

December, 2017

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Court #2719, St. Martin de Porres, Dripping Springs
P.O. Box 1062, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

Website: <http://www.stmartindp.org/cda>

Newsletter Contact: Allison Rice cparice@hotmail.com

Chaplain's Message for December

We are now in the liturgical season of Advent and in a new church liturgical year. For the Catholic Church, we start our New Year on the 1st Sunday of Advent. This Advent we will be hearing about St. John the Baptist and how he seeks to prepare the way for the Lord. Advent is a season of preparation and is similar to the way that parents would prepare for the birth or adoption of a child. Parents change their lives when that first child comes since they want to prepare space in their lives for that child. Advent is a season when we try to get rid of those things in our lives that would prevent us from receiving the Christ child more fully into our lives. Something I highly encourage during this Advent Season is going to confession since it is a wonderful way to get rid of those things that take up space in our lives. I also encourage visiting shut-ins, those in nursing homes, prisoners, etc. during this season and bringing the joy of Christmas to those who would otherwise not get that experience.

May we prepare the way for the Lord in a special way during this Advent.

Fr. Charlie, CDA Chaplain



Regent's Message for December

My dearest CDA sisters,

This year is quickly coming to a close. The CDA officers and Circle of Love board are beginning to plan our roadmap for next year. We will meet as a team in January to sketch-out our goals and initiatives. I am excited to see what is next and to share with you more at our February meeting. As a preview, one of our big goals will be to have a co-sponsored fundraiser event with our junior court. Stay tuned for details! You have already accomplished so much but I know you wonderful ladies have an encore in you for next year!

I wish you a blessed Advent and a very Merry Christmas. May the peace of the child Jesus reign in your hearts and homes. (Cont'd on page 2)



Local Court Officers

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District Deputy #7: Laura Pena
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National Website:
<http://www.catholicdaughters.org>

State Website:
<http://www.texascdca.org/index.php#loaded>

"For a child will be born to us, a sone will be gien to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace." ~Isaiah 9:6

Peace,
Kat Berbel
Regent, Ct. St. Martin de Porres #2719
+JMJ+

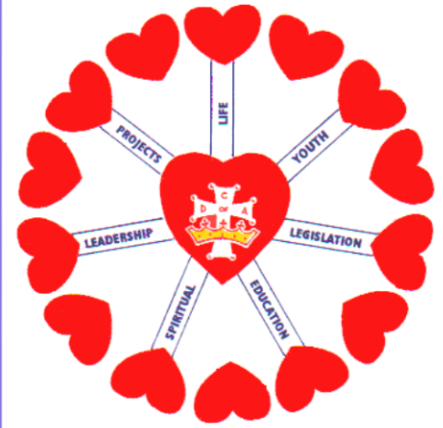
District Deputy's Message for December

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year!
Before the busy holiday season overwhelms you, share with your family one incredible moment.
Christmas traditions are family centered expression of love.

When the tree has been prepared gather around the tree and pray a "Blessing of the Christmas Tree":

Lord our God,
We praise you for the light of creation; the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus Christ your Son: He is Emmanuel, God with us the Prince of Peace.
Lord God, let you blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it give be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree come to knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessings,
Laura Pena
District Deputy #7



The image above is symbolic of our CIRCLE OF LOVE program. By definition, a circle is a curved line with every point equal distance from the point of the center and bound together by the common interest. The seven point program of the CIRCLE OF LOVE is bound together by the common interest- LOVE.

Our Circle of Love Committee

Education: Cindy Falbo
falbo5@verizon.net

Family: Dawn Cyr
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Leadership:

Legislation: Elaine Houle
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Quality of Life: Julie Pierantoni
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Spiritual Enhancement: Chery Lutz
calutz4@gmail.com

Youth/JCDA: Jennifer Sedlmeyer
rsedlmeyer@gmail.com

Circle of Love News Items

Quality of Life:

Volunteer Opportunity: Decorating at the Burke Center – We will be helping the Knights of Columbus decorate the Burke Center for Christmas on Saturday, December 9th, from 8am to 12pm. We would love as much help as we can get. If you are available to help on the 9th, even if it's just for an hour, please add your name to the list on the linked page here: [Online SignUp](#) Thank you in advance for your help. We are also looking for outdoor decorations if you have any to donate.

Blessings, Julie

Spiritual Enhancement: Adoration Hour – Thursdays from 9-10pm

Adoration: We continue to hold the Adoration Hour from 9-10pm on Thursday Evenings. Contact Chery Lutz at her email on page 2 if you would like to be added to the list of rotation.

Legislation:

Mark your calendars for the 2018 Texas Rally for Life on January 27, 2018. We have parishioners who march every year. Plan to join us this year from 12pm to 3pm for the Rally. This is a peaceful rally and was attended by as many as 7,000 people last year from around the state. How fortunate it is for us to be so close in downtown Austin. The Diocese also hosts a Sidewalk Prayer Vigil, and a Pro-Life Mass. Details in January's newsletter.



Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day in Austin January 27, 2018

Mark your calendars and join the Diocese of Austin for these *Pro-Life* activities:

Sidewalk Prayer Vigil, Rosary for Life, Diocesan Pro-life Mass, March for Life, Texas Rally for Life among others.

For more information contact the Office of Life, Charity, & Justice Diocese of Austin

Luisa de Poo
Assoc. Director, Pro-Life Activities
(512) 949-2487
luisa-dePoo@austindioces.e.org

CDA Mission Statement:

"Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive 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."



Upcoming Dates

December 8

Holy Day of Obligation, Immaculate Conception Mass Times are on the SMdP Parish Website

December 9

Decorating at the Burke Center, 8am-12pm (See page 2)

December 11

Ornament Exchange, 6:30pm, Kat Berbel's Home at 275 Lonely Pine Cove Driftwood, TX 78619 All women of the parish are welcome.

December 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe-Activities are on the SMdP Parish Website

December 21

Parish Advent Penance Service 7pm

December 25

Christmas Day

December 31

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

January 1

New Year's Day, Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

January 7

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8

The Baptism of the Lord

January 16

CDA Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Parish Hall

January 27

Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day

Ministry Highlight



Teams of Our Lady

Teams of Our Lady

A TOOL to Enrich Your Marriage

Would you like to have a night out with your spouse once a month that would provide the opportunity to get closer to each other and closer to God?

All over the world, couples have found a way to meet their desire for growth in love and faith through the Teams of Our Lady movement.

In Dripping Springs, we currently have 38 couples that make up 6 Teams.

If you want to learn more about the lay movement called Teams of Our Lady, the meeting structure and spiritual components, please contact Chery Lutz at (913) 209-7286 or email at calutz4@gmail.com for more information.

Chery Lutz, COL Spiritual Enhancement, TOOL Sector Couple



Month of the Immaculate Conception

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Chosen before time to be the Mother of God Incarnate, Jesus Christ, God created Mary perfect and full of grace, preserving her from the stain of Original Sin. Mary Immaculate is the most beautiful fruit of the work of redemption accomplished by her Son, thereby making her the perfect model of holiness for all Christians. (From Your Morning Offering) More info @ [EWTN Teachings](#)

Note: All articles written by Allison Rice unless otherwise noted



Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father for December

Theme: The Elderly

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



CDA State News

(Myra Alilain, Vice Regent)



What we can do about children leaving the faith: The following 3 factors resulted in 80% retention rate:

Weekly activity, e.g., catechesis, bible study, youth group, Junior Catholic Daughters.

Connecting with other adults in the parish (apart from own parents) with whom they can talk about their faith.

Deep spiritual experiences, e.g., adoration hours, retreats, mission trips, youth weekends.



Upcoming Event

December 11 Annual SMdP Ornament Exchange

All ladies of the parish are invited to the Annual Ornament Exchange to be hosted by our Worthy Regent, Kat Berbel, at her home on Monday, December 11 at 6:30pm. Please plan on attending and bringing a wrapped ornament not valued at more than \$15 and also a dish/wine to add to the festivities. Kat's address is 257 Lonely Pine Cove, Driftwood. And invite other ladies of our parish.

CDA National News

(Myra Alilain, Vice Regent)

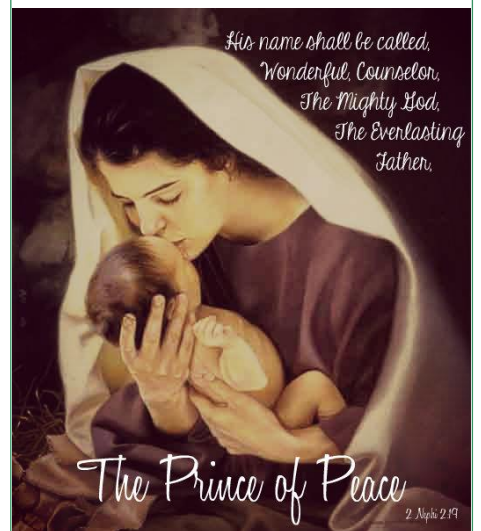


Excerpt from National Clergy Consultant, Fr. Jeffrey Maurer

"We are not Catholics just to learn a lesson but also to live a new life." The Baltimore Catechism tells us "to know, love, and serve God in this life so to be happy with Him in the next." Our work doesn't stop with "knowing but continues with loving and serving." Live our faith with fervor and forgiveness for past hurts and with a servant's heart to serve others-this is how we can become true disciples of the Lord.

ADVENTUS (Latin) = **COMING** (English)
ADVENT = Coming of Christ

1st Sunday (nearest 30th of Nov)	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	Christmas Eve or Christmas Day
 Hope	 Love	 Joy	 Peace	 Life of Christ that came into the World
Prophecy Candle	Bethlehem Candle	Shepherd's Candle	Angel's Candle	Christ Candle



Our Members Out and About!



A few Catholic Daughters helped serve Thanksgiving dinner to residents and their families at Stonebridge Senior Care Center on Nov. 16.

Serving were Therese Meyer, Gwen Churchill, Allison Rice and Chery Lutz.



Catholic Daughters hosted the hot chocolate and cookies again at this year's tree lighting celebration on December 5.

