



Messenger

Our 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.*

June 2026

Catholic Daughters of the Americas® Court St. Rita #409

Perham, MN



Motto: Unity & Charity
Patroness: Blessed Virgin Mary
Court Chaplain: Fr. Omar Guanchez

Contact Us:

Website:
parishfaith.com/catholic-daughters

Regent:
Lynn Schwanke 320-248-8820
45905 440th Street
Perham, MN 56573
lynnakynns@gmail.com

Vice Regent:
Pat Hager 701-460-1234

Recording Secretary:
Dianne Rohde-Szarke 218-205-1301

Financial Secretary:
Janel Altstadt 218-457-0124

Treasurer:
Denise Hanson 218-298-1570

Newsletter Editor:
Rachel Poser 218-346-7280
daisey28@hotmail.com

District Deputy:
Charlene Dunn 218-850-9566
111 Washington Ave #304
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
cd3mn@live.com

Greetings Everyone,

When I said yes to serving Court St. Rita #409 as Regent in May of 2022, I thought 2 years seemed like a long time. I had a lot to learn, and I learned a lot! After the first term, it was easy to say yes to the second term. I enjoyed working together with my fellow officers Vice Regent Janel and Lynn, Recording Secretary Jackie and Dianne, Treasurer Rosie & Financial Secretary Pat. Each one of them has served their position well and I am thankful for all they have done to make my job and responsibilities easier to manage. I would not have been able to get information out to members without the talents of our Newsletter editors Rachel, Janel and Lynn. It has been rewarding to meet and get to know our members, not only in Court St. Rita but also women from area courts, the State Board, District Deputy and some of the State Chairs and Directors.

Thank you for trusting me to lead, make changes, or try new things and for overlooking my mistakes! We have a good thing going and it is refreshing to see women seeking to join the Catholic Daughters of the Americas® Court St. Rita #409 nearing 110 years strong in 2029!

To all the members who have chosen to chair a project, event, or ceremony, or simply attend a meeting, serve snacks, share a compliment or new idea, show concern or pray, I thank you! Without each of you lending your time and talent to work together in Unity and Charity, we would not be able to “be the hands and feet of Jesus” to others as a women’s group. This is a phrase I have heard, said, and learned during my time as Regent. We must continue to find ways to tell people all about CDA and grow our membership. I appreciated the support from Fr. George and Fr. Tom and now from Fr. Omar and Fr. Nathaniel. Of course, encouragement from Deacon Richard and Deacon Randy as well as extra help from Ann and Chelsey in the office for printing newsletters etc. and keeping the website organized when I asked for updates.

I know that the new Officers we voted for in May will feel some of the same things. I will be there for them to answer questions, but I in no way have all the answers. We will go forward together, and I am confident that any member that has served an officer position either recently or in the past will also encourage and be a resource for Regent Lynn Schwanke, Vice Regent Pat Hager, Recording Secretary Dianne Rohde-Szarke, Treasurer Denise Hanson and Financial Secretary Janel Altstadt.

One thing I have had trouble getting comfortable with is signing forms, emails, and newsletter messages with “Regent Leanne”, or “Leanne Stoll, Regent”, or “Leanne Stoll, Regent, Court St. Rita #409” or hearing “Worthy Regent”. I know that these are all things that come with leading by following the National order Bylaws. But I want you to know that I am really, “Just Leanne”.

In Unity and Charity and with Prayers for all,
Immediate Past Regent Leanne Stoll

May Day Baskets

May 5, 2026



May Day basket treats and bars from Diane L. and Tammy R. were enjoyed at May meeting after Election of Officers. There were Bible verses in the baskets.



Member Reflections

Hello, my name is Cathy Doll. I joined Catholic Daughters Court St Rita #409 in Oct. of 1980 because I was a young working mom and I knew that the church would be a good place to get to know more people and do some good in my community.

I have remained a member of Catholic Daughters because I really do believe that we as CDA members do a lot of good for God's people. And I have received so much in return. The friendships, spiritual support and a true sense belonging to an amazing group of Christian women.

Hello, I am Lynn Schwanke. I joined Catholic Daughters in 2015 because I was new to the area and my priest gave me "official orders" to go out and find some friends.

I continue my membership because of the wonderful friendships I have made, the support this faith-filled community of women has given me, and the joy found in the activities we do.

Hi, I'm Pat Hager and I joined Court St Rita in 2020. I had just moved to the area the fall of 2019 and decided I should join something to help make me a better person.

I like being a member because we say the rosary for each other, we do neat things like crowning of Mary, reception for graduates, education contest... Just being involved in making memories.



Baccalaureate Mass

Thank you to Gina Cavanaugh and Pat Hager for organizing the Graduation Mass and Refreshments and Cathy Doll, Joanne Knuttila, Sue Martodam for helping to serve.



to our new officers
for 2025-2026!

REGENT:
Lynn Schwanke

VICE REGENT:
Pat Hager

RECORDING SECRETARY:
Dianne Rohde-Szarke

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
Janel Altstadt

TREASURER:
Denise Hanson

CDA Style Show

SAVE the DATE!
October 24, 2026

Theme:
“O Christmas Tree”



Chaplain's Corner



Pray for Fr. Omar while he is on leave to Venezuela.

Upcoming Events

- June 2, 2026 6:00 p.m. Installation of New Officers, Reception of New Members, Potluck and Meeting – St. Henry’s Church basement.
- June 27, 2026 10am–3pm “Behold the Handmaid of the Lord” Retreat for Catholic Women at Church of St. Mary Great Hall, Alexandria sponsored by MN State Catholic Daughters with Father Matthew Kuhn as one of the speakers. See Flyer for Registration due June 10th.
- July 22-26, 2026 61st Biennial National Convention – Coralville Iowa
- July 2026 Court St. Rita #409 Member Survey – Complete and Return
- August 16, 2026 Rural Life Mass at Moenkedick Farm (Court St. Rita helping with decorations and providing 12-15 9x13 size pans of bars)
- Aug. 29, 30 & Sept 26, 27 Summer Workshops held in Eveleth, Argyle, St. Charles, Marshall More information at the June meeting. All are welcome to attend one of them.
- Sept. 1, 2026 6:00 p.m. Officers Potluck and Monthly Meeting

June Birthdays

Gina Cavanagh 25

June Anniversaries

Judy & Brian Thomas 2
Diane & Kevin Lorentz 10
Leanne & Darin Stoll 29

July Birthdays

Dianne Rohde-Szarke 3
Leanne Stoll 6
Denise Hanson 11
Mary Gravalin 14
Sigrid Winjum 21
Lynn Tobkin 21
Lisa Hemmelgarn 27
Deb Romann 28
Mary Mercer 29
Mary Schumacher 31

July Anniversaries

Sherryl & Joe Holzer 8
Jean & †Ray Schmitz 10
Janel & Randy Altstadt 12
Cheryl & Tim Wacker 22
Tammy & Rich Richter 22

Our special **Seminarians** to pray for:

Rev. Mr. Sebastian Spencer, Saint Paul Seminary (from St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony)

Jack Tyrrell, Saint Paul Seminary (from Sacred Heart, Staples)

Deacon Rich Stenger, Maryland Seminary (from Sacred Heart, Dent)

Will Koppl, Saint Paul Seminary (from St Joseph, Waconia)

John Bell, Deacon Candidate (from St. Henry's, Perham)



Our special **Men and Women Religious** to pray for:

Brother Jacob Berns St. Johns Abbey (from St. Henry's, Perham)

Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Rochester, Sauk Rapids and Minneapolis.

Sr. Elijah Marie, Discalced Carmelite Nuns, Monastery of the Holy Name of Jesus in Denmark, Wisconsin. (from Sacred Heart, Dent)

Chairperson: Jackie Hager

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS QUESTIONS?

Check out the Websites:

National Catholic Daughters www.catholicdaughters.org
Minnesota Catholic Daughters www.mncda.org

COURT ST. RITA

Check out our web page!
parishfaith.com/catholic-daughters