



Catholic Daughters of America  
Court Daughters of Mary # 2755  
Bedford, TX  
<https://www.smcchurch.org/cda>  
December 2020



## Advent Reflection

by Mary Ann Stacey

As the thought of another Advent comes to mind, are you wondering how this world could be so different from last year? It seems that every day presents more bad news and new challenges.

When we seek some kind of reassurance we are reminded that, just like Esther the Queen, we were created for such a time as this. In addition we are told that we, being the church militant, are made for combat. Catholic news outlets tell us repeatedly that over the last two centuries our Blessed Mother has appeared in different places, at different times, and to different people, warning us that a great tribulation is awaiting us, if we do not repent! With all of this in mind, our anxiety level is increasing. Like a deer blinded by headlights, what are we supposed to do?

We can find solace in returning to our steady and unchanging pattern of our liturgical calendar. During Advent we have an opportunity to gaze upon the empty manger awaiting the gift of all gifts, the birth of the Christ child. Perhaps, He is calling us to empty ourselves of our anxieties and sins, and become empty vessels so that He can fill us. This newborn babe comes to make ALLTHINGS NEW for us. When we are tried and worn, He brings us hope and strength. He takes our anxieties and places His blanket of peace around us. He reminds us that our most powerful weapons are the Eucharist and rosary. And above all He promises us that He will never leave us.

Until we are together again, we wish all of our beautiful Magnificat women a blessed Advent and Christmas.

## Meetings for Court # 2755

Our monthly meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. The Rosary starts at 6:30 pm, the meeting starts at 7 pm. Our next meeting is Monday December 14. Instructions for joining the Rosary and the meeting by Zoom will be in an email the weekend before the meeting.

### Court Officers

**Regent:** Patti Tapia 682 367 0518

[eptapia1971@gmail.com](mailto:eptapia1971@gmail.com)

**Vice Regent:** Linda Chreno

[lindachreno@gmail.com](mailto:lindachreno@gmail.com) 510-316-5416

**Recording Secretary:** Linda Sorenson

[lbsorenson66@att.net](mailto:lbsorenson66@att.net) 817-366-1756

**Financial Secretary:** Mary Kajs

[mkajs12@att.net](mailto:mkajs12@att.net) 817-319-5282

**Treasurer:** Judy Goldthorp

[judygold47@gmail.com](mailto:judygold47@gmail.com) 817 239 7551

Email: [CatholicDaughters@smcchurch.org](mailto:CatholicDaughters@smcchurch.org)

Website: <https://www.smcchurch.org/cda>

Officers meet monthly on the Sunday that is a week before the meeting. Our next officers' meeting is December 6. Members are welcome to join this meeting. Email us at [catholicdaughters@smcchurch.org](mailto:catholicdaughters@smcchurch.org) if you are interested in participating in these meetings, so we can send you the Zoom link.

If you would like to add an item to the agenda, please email us at [catholicdaughters@smcchurch.org](mailto:catholicdaughters@smcchurch.org) by the last Friday of the month. Next deadline (for January meeting) will be December 24.

## **Budget**

Our Budget Committee (Barb Falcone, Ellen Gallagher, Judy Goldthorp, Judy Oliviero, Yvonne Carstens) met on October 25 and drafted a budget. The budget was approved at our November meeting. If you would like a copy of the budget, please email Judy Goldthorp.

## **Fundraising @ Panera December 14 – 4 pm to 8 pm**

We have a fundraiser scheduled for December 14 from 4 pm to 8 pm. The flyer will be sent with this newsletter. You can dine in, or use the drive through or order on line for delivery or curbside pickup. You must bring the flyer to Panera or use the online code **PRFUND**, so that we get credit for your order. Panera will donate 20% of sales to our organization. Please share this information with friends and family. The more people that order at Panera on December 14, the more money we raise. The flyer is also available at <https://www.smcchurch.org/cda>

## **Fundraising – Shop With Scrip**

We have signed up with <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>



The enrollment code is **BFLF82LL752L1**

Here's how it works. You buy a gift card and pay face value for it.

Our Court gets a rebate, which varies with each store or restaurant. Rebates vary from 2.5% to 16%.

**How to order: #1** Go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and register, using the enrollment code (above). Set up your bank account or credit card for payment. There is a small service fee that will be added to your order. The fee is smaller if you use a bank account, rather than a credit card, but it's entirely up to you. I would suggest you look at the web site and browse through the list of stores and restaurants that are available. If you order on this site, the cards will be mailed to us at the church and I will contact you when you can pick up your cards. Because we have to pay the UPS \$8.50 fee for delivery, I will be waiting to submit orders until we have a large enough order to justify that UPS fee.

**How to order #2:** Another way to order is through the app for your phone or tablet called **Raise Right**. You can order cards through that app. If you order through the app, the cards are sent directly to you at home, for a 50 cents charge per card and a 50 cents postage fee. Here is more information about that option:

<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/About/WhatsNew/2020/October/30170/ship-to-home>

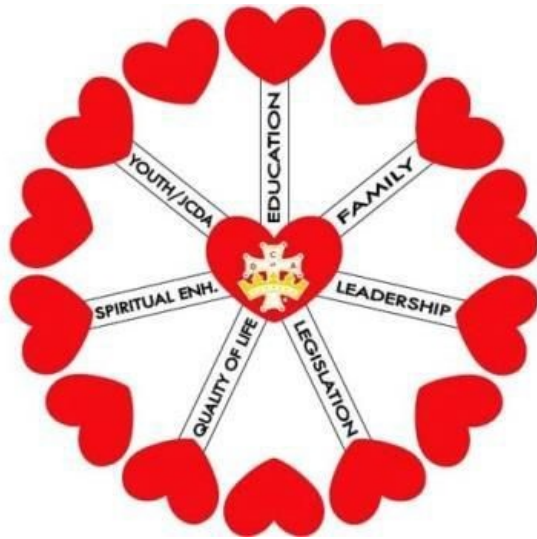
**eCards:** You can order eCards through either the Shop With Scrip website or the Raise Right app. The advantage of the eCards is that they are available immediately, with no postage fee and no delay. If you want to give eCard as a gift, you can do that on the website and designate the recipient's email address for delivery.

## **Hospitality Ministers needed**

The Greeting committee needs help before all Masses. Duties include, greeting people, opening the doors for them and distribute masks if someone shows up without one. After Mass, help is needed to clean pews. Contact Michelle Allen [Mallen@smcchurch.org](mailto:Mallen@smcchurch.org) or Sara Messecar [Smessecar@smcchurch.org](mailto:Smessecar@smcchurch.org) if you can help.

## **Holy Day of Obligation**

December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Masses are December 7 at 7 pm (in Spanish) and December 8 at 7 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm & 7 pm. Church offices are closed on December 8



### Circle of Love

CDA activities and projects at the Local, State and National level are an extension of the vision, focus and creative commitment of the Circle of Love program. The seven points represent the needs of the Church and community best served by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in the areas of: Education, Family, Leadership, Legislation, Quality of Life, Spiritual Enhancement, Youth/JCDA. This program binds Catholic Daughters of the Americas together in a common cause: members can support large scale projects at the national and state level and also initiate projects in their communities. This program provides Local Courts with structure and flexibility to creatively

minister to their nearest neighbors most effectively.

**Circle of Love:** <https://texascda.org/circle-of-love>

**National Projects:** <https://catholicdaughters.org/national-projects-and-charities>

**State Projects:** <https://texascda.org/state-projects>

Don't let the list of projects overwhelm you. As a court, we can agree to support 1 or 2 National Projects, 1 or 2 State Projects, and 1 or 2 local projects. So the question to our members is: What project speaks to you? Where would you like to see our donations go? As a new court, we are not expected to support projects from all 7 points of the Circle of Love, but to concentrate on 1 or 2 of them. Each month, we will highlight a National Project and a Texas Project.

### Holy Cross Family Ministries (National Project) <https://www.hcfm.org/>

At Holy Cross Family Ministries (HCFM), we believe every family needs and deserves access to high-quality prayer and faith experiences and resources. We are a mission-driven family of Catholic ministries. Our mission is clear: We are dedicated to inspiring, promoting and fostering the prayer life and spiritual well-being of families throughout the world. Families are served through faith-based video series, prayer retreats, world-wide Rosary distribution, and numerous interactive and in-person engaging prayer experiences!

### Habitat for Humanity (Texas Project)

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SL6GYI-O-tM17Dr6EqIQqcezKOO\\_A6Ae](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SL6GYI-O-tM17Dr6EqIQqcezKOO_A6Ae)



CDA members from across Texas gathered in Redwater, TX to raise the walls on their 10th Habitat House build on November 21, 2020. Decent, affordable housing dramatically changes a family's life:

- \* The cycle of poverty is broken
- \* Health, physical safety and security improve
- \* Educational and job prospects increase
- \* A sense of stability and dignity grows
- \* Money freed up for other essential needs

### **Zoom Access**

Our Court has a Zoom account and it will be available for committees to use. Contact Patti Tapia for more information.

### **Texas CDA Facebook Group**

Did you know that our state CDA has a Facebook group? <https://www.facebook.com/groups/texascdca>  
It is a private group, meaning you have to answer a question in order to be admitted to the group. There are devotionals, news about other Courts, and information about our Texas CDA.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Current balance in our checking account is \$3181.94

### **Prayer Requests**

\* Give us the courage to always be detached from our political loyalties and be first a faithful follower of Jesus, the true King. And when it comes time for us to contribute to the political realm, help us to cast our vote in a way that is pleasing to You.

(From The Novena for The Election at [www.PrayMoreNovenas.com](http://www.PrayMoreNovenas.com))

\* For the repose of the soul of Brian Uszko

### **What else would you like to see in your newsletter?**

Send suggestions to Judy G at [judygold47@gmail.com](mailto:judygold47@gmail.com) or to [catholicdaughters@smcchurch.org](mailto:catholicdaughters@smcchurch.org)

### **'Twas a Month Before Christmas 2020**

It was a month before Christmas, and all  
through the town,  
People wore masks, that covered their frown.  
The frown had begun way back in the Spring,  
When a global pandemic changed everything.  
They called it corona, but unlike the beer,  
It didn't bring good times, it didn't bring cheer.  
Contagious and deadly, this virus spread fast,  
Like a wildfire that starts when fueled by gas.  
Airplanes were grounded, travel was banned.  
Borders were closed across air, sea and land.  
As the world entered lockdown to flatten the  
curve,  
The economy halted, and folks lost their nerve.  
From March to July we rode the first wave.  
People stayed home, they tried to behave.  
When summer emerged the lockdown was  
lifted.  
But away from caution, many folks drifted.  
Now it's November and cases are spiking,  
Wave two has arrived, much to our disliking.  
Frontline workers, doctors and nurses,  
Try to save people, from riding in hearses.

This virus is awful, this COVID-19.  
There isn't a cure. There is no vaccine.  
It's true that this year has had sadness a plenty,  
We'll never forget the year 2020.  
And just 'round the corner - the holiday season,  
But why be merry? Is there even one reason?  
To decorate the house and put up the tree,  
When no one will see it, no-one but me.  
But outside my window the snow gently falls,  
And I think to myself, let's deck the halls!  
So, I gather the ribbon, the garland and bows,  
As I play those old carols, my happiness grows.  
Christmas ain't cancelled and neither is hope.  
If we lean on each other, I know we can cope.

Copyright-Shawna Hickling

By: Shawna Hickling, Calgary, AB, Canada  
November 19, 2020

(Poet's P.S. – I NEVER use the word ain't but  
isn't had too many syllables for the poem!)  
[https://www.sparkpeople.com/mypage\\_public\\_j  
ournal\\_individual.asp?blog\\_id=6718243](https://www.sparkpeople.com/mypage_public_journal_individual.asp?blog_id=6718243)

Thanks to all who have volunteered to serve on the committees. If you would like to help with a committee, please contact one of the officers. If I have omitted anyone's name, please let me know.

**Spiritual Enhancement**

Lisa Allen Janet Spellings  
Mary Ann Stacey

**Financial Review**

Maria Chacon Carol Dufinetz  
Sonja Jacobs Patti Lenz

**Budget**

Judy Goldthorp - Chair  
Helen Bradley Yvonne Carstens  
Barb Falcone Ellen Gallagher  
Sonja Jacobs Judy Oliviero

**Membership**

Linda Chreno - chair

**Standing Rules**

Sonja Jacobs

**Mass Cards**

Dotty Vanicek- Chair  
Helen Bradley Yvonne Carstens

**Sunshine/Telephone**

Linda Chreno-Chair  
Helen Bradley Barb Falcone  
Jayne Green Bernadette Norman  
Dotty Vanicek Mary Lou Giles

**Charity**

Minnie Capello Maria Chacon  
Marian Sims Mary Ann Stacey

**Newsletter / Scrapbook**

**Ways & Means (Fundraising)**

Judy Goldthorp

