,

Fall has been very busy with State Conference, anniversaries and the celebration of Catholic Daughter Day. 98 members from 31 courts attended the conference which opened with Holy Mass celebrated by our State Chaplain, Father Timothy O'Sullivan, followed by his enlightening presentation on marriage. There were many presentations, including the memorable membership team sowing and growing skit and Pat Gildea's "Anatomy of a Motion Flower." Many enjoyed Pat's energizing warm-up, including many new first-timers. On Saturday morning, many of the ladies enjoyed the historic trolley tour of Hershey.

Thank you to all who donated so generously to many benevolent causes such as the Courage Lion Program Mass collection and Pro-Life Baby Bottle. Thanks to all, including our six vendors, who contributed gifts for the tombola, and to those who supported the 50/50 drawings. Thanks to each and every Catholic Daughter in attendance—officers and members, those who volunteered in any way, who contributed ideas and asked questions—for making this a successful conference.

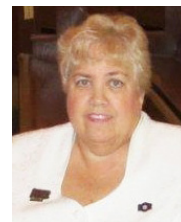
One of the questions asked was, "How many bank accounts can a court have?" National Representative, Sherry Nilles, assured me that there is nothing in our by-laws or Tools of the Trade addressing this issue. Therefore, a court may have more than one account.

I certainly enjoyed driving to the Erie Diocese with Margaret Giordano to share in the 90th anniversary celebration of Court Doyle #932, and recently the 5th anniversary of Court Mystical Rose #2628. I also had the pleasure of joining with the members of Court St. Ephrem #2230 in packing the Aide For Friends meals for Thanksgiving.

Please remember to send the delegates and alternates form to me. You must send the form by February 15, 2015 whether or not your court will be attending the

continued on page 2

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING
God prosper and love you
God shine His glory
On all your hopes and prayers.
God lift you in His light and His peace.
And smile on you always.



Peggy Guckin, State Regent

CDA 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.

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Newsletter Schedule Quarterly Publications

Fall: September-November
Winter: December-February
Spring: March-May
Summer: June-August

Submission Deadlines

Fall: August 1
Winter: November 1
Spring: February 1
Summer: May 1

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51st Biennial State Convention

Theme: "Faith + Family = Future"

April 24-27, 2015

Crowne Plaza Holiday Inn

4700 Street Rd., Feasterville / Trevese, PA 19053

Please note that all reservations must be made before April 5, 2015 to have the discounted rate of \$99.00, plus tax. Reservations after April 5 will be at the hotel's prevailing rate.

♦ Reservations by phone: You can call 877-852-4859 and ask for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Block to get the group rate of \$99.00 per night, plus tax.

♦ Reservations online: A dedicated website is now available to book hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made through April 5, 2015, the web address is: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/CDA42515>.

Friday's Opening Mass St. Ephrem Church, 4:30 p.m., Banquet to follow
Saturday Memorial Mass 12 Noon, Crowne Plaza, Lunch to follow
Sunday Installation Mass, St. Ephrem Church, 4:30 p.m., Banquet to follow
Monday Closing Mass, Crowne Plaza, Brunch to follow

In November, all court regents received a form from the National Office which states the number of delegates and alternates your court may elect. Whether or not your court will be attending, please fill out and send the original form to me by February 15, 2015.

ARTICLE X STATE CONVENTIONS

Sec. 5. Local Court Delegates

B. The number of delegates shall be determined by dues billed by the National Office as of November 15 of the preceding year.

1. Representation shall be

a. One delegate, the Regent, if she attends. If she cannot attend, the next highest officer who attends shall be the delegate. If no officers can attend, a member of the court shall be elected as delegate in her place.

ARTICLE XI STATE NOMINATIONS

Sec. 1. Candidates for State office

A member who intends to run for office shall submit a statement of qualifications, a current photograph, a statement of endorsement by the Local Court of the candidate which must be voted on at the local meeting and signed by majority of the officers and a consent to serve signed by the candidate. Five (5) copies of each shall be received by the Nominating Committee Chairman no later than February 1, 2015. *Jeanette Kitch, Nominating Committee Chairman 15197 Ridge Road, Meadville, PA 16335; Phone 814-724-314.*

In the fall issue of our newsletter you saw a picture of the delegates wearing yellow shirts for our presentation, "Come to Pittsburgh 2016." If you are planning to help us at the convention and would like a shirt, please email me, Peggy Guckin, at mmg721@aol.com or call 215-638-9217. Cost is \$25; I need to know your size (men's shirts, so they run big). I must know by early January; send your check to **Margaret Giordano, State Secretary, 1530 Hollywood Dr. Lancaster, PA 17063.** Those who ordered them at State Conference, please send your check to Margaret by January 15, 2015.

Celebrating Mary

Question: December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a celebration of Mary. How many current Pennsylvania CDA courts are named for Mary? Name them. (Find the answer on page 4.)

Margaret T. Giordano, State Secretary



Pennsylvania State Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Woman of the Year 2015 Qualifications

- ◆ Candidate must have been a CDA member for at least 10 years
- ◆ Must have held office in the local court
- ◆ Must be considered to be active in some way, either physically or prayerfully
- ◆ Must be recognized in Court, Church and Community
- ◆ Must be living at time of nomination
- ◆ Must be a person of overall benefit to State Court
- ◆ A letter stating why this person is to be considered is to be submitted to the chairman two (2) months prior to the convention (February 2015). You may also email your candidate's information.

Candidate _____

Member of Court _____ # _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Submitted by _____ Court # _____

Phone # (H) _____ Cell # _____

**Submit to: Peggy Guckin, State Regent
Chairman**

203 Harmony Court, Bensalem, PA 19020

Email: MMG721@aol.com

Phone: 215-638-9217

State Regent's Message

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convention. The court will not be held accountable if one does not go. To save paper and postage, the State will not send the March Convention information to any court from which I do not receive a delegate form.

Circle of Love Reporting Forms

Regents, if you have internet access, you can download these forms after December 20th. I will have contact information of State Chairmen for each category. You will be able to type your court's information and projects right on the form and then email the completed form directly to that State Chairman. If you do not have internet access, please contact the State Regent, and she will send the forms directly to you. The State will recognize the outstanding local court activity.

Calling all members who love to sing for God! If you are interested in being in the **State Choir** for the convention, **contact Peg Rafferty**, 1st State Vice Regent.

Would you like a tour of downtown Philadelphia's historical sites, leaving the hotel approximately 9 a.m. and returning to the hotel around 2:30 p.m., on Friday, April 24th? Please, let your State Regent know.

Peggy Guckin, State Regent

News From National

CDA on EWTN

"The Church Universal" — Episode 2

Sunday, December 7, 2014 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 9, 2014 5:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 12, 2014 10:00 p.m.

If you would like a copy of the DVD of October CDA Church Universal, it is \$10.00; go to ewtnreligiouscatalogue.com/shop.axd/ProductDetails?edp_no=28445. The video # is HDCUCDA.



The following prayer, which Deacon Douglas Campbell from North Dakota, used to open a session of the 55th Biennial National Convention, was published in *National Quarterly*.

God Our Creator, We give thanks to you,
who alone have the power
to impart the breath of life
as you form each of us in our mother's womb:
grant, we pray, that we,
whom you have made stewards of creation,
may remain faithful to this sacred trust
and constant in safeguarding the
dignity of every human life.
Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Guide our efforts as we promote
The Human Life Amendment in
North Dakota and renew
among your people a readiness to protect
all human life.
Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.



**Has your court supported
one of the State Court ProLife projects?**

Pennsylvania Courts with Names of Mary

continued from page 2

Answer: 14

Lock Haven	Ave Maria #399
Johnstown	Our Lady #647
Northern Cambria	Our Lady of Victory #722
Hollidaysburg	Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755
State College	Blessed Madonna #2521
Everett	Our Lady of Seven Dolors #2645
St. Marys	St. Marys #95
Reynoldsville	St. Marys #890
Clarion	Immaculate Conception #2454
Connellsville	Annunciata #260
Mount Carmel	Our Lady of Victory #588
Lancaster	Queen of Peace #1023
Germantown	Ave Maria #650
Philadelphia	Mystical Rose #2628

Giving Thanks

The feet of Jesus were a place of thanksgiving. Here are two of many examples of this:

One example is the woman who wept on Jesus' feet and dried them with her hair. She was grateful for Jesus' kindness to her. Jesus did not hesitate to give her the fullness of forgiveness.

Another example is the Samaritan who was one of the lepers. He was the only leper who returned to thank Jesus. He fell at Jesus' feet and gave Jesus a heart full of gratitude. Jesus appreciated the thanksgiving the Samaritan leper offered Him at His feet.

Let us join the penitent woman and the Samaritan leper and continue our thanksgiving beyond the Thanksgiving holiday, throughout Advent and Christmas and into the New Year.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassion'd stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.

Second verse of America the Beautiful, by Katherine Lee Bates

*Sr. Mary Paul Giordano, DM
State Spiritual Enhancement Chairman*

Leadership: All of US Together!

When we think of leadership, we often think that it is just one person leading the group. But, it can also mean that it's all of us working toward a common goal.

For all of us, as members, together can get aboard the CDA train to help...

...increase our membership
...give help to those in need
...make an impact on our community, state and nation
...make a difference in the world around us

All we need is to be willing and determined that all things are possible. Come to the meetings, offer to chair or work on a committee—be an active member. Help our CDA train to pick up steam and bring energy and excitement to the Courts in Pennsylvania.

Letty Calvetti, State Leadership Chairman and National Director

Education Contest

The 2015 Contest themes were announced at the convention. The religious theme is: **Love Your Neighbor as Yourself**; the non-religious theme is: **Be a Good Neighbor**. When you receive your Education Contest packet from National, please read it carefully. Please follow the guidelines very carefully. If your Court did not participate last year, please consider doing so this year. Remember to reach out to your parish school, combined parish area school, religious education program, or area public, charter and private schools, even your own children or grandchildren to find entrants. Sponsor all categories or just one. Remember the adult categories for Catholic Daughter members too. Entries must be postmarked no later than: **March 15, 2015**. Send entries to: **Tina Dambach 1360 E. Sanger St., Philadelphia, PA 19124**. Good luck to you all in the 2015 contest!

Tina Dambach, Education Chairman

As we say this prayer, please pray for the safety of all who will be coming to Philadelphia in September 2015, especially for Pope Francis.

World Meeting of Families Prayer

God and Father of us all,
in Jesus, your Son and our Savior,
you have made us your sons and daughters
in the family of the Church.

May your grace and love help our families
in every part of the world
be united to one another in fidelity to the Gospel.

May the example of the Holy Family,
with the aid of your Holy Spirit,
guide all families, especially those most troubled,
to be homes of communion and prayer
and to always seek your truth and live in your love.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!



From Our National Representative

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

To faithfully implement Gospel teachings often requires change whether we like it or not! The teachings of our Lord remain the same. How we choose to live out those teachings during constant change remains an opportunity to love and serve the Lord and our fellow human beings. How comfortable it would be to achieve the good life without making changes in our own lives. We are here for one purpose—to journey with Jesus in His kingdom here and then into eternity. Do we pass up opportunities to increase our relationship with Jesus? Changing our vision and habits can bring greater happiness for our time here and lead us to an even better relationship with our fellow members of the body of Christ.

As Catholic Daughters, one challenge we have is to increase the membership in this wonderful organization. This can be realized by each member asking a Catholic woman to join us. With 70,000+ Catholic Daughters working together and each one asking one, our courts will grow in love and service to Jesus and our fellow Catholic women.

This is an outstanding goal for all members of the Catholic Daughters!

Thanks to National Regent, Shirley Seyfried, for giving me the opportunity to work with you for the next two years. Thanks also to your State Regent, Peggy Guckin, for the kind welcome. I am looking forward to meeting you as we work together in faith and love to promote “justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and dignity for all.” May our good Lord bless and keep you.

Sherry Nilles, National Representative

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Pennsylvania State Board Sends Christmas Greetings!

You will be remembered in Masses on Christmas Day and every day for the next year at the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal, Germantown, PA.

Behold the Graces I shed upon all those who ask me!

Our Blessed Mother Mary said these words to St. Catherine Laboure in 1830 when she gave her the Miraculous Medal. The Mother of God wants to hear your intentions and needs.

Message from State Chaplain

Dear Friends,

Each December 12th, the Church celebrates The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Church honors the Blessed Virgin through this title, to commemorate her appearance to a poor Mexican peasant in the sixteenth century near (present day) Mexico City. While it is a Feast for the Church in the United States, it is also a day of great celebration for the faithful of Mexico, as they remember with festive joy the visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Juan Diego.

Many of us are very familiar with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe; however, some of us may not be familiar with the extraordinary events that occurred in Mexico almost five hundred years ago.

On December 9, 1521, Juan Diego, a recent convert to the Catholic faith, was walking to the local church to attend an early morning Mass. As he passed by a place called Tepeyac Hill (near Mexico City), he heard the beautiful singing of birds. Looking around to see where the sounds were coming from, he heard a young woman's voice call out to him: "Juanito!" As he reached the top of Tepeyac Hill, Juan Diego saw a radiant woman clothed in splendid light. The beautiful lady told Juan Diego that she wished him to convey to the local bishop a special message—Juan Diego was to tell the bishop that Our Lady wanted a church to be built in her honor on this spot, to give glory to Almighty God.

Armed with the Lady's message—and the Holy Spirit's gift of courage—Juan Diego made his way to the bishop's home to convey the Lady's request. The bishop did not initially believe Juan Diego. Dejected, Juan Diego asked the Lady to use someone else—someone more worthy—to be her messenger. However, the Lady assured Juan Diego that he was to be the one to bring her message to the bishop.

Once again, Juan Diego returned to the bishop's home to plead the Lady's request for a church. Although impressed with his persistence, the bishop was still unsure if the request was a truly heavenly appeal. The bishop asked Juan Diego to secure from the Lady a "sign" to assure him that she truly was the Blessed Virgin.

When Juan Diego accounted to the Lady the bishop's request for a sign, she asked him to return the next day and she would give him the sign to remove any doubts from the bishop's mind. Unfortunately, the next day, Juan Diego's uncle was deathly ill. Instead of returning to the Lady, Juan Diego set out for Mexico City, in search of a priest to administer the Last Rites to his uncle. (He deliberately chose a path avoiding Tepeyac Hill, since he knew he had to tend to his uncle's spiritual needs.) Our Lady appeared to him on the way to Mexico City; she assured him that his uncle was already healed, and she asked Juan Diego to return to Tepeyac Hill, where he would find roses miraculously growing out of season. Finding the roses exactly as the Lady said, Juan Diego gathered many of the roses in his tilma (a poncho-like outer garment) and rushed to the bishop's home to show the bishop what Juan Diego presumed was the "sign."



When he arrived in the bishop's presence, he opened his tilma to present the miraculous roses, but instead revealed the image of our Lady, which had miraculously appeared on his tilma. Immediately, Bishop Zumarraga knew this was the sign from heaven validating our Lady's request for a church. He promised immediately that construction would begin on the new church.

Word of the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe spread quickly throughout the land and people began to make pilgrimages to the holy site. In the years that followed, the Christian faith spread throughout the area. In the years following the apparition, over ten million Mexicans were baptized into the faith!

Today the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe is one of the most popular Marian Shrines in the world—attracting more than five million pilgrims each year. When he was canonized in 2002, Pope John Paul II called Juan Diego the "greatest evangelizer of all time" because so many people were baptized into Christ Jesus after he carried the message of our Lady to the bishop.

Like Saint Juan Diego, may the Catholic Daughters be jubilant and cheerful to help others know about the joy of our Catholic faith!

May the Lord continue to bless all our efforts offered in His name, and may His Mother, Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our nation, watch over us and intercede for us!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

Rev. Timothy F. O'Sullivan, State Chaplain of CDA

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Pennsylvania State Court
Spiritual Intention

The Mass is offered at Saint Therese of the Child Jesus,
Altoona, PA at 10:30 A.M. on the third Sunday of the month.
Proceeds benefit the Pontifical North American College in
Rome helping the Seminarians who are studying there.

For: _____

From: _____

Intention: _____

State Spiritual Intention Report

This report shows the many people whom we have included in our Spiritual Intentions from September to November 2014. Donations are forwarded to the National office to benefit the North American Pontifical College in Rome and are much appreciated by the seminarians there. Please consider using our Intention cards in the future.

If you need request cards, contact Margaret Novak, IPSR,
email: cdamargaret@gmail.com or 814-735-3386.

Congratulations

Ct. Dolores, #1675 (60th Anniversary)
Ct. St. Anne de Beaupre, #1909 (50th Anniversary)
Ct. Green County, #1923 (50th Anniversary)
Given by: Opal King, #959
Ct. Butler, #443
Peggy Guckin, State Regent

Ct. Ave Maria, #399 (95th Anniversary)
Ct. Doyle, #932 (90th Anniversary)
Ct. Mystical Rose, #2628 (5th Anniversary)
Given by: Peggy Guckin, State Regent

Get Well Wishes

Bernie and Pat Dillion
Caroline Kline
Given by: Bernadette Dillion, #722

Joanne Marie King
Richard and Judy Bonidie
Given by: Marian King, #655

Judy Oesterling
Given by: Mary Anne Galonski, #998

Eleanor Connolly
Ellen Gallagher
Letty Barnes
Given by: Peggy Guckin, State Regent

Ellen Gallagher
Given by: Linda Albaugh, #1828

Joseph Gallagher
Given by: Ct. Rose Cecilia, #1641

Rita Smith-Wade
Given by: State Officers

Comfort
Sam and Melody Yeardie
Given by: Mary Anne Galonski, #998

In Sympathy

Kathleen Mikitko
Given by: Nancy Anna, #722

Sam Yeardie
Given by: Ct. Annunciata #260
Peggy Guckin, State Regent
Margaret P. Novak, IPSR
State Officers

Catherine Guckin
Given by: Ct. Joan of Arc #716
Ct. Westinghouse, #759
Lisa McCann, State Treasurer

Rita Garrah
Given by: Ct. St. Martin #418

Audreanna Esteel Albaugh
Sara Moses
Mary Kennedy
Dolores Wilicki
Given by: Peggy Guckin, State Regent

Kenneth Riling
Greyson Fullgraf
Louise Marone
Given by: Ct. Westinghouse, #759

Mrs. Reimer
Mr. Hoey
Given by: Lisa McCann, State Treasurer

Dona Dunmire
Donald Dull
Barbara Louise Bartolomucci
Given by: Lisa Fellner, #1868

Ruth Rumbaugh
Margaret Arble
Given by: Pattie Fromnecht

Ruth Calhoun
Given by: Ct. Our Lady of Seven Dolors, #2645



Chatter from Courts

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE

On Sunday, October 5, 2014, **Court Ave Maria #399** of Lock Haven, celebrated their 95th Anniversary. The court received their charter on October 5, 1919 and has been an active contributor to the community over the years. Forty-nine women became charter members. The last remaining charter member, Rose Higgins Barry, passed away in 1985. The court was sponsored by Ct. St. Veronica #111 of Renovo, PA. The celebration started with a Mass at St. Agnes Church and was followed by a dinner at The Country Barn Restaurant at Mackeyville.

The court sponsored Ct. Rev. Patrick McArdle #448 in Bellefonte and together, the two courts have had a state regent, Josephine Ebeling, who also served as national director. At least twenty-seven regents have served Ct. Ave Maria sometimes returning to the chair. A few regents have served on the Altoona-Johnstown Catholic Daughters of the Americas Diocesan Committee, four district deputies and two state chairpersons.

Gerry June, Regent



Left to Right: Deacon Chip Young; Janet Osterling, State Membership Chair; Shirley Hall, State 2nd Vice Regent; Mary Ann Kennis, District Deputy; Gerry June, Regent; Pat Gildea, State Parliamentarian; Fr. Joseph Orr, Chaplain



Has your court sent its donation check to State Secretary for our National and State projects? For your court to get credit and to be part of our convention report, donations must be received by the State.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas		No. 155
Court Name and Number		
		2014
PAY	Catholic Daughters of the Americas	\$
		Dollars
	THE BIG BANK	Officer Signature and Title
	ANYPLACE, USA	Officer Signature and Title
Purpose of check		

Officers and members of **Court Our Lady of the Alleghenies #1755** attend the dedication of the Blessed Mother statue at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg.



Catholic Daughters of the Americas **Court Ave Maria #399** recently received a bequest from the estate of Helen Stehman, a long-time member. The Court matched the funds and presented a check for \$1,000 to the Lock Haven Catholic School to be used to upgrade and expand the library in conjunction with the expansion project at the school.



Pictured at the presentation are, left to right, Gerry June, Regent; Theresa Rae, Librarian of LHCS, and Michele Alexander, Principal of the school.

ERIE DIOCESE

Chaplain Rev. Matthew Strickenberger was installed as new Chaplain for **Court Sharon #507**.



Front row: Catherine Holl, Past Regent
Second row: Antoinette DeAngelis, Regent; Chaplain Rev. Matthew Strickenberger and Margaret (Peg) Green, Vice Regent

Court Doyle #932 Celebrated 90 years of service under our banner of "Unity and Charity." Regent Beatrice Sonnekalb presented roses to members for their years of service: Theresa Bruzzi, 65 years; Carol Predmore, 55 years; Caroline Easton, Linda Costanzo and Regent Bea, 40 years; Pat Turton, Judy Coastal, Colleen Majot, 30 years.



Pictured above: Fr. James Campbell, Chaplain; Beatrice Sonnekalb, Regent; Margaret Grady, First Vice Regent; Kathryn Blewett, Recording Secretary; Marie DeRenzis, Financial Secretary; Debra Cochran, Treasurer; Alice Slotje, District Deputy. Also in photo are Margaret Giordano, State Secretary and Peggy Guckin, State Regent.

HARRISBURG DIOCESE

Court Queen of Peace #1023 celebrated its First Multicultural Mary Day and Rosary Celebration at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Lancaster on October 26, 2014. The Celebration began with Sunday Mass and was followed by a program in the parish activity center. The display featured statues, pictures, and articles about the titles and apparitions of Our Blessed Lady in various parts of the world. A list of all Pennsylvania CDA Courts with Mary names was also featured. Members and guests sang hymns of Mary and prayed around a giant room-sized rosary made of cardboard, rope and paper cups. Each decade of the rosary was led in a different language. Court Queen of Peace hopes to celebrate this as an annual event.

Rita Smith-Wade-El, Regent



*Remember to pray for all our sick members
and their families.*

Joyful Anticipation

continued from back page

He lived in expectation of it, filled with joyful anticipation. And when word reached him of the beginning of his child's presence, he stopped what he was doing and ran to her. That is what Advent is all about, as a prayer from the liturgy in the first week of Advent reads: "Grant your faithful the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ."

Fiat

In fact, Hunter and Kandi had discussed this exact possibility. But their resolution was rock solid: Hunter would go. "It wouldn't matter what was happening," he said.

How crucial the predisposition of our own will is to the miracle God wants to give us. It is this that sets apart the Blessed Virgin's Yes to God—her Fiat. Her heart was set on what her heart was made for. The fourteenth-century Dominican Rhineland mystic Meister Eckhart offers important instruction: "God gives himself only to his own will. But when God meets his own will, he gives himself and enters into that will with all that he is." Advent is the time to beg for God's will to live in us with the same power that God's Son lives in Mary's womb.

When reporters asked the pro golfer what made him do something so drastic, Mahan replied, "Success comes and goes. Seeing your daughter every day, having a family—that is stuff that makes you happy to your core." As the *Wall Street Journal's* Jason Gray observed, "It was... possible to see something bigger, a message about priorities in the frantic rush of modern life. Hunter Mahan regretted nothing. He'd made the perfect choice, and it wasn't a choice at all.

Let us make our own the prayer of the Advent liturgy: "May no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son."

*Fr. Peter John Cameron, O.P., Editor-in-Chief
Magnificat, December 2014*

More Court Chatter

PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESE

We're On Fire describes officers and members of **Court St. Dominic #2222**, Philadelphia, as they attend the October 2014 Workshop in Hershey, PA.



Pictured above: Connie Geary, Financial Secretary; Lynn Kelly, Regent; Colette McCaffrey, Co-Chairman, PA Diocesan Court; Louise Ott, member; and Eileen Schweitzer, Vice Regent



Philadelphia Court St. Ephrem #2230 preparing 110 meals for Aide for Friends to be delivered for Thanksgiving. Rose Medash, Regent and Carol Parsons direct production.



Dorothy Andrilla, Vice Regent, Ms. Skeleton and Doris Kitt, Regent of Court Rose Cecilia #1641



Philadelphia Regents at Deal or No Deal Fund Raiser

Members attended St. Catherine of Sienna Church on Saturday, October 18 for Catholic Daughter Day. The theme was "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do for me." *Matthew 25:40*. The celebration began with a Rosary Procession followed by Mass, celebrated by Rev. Timothy O'Sullivan, State Chaplain, and con-celebrated by Rev. Edward Rauch, Chaplain, Court St. Matthew #1828, Rev. Edward Kearns, Chaplain Court St. Dominic #2222. Following the homily, there was a Reception of New Members where 13 members from five courts took their membership pledge. After communion, Mary Wender, Past State Regent and Past Charter Member of Court Mystical Rose #2628, crowned the Blessed Mother. Lunch was held at Cottage Green and many members brought canned goods to be distributed at Matthew:25 in Frankford by Court St. Francis DeSales #2617. Karen Pusahaw, Permanent Lay Team Member, St. Francis Inn, was guest speaker. 107 members attended.



Officers and Members, **Court Ave Maria #650**, St. Catherine of Sienna Church, CDA Day. Front row: Laura Nimmons, Lydia Phillips, Gloria Leggett-Benton, Laura Duley, Heather Goldsmith, Regent; Second row: Barbara Adams, Barbara Lester, Bertha Allen, Eloise Brown; Third row: Suzanne Gamett, Carolyn Adams, Ciara Weeks, Marlene Duley



Peggy Guckin, State Regent; Rev. Timothy O'Sullivan, State Chaplain and Rev. Edward Kearns, Pastor, Chaplain, Court St. Dominic #2222



Karen Pusahaw, Permanent Lay Team Member, St. Francis Inn and Colette McCaffrey, Co-Chair and CDA Day Lunch Chair



PITTSBURGH DIOCESE

Three courts in Southwestern Pennsylvania joined together to celebrate 160 years of service in Unity and Charity on Sunday, October 5, 2014. **Court Dolores #1675**, in Bentleyville, celebrated 60 years, **Court St. Anne de Beaupre #1909**, in Richeyville, celebrated 50 years and **Court Greene County #1923**, in Carmichaels, celebrated 50 years. Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated in St. Agnes Church, Richeyville, by Rev. Edward L. Yuhas, Chaplain for Ct. Dolores and Pastor of Ave Maria Parish in Bentleyville and St. Agnes Parish in Richeyville. Luncheon followed at the Nemacolin Country Club. Regents are Loretta Remish Forte (Ct. Dolores), Bernadette Marinchak (Ct. St. Anne) and Rosemary Biskup (Ct. Greene Co). Charter members from each court were presented with pins and corsages: Laura Hrutkay and Ann Perchinsky (Ct. Dolores); Josephine Zavatchen and Catherine Skoloda (Ct. St. Anne) and Marie Bocchini (Ct. Greene Co). Guests included National Director and Past State Regent Letty Calvetti, 1st Vice State Regent Peg Rafferty and State Treasurer Lisa McCann and several past Chaplains. District Deputy for the three courts, Laraine McGinnis, was unable to attend.

Laraine McGinnis, District Deputy



Left to Right: Lisa McCann, State Treasurer; Letty Calvetti, National Director; Peg Rafferty, 1st Vice State Regent; Father Edward Yuhas, Chaplain, Ct. Dolores #1675; Bernadette Marinchak, Regent, Ct. St. Anne de Beaupre #1909; Loretta Forte, Regent, Ct. Dolores #1675; Rosemary Biskup, Regent, Ct. Greene Co. #1923

The combined Courts of the Pittsburgh Diocese held their 28th Benefit Luncheon for the Pittsburgh Seminarians on Saturday, September 6, 2014 at St. Paul Seminary. Seminary Rector, Father Brian Welding, and several seminarians were guests at the luncheon. Pittsburgh Bishop David A. Zubik made a brief appearance before lunch to greet the attendees. There was also a Chinese Auction, Raffle Prizes, Pot of Gold and Bake Sale.

On Sunday, October 19, 2014, the Pittsburgh Courts celebrated Catholic Daughter Day at the Seminary. Mass was celebrated by former Rector Father Joseph Mele and 12 new members were received at the Formal Reception for New Members during the liturgy. Brunch was served following the Mass. Father Mele accepted a check in the amount of \$3,200 from the proceeds of the benefit luncheon on behalf of the seminarians.



Pictured are Diocesan Chair Sandra Rhoden, Regent of Court Price #849, in Tarentum, and Father Joseph Mele.

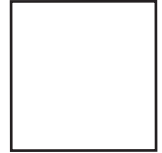


Would you like to see your court's activity featured in our newsletter? Send photo or email it to State Regent.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Peggy Guckin, State Regent
203 Harmony Ct.
Bensalem, PA 19020



Return Service Requested



The Annunciation
Carl Heinrich Bloch (1834-1890)

Joyful Anticipation

By Father Peter John Cameron, O.P.

On Saturday, July 27, 2013, the Canadian Open was in full swing at the Glen Abbey Golf Course in Oakville, Ontario. The Open is the third oldest continuously-running golf tournament on the PGA Tour. Thirty-one-year old U.S. golfer Hunter Mahan was leading the championship by two strokes—primed to capture the first-place purse of more than a million dollars.

After a rain-delay of eighty minutes, Mahan was on the driving range warming up for his 2:50 p.m. third round tee off. Suddenly, his agent, Chris Armstrong, rushed up to him holding out a cellphone. Mahan took the phone, spoke briefly, exited the golf course, packed his gear, and headed off in a car for the airport.

What made Mahan quit his sure shot at victory?

The announcement of a baby

On the phone was Mahan's wife Kandi. She was pregnant with their first child, and her due date was August 16. But Kandi was calling from a car en route to the hospital because the expectant mom had already gone into labor. Their baby was coming three weeks early. This startling news caused Mahan to drop everything and get himself pronto to the Dallas hospital. Where he arrived in plenty of time. Kandi and Hunter's daughter, Zoe Olivia Mahan, was born at 3:26 a.m. on Sunday.

It was the announcement of the coming of a baby that moved Mahan, without a second thought, to turn his back on riches, glory, fame. Something better was waiting for him. *Someone*. And for this stunning, virtuous act it seemed all the world applauded him in awe. For his action symbolized what life is all about—something we easily forget.

The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent tells the story of the Annunciation. An archangel appears to the Blessed Virgin Mary announcing that she will conceive the Son of God in her womb. The challenge for us is: Will this announcement of the coming of a Baby have the same effect on us as that other one did on Hunter Mahan?

Shaken to the depths

Father Alfred Delp, the heroic German Jesuit who was executed in 1945 for his resistance to the Nazi regime, wrote this:

Oh, if people know nothing about the promises anymore, if they only experience the four walls and the prison windows of their gray days, and no longer perceive the quiet footsteps of the announcing angels, if the angel's murmured word does not simultaneously shake us to the depths and lift up our souls—then it is over for us. Then we are living wasted time, and we are dead, long before they do anything to us.

This Advent is the perfect occasion to take account of all the walls, and prison windows, and gray days that we let define our lives. There are quiet footsteps and murmured words of announcing angels coming our way, too, to remind us of God's awesome promises.

The word "Advent," after all, means "the beginning of a presence." If we look deep inside ourselves, we will see that that Presence is the only thing that really matters for our happiness, our fulfillment—our holiness. As much as he hoped for prize money and the chance of being a winner, something else had captured Hunter Mahan's heart.

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