



# Golden State Tidings

2009 – 2011

*Let Us Be God's Justice and Mercy,  
Hands and Feet of Christ*



## 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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State Regent, Susan Killian – 9389 Tangelo Avenue, Fontana, CA 92335  
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## **STATE CHAPLAIN** **Rev. Stephen Porter**

Happy Spring! Well, in Old English that would have been a blessing for a Happy Lent, but somehow in our modern culture Lent and Happy don't seem to go together. But why not? The Church gives us this season of Lent, which by the way comes from an old Germanic word that probably meant *lengthen* – as the daylight hours were getting longer during Spring – so that we might *lengthen* our spiritual practices in preparation for the great feast of Easter. Today we could say *renew* our spiritual practices, and Lent is a great time to take some time for ourselves to do this.

The **most important spiritual practice is clearly prayer** and this includes our public prayer – the Mass, the rosary, devotions to Christ, his Mother and the saints, as well as our prayerful scripture reading, our intercession prayer for those we hold in our hearts, and praise and worship of God when we are in our private rooms. **How is your prayer life?** And how may it grow this Lent? When you go to Mass on Sunday or during the week do you spend some time before preparing yourself for what you are about to do? Reading the readings for that Mass? Quietening your heart, mind and soul from the hectic affairs of life? Preparing yourself to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord in Holy Communion? We remember, and with the New Missal coming out this year we are urged to remember, that Mass is something that God does for us, so that we can live for ever. Remember Jesus says whoever eats my body and drinks my

blood will live for ever, and it is in the Mass that God offers us that covenant of eternal life. How we ready ourselves is crucial! And the same goes for all prayer – public and private. We need to dispose our minds, purify our souls and lighten our hearts so that whatsoever we pray and whensoever we pray we can get the best and the most out of the experience.

**In Lent the Church urges us to fast.** The only obligatory fast days in the Church's calendar are both in Lent – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and that means fasting from meat and other foods and just eating one simple meal and a snack or two perhaps during those days. We are so fortunate to have a plethora of foods from all over the world in our markets, and multitudes of restaurants to enjoy, that we forget that most of the rest of the world eats (if they eat at all) a simple meal every day – rice and beans, noodles, bread, potatoes, and maybe some vegetables – and only tastes meat and fish (and desserts!) on special occasions. If you are healthy enough to fast every Friday in Lent then please do so, but no one is to fast at the expense of your health. If you suffer from conditions that require you to eat regularly (to keep blood sugar levels regular, for instance) then do so, but perhaps during the Fridays in Lent a little more Spartan than you are used to. The physical discipline of the body is an ancient Christian practice to hone the spiritual skills of prayer and worship (and actually is good for the body as well, we all eat far too much anyway!)

**The last of the great spiritual practices that the Church encourages us in Lent is almsgiving** – that from whatever we have we share with others. There's a slogan around these days: "live simply so that other may simply live". Again we remind ourselves that we have



so much, and by all means be grateful for it. We have clean clothes to put on every day – something we probably take for granted – but half the world sleeps in the same clothes they wore during the day. We have clean water to bathe in, brush our teeth, make coffee and oatmeal, wash our clothes and irrigate our yards, at the turn of a tap it flows freely. Some women (and yes, it is the women who do this) in some countries walk miles to fetch water for their families and carry it home on their heads. Who knows the quality of the water, but it's probably not even good enough for our dogs, and yet it's what they have. Be grateful for what we have, but share some of it with those who don't. There are many great organizations, some run by our Church, that will help you share your wealth (and we are wealthy) and make sure it really does go to where you want it to go.

At the end of the Holy Father's new book "*Light of the World*" he says "[We] can be saved only when moral energies gather strength in [our] hearts; energies that can only come from the encounter with God... We therefore need Him, the Other, who helps us be what we ourselves cannot be; and we need Christ, who gathers us into a communion that we call the Church." Christ does this by showing us how to pray, how to fast and how to share, may we espouse these spiritual practices this Lent in a new and more beautiful way.

Blessings to all Catholic Daughters and your families, your priests and your parishes.

*Fr. Steve Porter*



**GIFTS**

<b>To your enemy</b>	<b>forgiveness</b>
<b>To your opponent</b>	<b>tolerance</b>
<b>To a friend</b>	<b>your heart</b>
<b>To a customer</b>	<b>service</b>
<b>To all men</b>	<b>charity</b>
<b>To every child</b>	<b>a good example</b>
<b>To yourself</b>	<b>respect</b>

**STATE REGENT**  
**Susan Killian**



It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I write this Golden State Tidings article. We are drawing closer to the upcoming 43<sup>rd</sup> California State Convention which will be May 26-29, 2011 at the Radisson Ontario Airport Hotel. For over a year, the State Board has been working on convention plans, but more intently since June. By this time, your court Regent should have received all the Convention information. (also available at [www.catholicdaughterscalifornia.org](http://www.catholicdaughterscalifornia.org)). The theme is *Let the Heart of Christ Guide You*. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the theme has lent itself to the idea that if Christ is to guide you, you will follow, thus producing footprints.

As it turns out, the Convention Project this year is to collect new athletic shoes for school age children and we will donate them to a charitable organization called *Shoes That Fit*. Again following the theme, the shoes given to young people will be the footprints of the future. You are encouraged to bring shoes in children size 10 through adult size 12 to donate. A speaker from *Shoes That Fit* will join us on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. You may learn more about *Shoes That Fit* at [www.shoesthatfit.org](http://www.shoesthatfit.org).

For the past year and a half, we have been gathering monthly in our dioceses to pray for Sanctity of Life, Increased Leadership, Increased Membership and for Priests. On Saturday morning, May 28<sup>th</sup> we will once again pray the rosary together. I am pleased to inform you that also on Saturday morning, Culture of Life speaker, Marie Widmann, M.A. will be addressing us.

If you have never toured the Navy's Project Handclasp Warehouse, now is your chance. A pre-convention bus tour is planned for Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> to tour the warehouse, visit the Immaculata Catholic Church and have



lunch at La Gran Terraza both located on the University of San Diego campus.

Of course we have important business meetings planned including the election of New State Officers, new Madonna Manor Board Members and the 2013 Nominating Committee Members. Start saving now for what should be an outstanding convention.

Our State Chaplain Fr. Steve Porter, State Officers, State Chairmen, and Convention Chairmen are looking forward to your attendance.

In Christ's peace and love, *Susan*



**Valentine's Day - February 14**



***NATIONAL DIRECTOR  
and  
NATIONAL  
SUPERVISOR  
Emily Guilherme***

It's that time again for our State Convention; I encourage every court to send at least one delegate. It is very important that we attend. This is your opportunity to vote for change or not, to have input, and to see the bigger picture of this wonderful organization. This is a great experience to learn from each other and to meet new catholic daughters, too, and to reconnect with those that we don't get to see that often.

Some of my greatest memories have been attending the conventions. What I have learned has been immeasurable to me and have made so many wonderful friendships of women that have sustained me in some of my happiest moments and also in my saddest. Please make every effort to attend. Your voice is needed to help us to grow and be heard. You will be able to have a chance to elect new officers for your state to have input on who represents you and hear what the State Officers have done for the past two

years. I know that your State Board is hard at work to make this Convention great for all of us.

I look forward to meeting many new members and greeting my catholic daughter friends.

Also at this time I want to thank the State Board for the luncheon they held for me on becoming a National Director. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, some coming from quite a distance.

You missed a great afternoon of laughs and joy. I'm still in awe of their generosity and kindness.

Blessings, *Emily*



Until 1971, both February 12 and February 22 were observed as federal public holidays to honor the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and George Washington (February 22). In 1971 President Richard Nixon proclaimed one single federal public holiday, the Presidents' Day, to be observed on the 3rd Monday of February, honoring all past presidents of the United States of America.



***FIRST VICE STATE  
REGENT  
Dorothy Parrillo***

Something we should do at this time is to reflect upon the resolutions we made at the beginning of 2010. Did any of them change our lives or have an impact upon the lives of others? Will we continue to make lists and two weeks later forget about them? Ask yourself if you accomplished all that you set out to do. I suggest after doing this, you take some deep breaths, relax and focus on prayer. What is it that you need to change? Do we only pray



when there's a need or do we pray to thank God for His many gifts?

Try to replay some important events which occurred over the past year in your mind. These are some of the gifts – the Blessings we take for granted and are the things we should be most thankful for. Perhaps a friend invited you to join them for A Tea Party, a ride along the ocean, a hike up in the mountains, a breakfast buffet, elected you as an Officer for your Court. Maybe someone called to share a joke, perhaps someone stopped to give you a hug, and maybe you finished an article for your newsletter. All these things are gifts.

As we enter our new year, each and every one of us should concentrate upon our gifts. These gifts or talents are those things that can be shared with your Catholic Daughter sisters here in California, especially on the State Board. It will soon be Election Time and there is a need for you to think about running for office on the State Board.

I shall list some qualifications I feel necessary to fill the position of a State Officer

- Accept challenges and show integrity in all that you do.
- Be trustworthy and deeply committed.
- Persevere until a job is completed.
- Be someone who is passionate about the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.
- Have a strong belief in your God given purpose and be highly motivated.
- Listen to what is asked of you, follow it up and then step up to the plate.
- Be a team player.
- Be someone who is very spiritual;
- Be someone who is willing to work, work, work, and do it all for the Love of God.

Should you choose to run for a State Office, do not become a “Martha” with her ups and downs and expect a “Mary” to do all your work. You should look upon your office as your ministry. There will be days when problems seem to have no resolution; however, God’s love is always there along with your State Officers. They help

to open the door to your growth. Many times they’ll offer advice or give you suggestions to help solve your problems and show you the way. We on the State Board, share our gifts with those we love and care for. In doing so, we allow the Light of the Lord to shine through us all.

No matter what our age might be, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas do create change in all of us. We are greeted with wonderful and new ideas. This brings about change in our attitude and in our emotions. We become more conscious of ourselves as women with a potential for goodness, a stronger hope for the future, and have a greater and deeper love for God.

Speaking for myself, being a State Officer is very rewarding. I have been blessed. God gave me the opportunity of working with and meeting some marvelous women. Through them, He has continued to shape my life.

We need dedicated and devoted women to run for office. If you feel you’re up to it, throw your hat into the ring. May God help you to make the right decision.

God Bless you. *Dollie*

**Alone, we can do so little. Together, we can do so much.**  
*Helen Keller*



***SECOND VICE STATE  
REGENT  
Daphne Bernestine***

Hello Ladies,

Well, as we draw near to the end of our 2009-2011 term, I can say that I am so happy that our **Membership is increasing** tremendously. Our Courts are moving forward with the Circle of Love programs to help with membership. We have increased membership



and have watched our Angel turn into Gold. Thanks ladies for a job well done.

Even though we are nearing the end of the 2009-2011 term, **we still need to continue to do membership drives** more often to help our organization grow and stay strong in members. We will have a new board and leadership to help us with new ideas, and motivational skills to work on membership. Ladies, keep your members motivated to go out and bring in young and old members to keep your courts alive.

In these past two years as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice State Regent, one of my responsibilities was to keep records of membership. I have seen many courts lose a lot of members. It seems that each member we bring in we lose two. This is why we need to strive to work a little harder in our membership drives. Ladies, we can do this with the will of God on our side. I know it is hard with some of the young ladies, but keep asking, and showing them that we are Catholic Women who are here to do God's work.

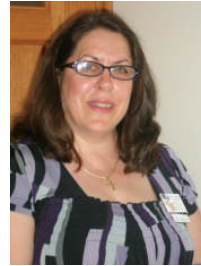
For the members who have passed on to their eternal life, I would like to say we will truly miss them. When I see a deletion due to death my heart goes out to the Court because it hard to replace good members. But we have to keep going and remember what those ladies have inspired in our courts.

In closing I would like to say that I will especially remember my mother-in-law, Annie Bernestine, who went to her eternal reward in January 2011. She had been a member for 41 years and was the one who inspired me to be a Catholic Daughter. I was always encouraged to go forward in this organization by her. Annie, you will be missed but not forgotten. Rest in peace with all our beloved Catholic Daughters.

May the Love of God guide you and be with you all.

*Daphne*

**Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.**  
- Matthew 5:15



**STATE SECRETARY**  
**Melody Ciaravino**

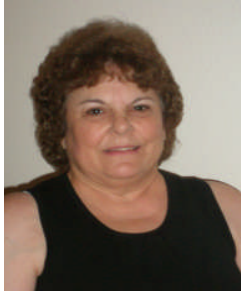
Now that the holiday season is over and all the decorations have been returned to their storage closets it is time to get back to normal. In the Church calendar we call it Ordinary time.

On my calendar I'd call this time anything BUT Ordinary. In our courts we are electing Delegates and Alternates to send to the State Convention that will be held in Ontario in May. I think this is very exciting, to be able to see our State Court at work and participate in the decisions being made that will affect all Catholic Daughters in California. And, there is nothing like being in a conference room with hundreds of other Catholic Daughters to boost enthusiasm for our Order. That feeling is anything but Ordinary; it borders on Extraordinary!

I hope that every court will make the effort to send Delegates and Alternates to the Convention. I know that in these tough economic times, costs can seem a bit high even though the State Board has made every effort to hold meal prices the same as the 2007 Convention and room rates the same as the 2009 Convention. With a little advance planning and possibly a fundraiser or two every court can be represented at the State Convention. I urge you to encourage your members to make every effort to attend. I am looking forward to seeing many old friends and making many new friends in Ontario in May.

*Melody*

**Six-year olds completing proverbs ---  
Strike while the ..... bug is close.  
A penny saved is .....not much.  
Two's company, three's .. the Musketeers.**



**STATE TREASURER**  
**Rosemarie Thomson**

How quickly the past two years have gone by. I can hardly believe that my term as CDA State Treasurer will soon come to an end.

WOW! What a terrific challenge and learning experience this has been, one for which I am truly grateful. State Officers work very hard to keep everything in perspective. Working together as a team to make decisions for the good of the Order takes much consideration. Aside from doing our elected job, trying to stay in touch with local courts in a state such as California is a huge endeavor. Thank goodness for technology – cell phones (I never leave home without it), copiers, FAX machines, scanners, etc. – how did we ever live without them?

Spring is a time for new beginnings and growth. In May, a new State Board will be elected. Have you ever considered becoming a State Officer? It takes a genuine commitment but it is most rewarding. As board members, you are like a “family” of sisters – you may not always agree 100% but in the end, you’re always there for one another. Think about your gifts and talents and what you can bring to the State Court. If you have not applied already, you can be nominated from the floor at the State Convention in May. Pray to the Holy Spirit to enlighten you. He is definitely my favorite.

May you and your family experience a joyful Easter season.

*Rosemarie*

**“The March wind**

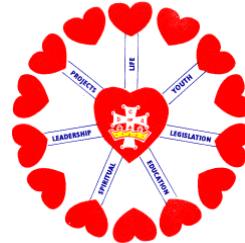
**Like a lion in the sky,  
And makes us shiver  
As he passes by.**



**When winds are soft,  
And the days are warm and clear,  
Just like a gentle lamb,  
Then spring is here.”**

Anonymous

**MESSAGES FROM OUR  
STATE CHAIRMEN**



**State Chairman  
Legislation  
Barbara Bonadiman**

How good are you at keeping promises?

In our Congress, one side of the aisle has made a lot of promises to do one thing, and on the other side of the aisle, a whole lot of new promises. The promises on both sides are different, and many are at loggerheads. Each side has ideas. Is this the time to say STOP, let the pot sit and not boil over? We should examine these ideas and changes. We have to do our due diligence and keep vigilant and make sure we know what our Congress and State are doing to us.

Which promises and changes are more beneficial to you as American Catholic Women? There are many that can impact our life and our family's wellbeing. For example:

**Health Care?** Do we want to be "taken care of" or do we want to be able to take care of ourselves? Can we afford it? Who's going to pay for it?

**The Economy?** How long are we able to spend way more than our household incomes without paying big penalties for going over our limit and, not to mention, the big penalties we pay if our accounts become past due? With the pay-off



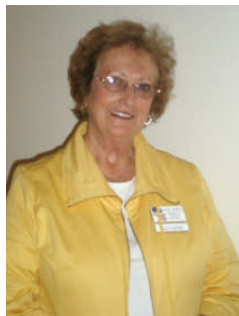
date of our Country and State's debts so far in the future, our children's children will shake their heads at our lack of action in not putting up a fight and demanding that our Country's and State representatives to stop the overspending and budget like our households.

Our **REALLY big job** is to keep our people in Washington, D.C. and in Sacramento, aware of our concerns. Let them know how much our concerns are vital to the American way of life and our Country as a whole by sending letters, emails, petitions, making calls and especially visiting our State representatives whenever possible.

The next thing to do is to **PRAY for the end of abortion**. When our Country starts to get a conscience about killing our unborn children, perhaps we will be able to see God's graces coming upon us in abundance.

God Bless Us and God Bless America!

*Barbara Bonadiman*



**State Chairman  
Quality of Life  
Barbara Bowers**

Happy New Year dear Sisters in Christ!

Just as our dear Lord showers down His forgiveness time after time, we are given another opportunity for new beginnings. The new year give us a fresh start to finish all the 'should haves'. I am speaking of the SEVEN POINTS OF LIFE – back bone of our Catholic Daughter organization. We are given a venue to show off our California ingenuity to other states during our 2011 State Convention. Our accomplishments go unnoticed if we don't take time to share what we have done. Whether it be in

Education, Legislation, Youth, Spiritual Enhancement, Leadership or Quality of Life in our CIRCLE OF LOVE. It is so very important to take the time to fill out the Reporting Forms.

What is QUALITY OF LIFE?

“Quality of Life (social awareness) issues of our national program are the heart of our ministering to the needs of all people. We are called to reach out with compassion and support, to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow and sickness.” Quote from National CDA.

*“...Your will is my heritage for ever ... The joy of my heart .... I set myself to carry out your will in fullness, forever.”* Psalm 119:111-112

Where or how do we fit in? According to the newsletters I have received from our California courts; it seems we answer the call to all of the above. Bottles for babies (baby showers), serving meals in dining rooms of the homeless, clothing the poor, visiting the sick and imprisoned. We have been and are the helping hands, including walking for life! In addition, we are Eucharist Ministers of the sick and Lectors in our parish community.

At a funeral reception recently for one of our dear departed sisters ... friends of the family wanted to know about us ... They had never heard of Catholic Daughters ... consequently we have two very interested potential members! Not necessarily for the local court. We must come out of the closet! Have enthusiasm, smile and share the gift of love.

Our organization is one of a kind ... we are the light ... let us not hide under a lamp, but let your court shine ... get the recognition it deserves by using the forms sent to your court and be counted! Remember to fill out the Circle of Love reporting forms.

Thank you for all your past works. Your monthly and semi-monthly newsletters are



enjoyed. You have set the bar high, now take this opportunity we are given and share it.

Blessings to you and yours for a healthy, happy new year! *Barbara Bowers*



**STATE CHAIRMAN  
YOUTH  
MARY SILVA**

Dear Catholic Daughters,

In this article I would like to talk a little bit about our upcoming State Convention.

I encourage every court to participate in this great opportunity.

This, personally for me, is only my second convention and I can hardly wait.

This is your opportunity to voice your opinion and join some great ladies for a cause we all believe in. I promise you will not be disappointed. You will have the chance to learn so much and make some new friends and to see some old friends. So many are hard at work to make this another great Catholic Daughters of the Americas Convention.

I wanted to also give you a small list of youth resources to pass along to your courts, parishes youth ministry and to your families. I hope some of these websites are useful and informative.

NFCYM – National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry

[www.nfcym.org](http://www.nfcym.org)

Catholic Youth

[www.catholicyouth.org](http://www.catholicyouth.org)

Alive in You

[aliveinyou.com](http://aliveinyou.com)

Life Teen

[www.lifeteen.com](http://www.lifeteen.com)

Catholic Youth League

[www.catholicyouthleague.org](http://www.catholicyouthleague.org)

NFIA – National Families in Action’s Guide to the Drug Prevention

[www.nationalfamilies.org](http://www.nationalfamilies.org)

United States Department of Health and Human Services

[www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)

I look forward to seeing many of you at the convention. Make God bless all of you wonderful ladies and may this New Year be filled with God’s many blessings and joys.

In Unity and Charity

*Mary*



**May God guard you  
Through each night and day  
And ever watch above you.  
God smile on everything  
you do.  
God go with you.  
God Love you!**



**President  
Madonna Manor  
Board  
Yvonne Connolly**

Dear Sisters in Catholic Daughters

I am very pleased to let you all know that the new roof is well under way at Madonna Manor!! Legacy Roofing is doing an awesome job. The ladies are absolutely delighted.

Right now our numbers are down a little partly due to some ladies having to be moved due to them needing skilled nursing and, of course, it is always sad when we lose a resident. However, we are thankful that they are with the Lord and that the Manor has provided for them both physically and spiritually. We did lose one member of the staff to cancer so we pray for both her and her family.



At this time I must tell you that the director of Madonna Manor had a serious accident while mountain biking just before Christmas. He is paralyzed and has been moved to a rehab unit. We continue to pray for him as do all the residents at the Manor. We have been fortunate to have Debra Majcher Gore, who lives in the area step forward and take care of the daily needs of the office. She is doing an excellent job and both the staff and the ladies are happy that she is there. Thank you Debra!

I will see you all at Convention and will have pictures of the new roof for all of you to see.

Blessings to you all in 2011 *Yvonne*

### Shrove Tuesday

*Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday refers to the day before Ash Wednesday, the last day before the beginning of Lent. Though shrove derives from the word shrive or shriven, meaning to repent, or having repented. Shrove Tuesday is not typically associated with repentance. Instead it is usually a day for great and gluttonous celebrations that will use up cooking ingredients to make treats many will forego during Lent. It was also a day to use up the foods not allowed in Lent: for example, fatty items such as meat, cooking grease, butter, sweet syrups, etc.*

*Shrove Tuesday is known by many different names in different cultures. In the U.S. and in Latin American, Shrove Tuesday is better known as Mardi Gras (in French, Mardi = Tuesday and Gras = fat). It is also known as Pancake Tuesday.*



**Ash Wednesday**  
**March 9, 2011**



## SPOTLIGHT Fresno Diocese

by Daphne Bernestine  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Sate Regent

This Spotlight is on **Teresa Marquez**, the new Regent for **Ct. Our Lady of Grace #2637**, Reedley, CA. I would like to extend congratulations to this Court that started on 9/22/10.

Teresa is newly married to her husband, Sergio Marques. They have a son, Sergio, Jr. She is an office manager at a physical therapy clinic. Teresa is studying to be a physical therapist at California State University, Fresno. Next year she will apply for her Masters Degree in Physical Therapy.

Teresa loves helping others in her free time. She teaches elementary catechism and loves working with the children. She enjoys painting, scrapbooking, and exercising. Teresa recently completed her first Marathon (26.2 miles).

As the first Regent for Ct. Our Lady of Grace, Teresa has started this Court with new leadership which will carry them along. With the love that this court has, it will grow in strength as she leads them in her term as Regent.

Again, congratulations and best wishes to Teresa and her Court as they move forward in their journey.

Teresa's favorite verse in the Bible is "we can do all things through God who gives us the strength" (Philippines 4:13). She has the strength to move forward and help the Catholic Daughters grow and accomplish what God has impelled us all to do -- work in Unity and Charity for the good of our organization.

Teresa, is the spotlight in our hearts today.



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**SPOTLIGHT**  
**Los Angeles Archdiocese**

by Dorothy Parrillo  
1st Vice Sate Regent

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I have chosen to write about two very beautiful women from the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Not only are they deserving of our love and praise but they are also women we can imitate. They are the Light of Christ in their Courts and in our lives.

The first woman is **Connie Polizzi** who is a member of **Ct. Queen of Heaven #1636**. She has the warmth and the gregarious nature I know the Italians to have. Connie came to us from a tiny town in Sicily, Italy. She, her mother and sister left from Naples to join their father. He was meeting them in New York City and then were going on to Chicago to live near their great uncle. They arrived in New York City on Thanksgiving Day and she was amazed at the food served which was the turkey with all the trimmings. To this day, Thanksgiving is Connie's favorite Holiday. It brings back some wonderful memories.

Connie was only 11 years old when she came to America. She could not speak a word of English. A very kind and patient nun helped her to master the English language. She helped herself to learn and better understand the English language by speaking it at every opportunity. and frequenting the movies to hear English spoken. Later she would practice the words at home. In a very short span of time she tested into 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Connie went to Immaculata High School where she graduated. She found employment as a bookkeeper and was later promoted to manager.. She married the Love of her Life in 1952. They were blessed with three daughters. Her husband was called home to his eternal reward in 1988.

Connie felt the need to occupy her mind after her husband's death, so she joined the Women's Guild in her church and held every office.

Connie moved to Claremont to be near her daughter who attended college there. It was there that she joined the Catholic Daughters 35 years ago.

She has always been an active member. She is very passionate about our organization and is willing to do just about anything for it. Connie is presently Regent of Court Queen of Heaven, #1636 in Claremont. She has been called upon by her members to do many things and has already served three terms as Regent. She recently chaired the Officers Workshop in the Los Angeles Archdiocese by obtaining a hall and making arrangements for lunch. She has been a District Deputy for 14 years and does a great job. She's Diocesan Coordinator for the San Gabriel Region.

Connie belongs to several other organizations and with a smile on her face always finds time for God, Family and CDA. She believes our faith and the love of God is the key ingredient binding all CDA members together. Connie is a Beacon of Light for us all and a wonderful example. She is a joy to know.

We thank Connie for everything she does for CDA. God Bless



Our other person for the Spotlight is **Lillian Condon** from Ct. St. Catherine #1378 in Torrance.

Lillian celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in December. This is a woman who does not allow age to keep her down. Lillian came to us in 1955 from Lawrence, Massachusetts. Perhaps this can help to explain her longevity. Those from back east are a hardy breed and they don't lose their accent. Lillian still has hers.

She joined the Catholic Daughters 25 years ago and has held various offices in her Court. The most recent office was that of Vice Regent. She's still a very active member. Lillian is known for doing a great job in cooking the

corned beef for the St. Patrick's Day festivities. She still helps with court luncheons and bunco parties and is seen setting up the altar along with the priest for Mass.

Lillian prepares the CCD children for First Holy Communion. This is a two year program. She takes those young ones enrolled in the 1<sup>st</sup> year program and teaches them everything necessary for the second year phase.

She is the president of St. Elizabeth's Women's Guild at Nativity Parish and is also the Captain of their Retreat. Lillian never misses the Apostleship of the Sea Dinner and she always donates a gift.

She was married to a wonderful man who has since gone to his eternal reward. They were not fortunate to be blessed with children. Lillian believes that when you are given lemons, you do something with them. So she did the next best thing, she opened a Day Care for Pre-school children. She was very successful in this endeavor for 30 years. The many children she cared for return time after time to visit and share their lives with her. God certainly gave her many little ones to love and enjoy. Her blessings were multiplied. I understand that she never complained about her lot in life. She, too, was determined to find success and now does her best to thank God for all His Blessings.

Rumor has it that Lillian also enjoys playing Bingo and is quite lucky at this game. Someone told me she'd walk several miles to find somewhere to play Bingo. One has to admire her determination and her stamina.

Lillian can inspire each and every one of us. She does not allow age to become a detour in life. She has found other avenues and with the help of God, shows us the Lord's Light. She is a story unto herself. Lillian, we thank you for all that you do for the Catholic Daughters. God Bless you

You can see why I wrote about Connie and Lillian. They both dealt with life's challenges and grew in trust, courage and determination. Their faith became stronger and they had a

greater love to share. These ladies are marvelous examples for all of us.

We thank God for putting both of them in our lives.



Ct. Santa Barbara #293 sent six boxes of items to Project Handclasp

Ct. Whittier #519 purchased 500 WRAP pins to be used during the White Ribbon campaign - Lead the rosary at a convalescent home - had a guest speaker, Sr. Marjorie who spoke on Faith Formation

Ct. Santa Maria #1079 adopted 7 Angels from the Salvation Army Angel Tree - Annual spaghetti dinner fund raiser donated \$100. Target gift cards to two families staying at the Good Samaritan Transitional Housing - held a Candidate Social

Ct. St. Theresa #1158 - held a breakfast fund raiser with the Knights of Columbus

Ct. Our Lady of Victory #1344 held a Christmas Boutique for a fund raiser - held a Memorial Service for all deceased members prior to November meeting

Ct. St. Catherine #1378 - held a Memorial Service for all deceased members at November meeting - continues to have a luncheon and bunco fund raiser every month - prepared ditty bags at Christmas time for the Seafarers in San Pedro - held a Retreat in November

Ct. San Ysidro #1507 held an Advent Luncheon - for fund raisers held a Christmas drawing for Baskets, had a spaghetti dinner and sold See's candy

Ct. Guardian Angel #1520 had a 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass and Breakfast - for fund raisers sold See's candy and had a Christmas Boutique

Ct. St. Francis of Assisi #1652 has a Queen of Hearts game which is ongoing until they have a winner (*editor's note: not too sure what the game is about but sounds like fun*) - they sell tickets at all meetings - donated \$50. gift certificates to six families



*Louise Senna a member of Ct. St. Francis of Assisi celebrated her 109<sup>th</sup> birthday. She has been a member for 57 years. She was presented with a cake by Fr. Mike Moore, Chaplain, Cheryl Mattos, Regent, and Lil Draxler.*

Ct. Marian #1669 – for fund raisers had a holiday boutique and sold See’s candy – sponsored a Baby Shower for Birth Choice receiving many items along with \$1,301. – collected food items for Project Shepherd and will continue to do so in the future

Ct. Our Lady of the Miracles #1707 celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*Charter members (seated) Alice Keena – 50-years members L-R Liz Gness, Roberta Keller-Horgan, Rev. William McCain (Chaplain), Ruth Beckmann and Mary O’Gorman*

Ct. Our Lady of the Redwoods #1742 celebrated 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Dinner – sold tickets for a basket raffle for a fund raiser – collected food items for Thanksgiving basket

Ct. St. Raymond #2057 – participating in “The Walk for Life” in San Francisco – donated socks and gloves to the homeless – supports JUMP program for Youth in parish – going to St. Mary’s Center to provide Sunday lunch – had a bake sale as a fund raiser

Ct. Our Lady of Shasta #2312 – had a craft/white elephant sale for a fund raiser – holds a monthly breakfast at parish

Ct. Madonna of the Valley #2346 had a Penny Party Fund Raiser with proceeds going to support the elderly, homeless and poor in San Fernando Valley

Ct. St. Malachy #2360 – supports the Ronald McDonald House in Bakersfield

Ct. Queen of the Americas #2418 – held a Baby Shower and items filled a truck. Items donated to the Pregnancy Center along with a check for \$560. – for fund raisers held a bake sale, held Fashion Show/Tea and sold tickets for Christmas Baskets – celebrated 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a luncheon

Ct. Holy Innocents #2446 – had a guest speaker who spoke about his spiritual journey and shared his collection of Relics. – members have been given baby bottles to save coins for the Right to Life program – held a Tea and Fashion Show as a fund raiser – collects greeting cards for St. Jude Ranch and hopes to have 40,000 this year – adopted two families at Christmas – had a speaker from TeenRescue who spoke about the organization

Ct. Our Lady of La Salette #2499 – collected food items for needy families at Thanksgiving



## Easter Blessings

May the Risen Lord  
bless you with  
peace and joy  
during this holy season!