

2013

April, May (Spring)



Catholic Daughter Court St. Charles #1791

Catholic Daughter Happenings



CDA Mission Statement

The purpose of the organization is to participate in the religious, charitable and educational Apostolate of the Church. Catholic Daughters of the Americas engages in creative and spiritual programs which provide its members with the opportunity to develop their special God-given talents in a meaningful way to positively influence the welfare of the church and all peoples throughout the world. 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 of all.

Court St. Charles officers



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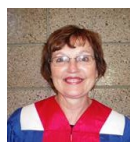
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Newsletter Editor: Becky Storey Hunder

From Your Regent: Vicki Gathje



Have you ever wondered why Easter Sunday is on a different Sunday every year or how "they" determine which Sunday will be Easter? Easter Sunday is the first Sunday following the first full (Paschal) moon after the Spring (Vernal) equinox.

Confused? Let me break it down. This year, the Spring equinox is March 20th. The first full moon after March 20th is March 27th. The first Sunday after March 27th is March 31st. Easter Sunday. Easy!

Early Christian officials thought it would be easier for the followers to understand the new religion if it could incorporate some of the same signs, symbols, rituals, and dates that the people were used to in their Pagan beliefs. It would be essential to choose dates similar to those already being celebrated by the village in which the believers lived.

Lent did not gain acceptance by the Catholic Church until 519 AD when believers started to decline from their devotion and priests called for a period of fasting to recall them to their original fervor (John Cassian, *Antiquities of the Christian Church*, book 21, chapter 1.) Some regions already practiced a forty-day period of fasting to honor the sun and many pagan religions celebrated the coming of spring and the "rebirth" of the land thus comparing the Christian belief that even though Jesus had died, He was "reborn" in his resurrection and that the followers need to prepare themselves for the anniversary of this event by the practice of fasting (Riley, 9 February, 2003.)

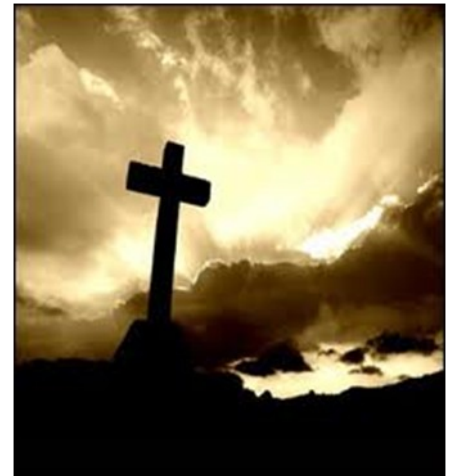
The period of Lent for Christians culminates in the celebration of Easter—the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The name "Easter" has been said to derive from *Estre* or *Eostre*, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring and dawn. The festival for *Eostre* was celebrated on the day of the Vernal Equinox, the first day of spring. This was a celebration of the renewal of life in spring from the death of winter.

These are just a few examples of how pagan traditions and customs were used to represent different Christian liturgical holidays.

All the Christian movable feasts and the entire liturgical year of worship are arranged around Easter; which is preceded by the season of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting and repentance culminating in Holy Week, and followed by a 50-day Easter Season that stretches from Easter to Pentecost. Easter is the oldest Christian holiday and the most important day of the church year for it celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead. **It is a Christian holiday** that celebrates the central event of the Christian faith: the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his death by crucifixion. The resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ is the centerpiece of our religion—the Christian religion. The Apostle Paul even goes so far to say that if Jesus Christ had not been resurrected then the Christian faith is worthless and futile (1 Cor. 15:14-17). Therefore, without Easter there is no Christianity.

Jesus' resurrection gave us (humanity) a second chance and the ability to know God and grow closer to Him than ever before. Because of our fallen nature, Jesus Christ gave us an opportunity we could never experience without his death—a chance to spend eternity in heaven. What an event to celebrate!

Easter Blessings, Vicki



Dues are Due! Renewal of the annual dues of **\$26** is in progress for the 2013 year. Please, contact Fran Henry for payment or any officer for questions. You may mail your dues to: Court St. Charles, P.O. Box 343, St. Charles 55972

From Your Pastor: Fr Kurt Farrell

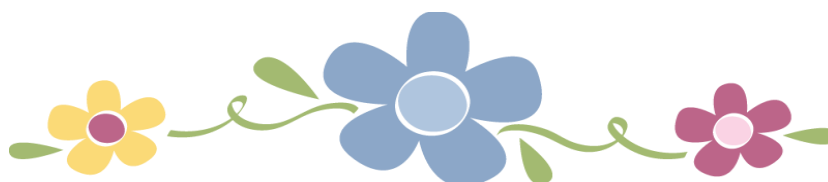
From the Desk of Father Kurt...

Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches

In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells his disciples that He is the true vine and that they are the branches. He goes on to add that apart from Him they can do nothing. This Gospel reminds me of the first homily I ever proclaimed as a deacon. Right after my ordination to the transitional diaconate, which every priest must first go through before he is ordained a priest, I was to preach the homily at the Saturday evening mass in my home parish in Winona. Knowing that I would be preaching to the home crowd I was very nervous and wanted to be sure that my homily was perfect. I spent hours contemplating every word that I would use and made sure that I had typed it all out exactly as I would preach it. As I was proofing my homily for the third time to make sure I hadn't made any mistakes, I noticed the words of Jesus, "apart from me you can do nothing." I started to feel a little guilty knowing that I probably trusted more in my own ability as a homilist than on Jesus my true vine. At that moment, the computer screen went blank and I lost every word that I had so painstakingly written.

Through this experience, I learned that my success in ministry depended very little on my own ability and gifts; but rather on Jesus and placing my trust in Him, my true vine. All of us who want to be disciples of Jesus must place our complete trust in Him, and root our lives in His. We root our lives in Christ by practicing our faith. If we never pray or go to Church how can we say that Jesus is our true vine? By praying and worshiping Christ on Sundays we draw our strength from Him, so that we can go and bear fruit in our daily life. Just as a radio or television will not work unless it is plugged into an outlet for electricity; we will not be able to accomplish the will of God for our lives unless we are plugged into Christ through prayer, worship and sacrament.

Fr. Kurt



From Your State Regent: Nancy Bambenek

BE NOT AFRAID!

These are the words Our Lord spoke to His apostles as they cowered in their boat, fearful of drowning from the strong winds and high waves caused by the storm on the Sea of Galilee. "Take courage, it is I! Be not afraid." Life is filled with trials and tribulations. No matter how much we want to avoid it, we know that pain and suffering are inevitable. That is just the consequence of living in this fallen world. But, the Holy Spirit provides us with strength, courage, consolation and joy; no matter what may be happening. That is what the gift of FAITH does! If we believe in God's Love for us, then we will be strong in the Lord and always preserve, no matter what the obstacle. And even when life gets us down, we will always be able to RISE.

Nancy Bambenek, State Regent & Court St. Charles Member

Meeting Recap Notes:

January 2013

- The Court's website is up and running. A laptop was brought to the meeting for anyone who doesn't use the computer or who hadn't seen the site could view it. Please, submit suggestions to Vicki. www.stcharlescatholicdaughters.org
- "500" Card Parties are beginning. Please, consider helping with either food or working the event. Still in need of door prizes.
- Secret Sister's Program begins today and will end at our February meeting. Help make the winter go by a little faster and put a smile on a sister's face with a card or note the next 4 weeks.

February 2013

- 5 Pro-Life masses were offered January 26th and 27th. The rosary was said prior to the 7:00 pm St. Aloysius, 8:00 am Holy Redeemer and 10:00 St. Charles masses. Thank you to everyone who led a rosary.
- Secret Sisters were revealed today. Hope everyone had fun chasing away the winter blues for someone else.
- Our last cinnamon rolls weekend until next fall will be Saturday & Sunday, February 16th & 17th. Sandy Larson has done a wonderful job coordinating this event since it started about 5 years ago. She is looking to step down as chair; but is willing to stay involved in this FUNdraiser. Please, consider chairing one of the 4 weekends next (2013-2014) year.
- JCDA is celebrating their 87th anniversary and our local court is celebrating their 4 month anniversary with special participation at mass on Sunday, February 17th the JCDA Day.
- The IBM grant money of \$500 was divided into two new, "start-up" programs. A brief description of each follows:

1. Our Lady of Guadalupe Free Clinic-Worthington, MN

Free clinic established primarily by Fr. Jim and several of his friends/contacts (many from Rochester.) They provide free health care for the uninsured of all races. They hold the clinic every 6 weeks on a Saturday. All volunteer staff. Members of the local parish feed and house the volunteers. Typical clinic schedule includes:

Arrive Friday early evening. Supper together. Receive lodging assignments in Worthington home. Saturday meet for breakfast. Work Clinic 9am-5pm (lunch provided at clinic or rectory). Evening mass if you wish. Supper together. Sunday meet for breakfast and debriefing/program. Leave Worthington mid-morning.

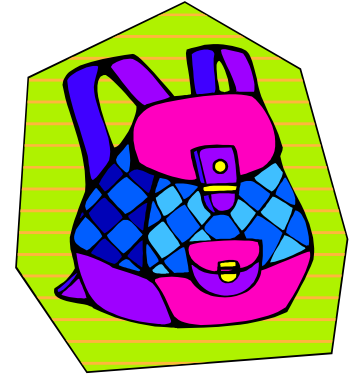
Funds are used for:

1. Purchasing equipment that cannot be borrowed from other clinics
2. Purchasing laboratory supplies
3. Supplementing pharmacy purchases
4. Covering a portion of the travel expenses for some volunteers, administrative supplies

Meeting Recap Notes Continued

2. Backpack Program at SCES-St. Charles, MN

Currently being established by Gretchen Hoffman, Title One director in St. Charles Schools. Very ground floor, hope to have up and running by March 15th. 99 families in the St. Charles Elem. School qualify according to the guidelines set by Channel One Food Bank. Want to start with 30 families this spring and gradually add more families. Work in conjunction with the Resource Center. Need financial sponsors, as they can purchase the food at a discounted rate through Channel One. This service will be free to parents/families.



Typical schedule includes:

Backpacks are picked up with food on Friday afternoon, returned on Monday morning, and filled for the next week on Wednesdays. The idea is that there will be some food for the kids (elem. school aged) to eat on the weekend i.e. peanut butter, jelly, granola bars, cereal, fruit cups, pudding cups, etc.

Will eventually need groups to help fill the backpacks. The original 30 backpacks have been purchased. Rushford has just started a program like this and utilizes 11 churches to help them fill the backpacks.

Funds are used for:

Help purchase food items for backpacks. For instance 14 boxes of cereal through Channel One cost approx. \$3.00. Other proposals will be for a community fund for monetary donations and for collections at each of the churches in St. Charles for food items.



**Mother's Day
Sunday, May 12**

CDA Court St. Charles Anniversaries

Lois Smoltz	5 years	Diane Peterson	5 years
Beth Trilk	5 years	Josefina Perez	10 years
Jan Hansgen	15 years	Margaret Connelly	15 years
Cathy Schleck	15 years	Mary Connelly	15 years
Chris Miller	15 years	Marie Kvam	20 years
Margaret Gall	20 years	Denise Gathje	20 years
Nancy Bambenek	25 years	Lila Brogan	25 years
Barb McGuire	30 years	Darlene McGuire	30 years

Thank you for your continued years of service and for your participation in our various projects and charities. Your commitment to our organization has not gone unnoticed.

Up Coming Events

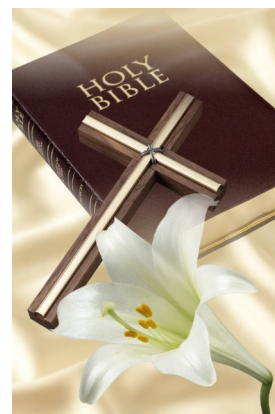


CDA Dotty Jones Scholarship:

Applications are available in the kiosk at St. Charles Borromeo or by contacting Kris Jones at 932-0322. All Graduating Seniors from the Tri Parishes are encouraged to apply.

Lent & Easter in the Tri Parishes:

- **Palm Sunday:** Sunday, March 24th at all regular weekend Masses.
- **Holy (Maundy) Thursday:** March 28; 7:00pm at St. Charles Borromeo.
- **Good Friday:** March 29; 3:00 pm at St. Charles Borromeo;
5:30pm at Holy Redeemer, Eyota;
7:00pm at St. Aloysius, Elba
- **Easter Vigil:** Saturday, March 30, 8:00pm at St. Charles Borromeo
- **Easter Sunday:** March 31; 8:30am Holy Redeemer, Eyota
9:00am St. Aloysius, Elba
10:00am St. Charles Borromeo



April Meeting:

Monday, April 8, 2013; 7:00pm at Holy Redeemer in Eyota. Guest Speaker is John Wagenaar from the Winona Serra Club. He will talk about the seminary, seminarians, their life and education. It would be nice to have a large group in attendance.

CDA State Convention:

This year's convention will be held on Owatonna on the weekend of April 12 & 13. Delegates for our Court are: Vicki Gathje, Marlys Hinckley, Margaret Gall & Sandy Larson. Alternates are: Denise Sackreiter, Sharon Mueller and Deb Rowekamp. Other attending from our group are: Bev Puterbaugh as District Deputy and Susan LaValla as Parliamentarian.



Confirmation:

10th Grade Confirmation Students from the Tri Parishes will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, May 1st at 7:00 pm at St. Charles Borromeo. Bishop Bernard Harrington will celebrate the Mass with Fr. Kurt.

First Holy Eucharist:

2nd Grade students from the Tri Parishes will celebrate 1st Communion on the following dates: Sunday, April 28 at 8:30am at Holy Redeemer; Sunday, May 5 at 10:00am at St. Charles Borromeo; and Sunday, May 5 at 11:30am during the Hispanic Mass at St. Charles Borromeo



Bishop's and Rector Dinner:

Will be held on Monday, May 8 at St. Mary's University. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in attending. Tickets are \$100/ person, money raised from this meal go to help fund the Seminary.

May Meeting:

Monday, May 13, 2013; 6:30pm at St. Charles Borromeo. This meeting is a pot luck for all of the members and their families. A meeting will follow after the meal is completed. We hope that you and your families are able to join us!



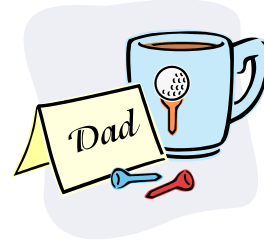
Up Coming Events Continued



Priest Appreciation:

On Sunday, June 2, 2013 it is our annual Priest Appreciation Day. Take a moment to thank your Priest this day with a note or kind word, it will be appreciated!

Father's Day Sunday, June 16



Summer Outing:

This Year's summer outing will be a trip to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin on Saturday, June 15. Time and car pool details will be announced at a later date. Hope you can join us!

Reminders and Happenings

- ♦ Offer a CDA sister a ride to the meetings
- ♦ Look for a Farmer's Market starting sometime in April on 11th Street (Gladiolus events street), Thursdays 4pm-7pm.
- ♦ August is the Deadline for the Freedom of Religion. Pray that Church and State remain separate and the government doesn't mandate medical coverage that is in direct conflict of Church teaching.
- ♦ Marilyn McGuire is still collecting stamps (cut a good sized margin around them), broken watches, and broken rosaries to send to the missionaries.

A Reminder to Please fill out the questionnaire sent in the December newsletter and return to the officers so we may use your input in planning next year's programming of events and activities.

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**CDA Motto:
Unity and Charity**



**Becky Storey Hunder
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Address Service Requested