

Our Lady of the Prairie News

South Dakota Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

FIRST VIRTUAL CONVENTION HUGE SUCCESS! 2021 – South Dakota's 51st State Convention

After months of planning, changing ideas, and more planning, the State officers set a date for the first virtual SD Catholic Daughter State Convention. On Saturday, April 17, 2021 from sites all across South Dakota, members logged into the CDA Zoom Convention site and found themselves surrounded by fellow members and officers who gathered at the St. Bernard Catholic Parish Hall, in Redfield SD.

Robed officers processed in and State Regent, Brenda Anderson, opened the 51st state convention. Fr. Jim Friedrich was installed as the new State Chaplain and the 2021 Memorial Service was held. All deceased members' names (from 2019 to present) were read and honored. Then, the meeting began.

Susan Mone', 1st Vice National Regent delivered her message from the National Board; State Officers gave their reports and messages; Circle of Love reports were given, Education winners were announced, Election results were presented for both new state offices and for the 2023 nominating committee. Convention attendees were treated to very creative commercial ads about items in our CDA State store; raffle prizes were announced and messages from Bishop DeGrood and Carol Brown were viewed. These messages are available on our state website for you to share with your court members if you wish.

Congratulations to Ct. St. Rita #916 of Rapid City who received the Court of the Year award. The CDA Lifetime Achievement award was presented to Patty Fuegen of Ct. St. Mary #1423, Redfield. Patty has been our Spiritual Enhancement state chair for several years sharing her love of God with all of us in messages that touch our hearts. Unknown to her, a large group of family members were present to share the joy of receiving this special honor. The day passed by quickly, and all state business was taken care of, although in an abbreviated form. Before closing the convention, Sioux Falls Courts St. Patricia #271 and Ct. Mother Teresa #2510, invited everyone to Sioux Falls for the 2023 State convention.

The State thanks Ct. St. Mary #1423, Redfield, for their help with the commercial ads and for serving lunch to those present. Also thank you to Angela Weller, past regent of Ct. St. Mary for her technical assistance with the Zoom meeting.

As we go forward into a new term, let us not forget that each of us is *Called to Serve, with our Lord and for our Lord.*



July 2021

Volume 58, Issue 2



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.

National Website:

www.catholicdaughters.org

State Website:

www.cdasouthdakota.com

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Next State Newsletter

Article Deadline:

November 15th, 2021

State Officers

State Chaplain

Rev Jim Friedrich

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State Regent—Judy Konechne

Greetings from your new State Regent. Thank you to those who attended the Installation Mass and reception and to Court St Patrick #1699 of Kimball for hosting the celebration, and to the other courts that helped them with all that was needed. You are all angels in CDA and show the meaning of Unity and Charity amongst your sisters.

As I start my reign, one of the first items I did was decide on a theme for the next two years. I have chosen - '***Open your Hearts to God's love and listen to Him***'. Little did I know I used part of Bishop DeGrood's vision for the diocese to "*Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love*". May we all join in this theme and listen to God as he speaks to us and guides us as we come back together to promote the Catholic Daughters in our communities.

To re-introduce myself as Regent. I have been a member of CDA since 1978 and was born, raised and still live in Kimball. I work at First Dakota National Bank in Chamberlain and have been with the bank for 45 years. I have one brother, Maynard, that lives in Kimball and the memories of my parents, Phillip and Maxine Konechne and a brother, William (Bill). I fill my free time with my nieces and nephews and their children and many hobbies.

Congratulations to the Courts celebrating 100 years as a court. See dates and celebration information elsewhere in the newsletter. Some are still working on dates and these will be sent out as received.

As we move forward and more areas open up, please be mindful of gathering and doing the projects that have not been held in the last year. People are ready to have some fun and excitement so use this time to capture their needs with fund raisers.

Thank you CDA Sisters for placing your trust in me. I am here to answer questions and help you as you need. God's blessings and love to each of you.

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1st Vice State Regent — Michelle Sage

Welcome to a new CDA year! With the virtual convention behind us, some new and time-honored traditions await us in the future. We have seen our courts begin to re-awaken from our COVID-19 forced slumber. Many more in-person activities have been planned and executed, including the SD CDA Installation Mass of the new State Officers that was held on June 27th in Kimball. It was so good to see all our CDA sisters.

We were asked to re-introduce ourselves so here goes. I am Michele Sage, your 1st Vice State Regent. I currently live in Brookings, SD and work at Pope Pius XII Newman Center as the office manager. I have been a member of Ct St Agnes #618 since 1997, and I have held several local court offices, District Deputy, and State Chairmanship. I am currently serving as court regent at Ct. St. Agnes #618.

I grew up in Watertown, SD; went to college at USD, Springfield, where I earned a BST in Architectural Drafting. I am the oldest of four children born to Richard and Patricia Sage (both deceased). My siblings are Michael Sage (Navarre, FL), Marnell Holm (Wahoo, NE) and Greg Sage (Sioux Falls, SD).

Some of my favorite things to do...reading, crocheting, quilting, watch Hallmark movies and try to live in a right-handed world when you are left-handed!

So, keep all our CDA Sisters (those that have passed and those still here) in your prayers as we embark on this new journey. Until I see you, may God Bless each and every one of you.



State Chaplain — Fr. Jim Friedrich

"Remain in me...remain in my love" were Jesus' words at Mass on May 2nd and 9th as well as the prayer of many parents/parishioners/pastors for graduating seniors. Let us hear how powerfully these words are spoken.

First, Jesus is speaking these words at the Last Supper, so it is like a last farewell, final instructions, a heartfelt appeal. Speaking of the vine and branches, Jesus said "remain" eight times (Jn15:1-8) and four more times the next Sunday (Jn15:9-17). Jesus' call is unmistakably clear!

But there's much more! Already in Jn 1:35-39, two of John the Baptist's disciples ask Jesus, "Where are you staying?" and "they stayed/remained with him that day." At the end of the Gospel, 21:20-23, Peter plies about John and Jesus responds, "What if I want him to remain until I come?" How prophetically these words are fulfilled as each of the other 11 apostles are martyred until John alone remains, perhaps reaching 98 years old! John's three letters also make the call to "remain" even repeatedly as in 1 Jn 2:24-27.

And guess what John writes in his last book in the Bible, Revelation 2:10: "Remain faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life." I find this repeated theme in John so inviting as I envision his head resting/ remaining on Jesus' chest at the Last Supper. May we do likewise!



2nd Vice State Regent — JoAnn Hoffman

Blessings Sister CDA Members,

It is a wonderful blessing to be a daughter of God! You can take great joy in knowing that he made you special and he desires a close relationship with you. Spending time in his Word each day will fill you with hope and blessings.

We have survived a chaotic year with Covid 19. Sadly we lost some dear CDA members either in their passing or they didn't renew their membership. We hold all our members up in prayer. PLEASE continue to pray for our CDA members, clergy, and religious.

First and most of all, our CDA organization is a prayerful organization. As CDA sisters, we are beautiful, confident, loving, joyful, thoughtful and much more.

Be encouraged and strengthened as we grow in our faith.

We have a great slate of Catholic Women who are enthusiastic to serve you as your State Board for 2021-2023.

This term I moved from Treasurer to 2nd Vice Regent. I will be working with the DD's as they work more closely with the courts. I am available to all our membership if you have questions.

It was great to see many faces at our installation Mass at Kimball. We are prayerfully making steps back to normal. Several courts have 100th anniversaries that are being celebrated this year. Congratulation to St. Frances #547 of Gregory (who are 101), St. Rita #534 of Watertown, Immaculate Conception #582 of Aberdeen, St. Agnes #618 of Brookings, St. Agnes #687 of Vermillion, and St. Rose of Lima #700 of Wagner.

To Our Lady, many blessings.



State Treasurer — Carolyn Downs

What a joy it is to greet you as your new State Treasurer and thank you for your trust in me to serve our State organization in this capacity.

A little bit about myself - I have been married to my husband, Ron, for almost 51 years and we have lived in Sioux Falls throughout our married life. We have 2 children: Brian and his wife, Susan, who live in Brandon with their two boys, Dominic and Jonathan; and Alison, and her husband, Dave, who live in Lennox with their three sons Alex, Ben, and Anthony. We are fortunate to be able to enjoy their many activities, including camping at the Missouri River with both families.

Ron and I are founding members of St. Michael Parish and I served as the Director of The Banquet feeding ministry in Sioux Falls for 20 years. I enjoy relaxing at the river, reading, jigsaw & crossword puzzles, and travel. I was a Jr. CDA member at St. Margaret Parish in Kimball and became a member of Ct. Mother Teresa in Sioux Falls when I retired in 2008.

I have served my court in all offices except Treasurer, so I am learning a new office and am thankful to have such wonderful co-officers to guide my path. I will lead to the best of my ability with the help of our Mother, Mary. May we be blessed through our efforts in Unity and Charity.



State Secretary — Lynda Steichen

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright....words from the song, *Hail Mary; Gentle Woman* are the very description of every Catholic Daughter.

For this article I get to talk about myself. I was received during the 1976 State Convention in Sioux Falls at the reception of new members opening convention mass. I have served Court Holy Heart #163 as Regent, Vice Regent and JCDA Chair. On the State level I served as Second Vice Regent, Youth Chairman and Education Chair.

Brad and I will be married 45 years this fall. Brad farms the family farm, and I am retired from Sanborn County Farm Service Agency. We are blessed with 2 lovely daughters, Abby, husband Buck Schiley and Brandi, husband Shiloh Baysinger plus four beautiful grandchildren, Maggie, Tate, Lizzie and Hollace.

Accepting the position of State Secretary brings to mind the "Parable of the Talents". I will do my very best to serve you. I hope I can be a true and faithful servant of CDA. Thank you for your confidence in me. Smile, smile, you *can* learn to do this. Working with you will be a learning experiences for us both.

Congratulations to all the Courts celebrating their 100th year in 2020 or 2021. The officers have been invited to Court St Francis #547, Gregory and to Court St Rose of Lima #700, Wagner to share their joy.

Continue to pray for yourself and all Catholic Daughters.

State Board

Nat'l Rep Message/Installation

National Representative — Susan Moné, First Vice National Regent



Greetings to my South Dakota CDA Sisters,

I pray that this letter finds all of you enjoying a great summer. Summer fun that we used to take for granted takes on a whole new enjoyment this year after missing out on so many fun events and time spent with family and friends last summer as we were closed-up in quarantine.

I hope you make the best of getting back to “normal”. Catholic Daughters all over the country are enjoying the thrill of being together finally to be able pray together, work together and build sisterhood in our wonderful organization in Unity and Charity.

Last weekend I had the honor to return once again to South Dakota for the beautiful Installation Ceremony for your new State Officers in Kimball. They officially took office 30 days after the convention and already have been doing much planning as they focus on their goals for the Catholic Daughters in South Dakota for the next two years. Congratulations to the State Board and my best wishes for an enjoyable and fruitful term as they lead court members to be the best CDA members and courts they can be. Please support your officers and pray daily for the Holy Spirit to guide them.

I have been so impressed on how many courts found ways to stay connected and to find different ways to still be able to serve the Lord during the challenges of the pandemic by putting on your thinking caps and using your imagination. So often we do the same things over and over every year because “we’ve always done it that way”! But the past year (plus), we were forced to find new ideas and ways to keep our courts going. Kudos to south Dakota CDA.

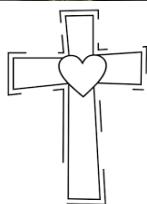
The previous State Board members were faced with an ultimate challenge during their term which they never could have imagined when they were installed 2 years ago. They worked very hard together to keep CDA in SD alive and well. And they spent much time and effort in the planning and successful production of the South Dakota State Convention. The convention was awesome and had everything any state convention has except the ability to give hugs to each other. Thank you to these 5 great ladies for a job very well done.

In a couple of weeks, I will have the opportunity to meet with your state board as the board travels to Arizona for the Officer’s training presented by the National Board to help your state officer’s to better understand their responsibilities so they can better serve you and help guide you in your local courts. Pray for the National Board and your State Board for success.

As we all move forward, I encourage you to plan the year ahead to include some special spiritual events, so you continue to grow together in the love of the Lord. When you begin with prayer, the Lord will guide you in the path He has set for your court to best serve His people.

Remember our National Regent’s motto to “Do all that you do with Love.” All of you and your family are in my daily mass and prayers for your health and happiness.

Peace and blessings,
Susan Moné
1st Vice National Regent



INSTALLATION MASS

State Officers were officially installed on June 27th, at St. Margaret Catholic Church in Kimball at a 2:00 pm Mass celebrated by our State Chaplain, Fr. Jim Friedrich.

It was a beautiful ceremony with many of the court officers donning their robes. There were also many CDA members in attendance from across the state. Total attendance was around 100.

National Representative & 1st Vice National Regent, Susan Mone', directed the installation. A reception was hosted by Ct. St. Patrick #1699 of Kimball, Ct. Holy Heart #163 Woonsocket, Ct. St. James #2757 Chamberlain, and many other courts who supported the celebration with monetary donations.

A small program consisted of a welcome and introduction of special guests including State Chaplain Fr. Jim, all State Officers, Susan Mone', National Representative and 1st Vice National Regent, Sherry Nilles, National Regent, Past State Regents - Brenda Anderson, Barb Wiechmann and JoAnn Schaefers, and Knights of Columbus State Deputy, Scott Cunningham.

Susan Mone' administered the oath to the elected nominating committee for the 2023 convention. Fr. Jim gave a blessing and all enjoyed a lunch served by the Kimball Knights of Columbus. Following the lunch, Sherry Nilles, Susan Mone', Scott Cunningham and Brenda Anderson shared a few words.

100th Anniversary invites were presented by Joan Grimm of Ct St. Frances #547 Gregory to be held August 1. Mary Kay Zimmerman of Ct. St Agnes \$687 Vermillion on October 3. Barb Wiechmann of Ct St Rose of Lima #700 Wagner on November 7. Ct St Rita #618 Brookings and Ct. St Rita #534 Watertown is also working on setting a date for their celebration. Please keep these dates open and join the court celebrations if you can.

The program was concluded with a heartfelt thank you to all that made the day a success and a Hail Mary was said for everyone's safe journey home.



2021 Court Anniversary Celebrations

May our Blessed Mother continue to guide and inspire each of these Courts. Congratulations!

July

16-1966	St. Elizabeth #1362, Colman	55 years
25-1920	St. Rita #534, Watertown	101 years

August

14-1912	Our Lady of Fatima #1518, Orient/Polo	72 years
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September

10-2002	Mother Teresa #2510, Sioux Falls9	19 years
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October

12-1921	St. Agnes #687, Vermillion	100 years
17-1920	St. Francis #547, Gregory	101 years

November

13-1955	Our Lady of Peace #1708, Flandreau	66 years
13-2005	Our Lady of the Rosary #2560, Dakota Dunes	16 years
18-1951	St. Maria Goretti #1584, Colome	70 years
20-1921	St. Rose of Lima #700, Wagner	100 years
23-1924	St. Rita #916, Rapid City	97 years
29-1959	St. Pius X #1827 Waubay/Webster	62 years

December

1 - 1946	St. Mary #1423, Redfield	75 years
5 - 1965	St. Thomas Aquinas #1949, Madison	56 years
12-1920	Immaculate Conception #582, Aberdeen	101 years
31- 1989	St. Teresa of Avila #2325, Beresford	32 years

District Deputy – Carolyn Downs

Because of COVID this past year, I have not attended many meetings or events in person, but I have attended many of their ZOOM meetings and kept in touch with the Regents throughout this time.

Flandreau held their Oct. review via ZOOM so I was able to witness it. I attended reviews in Colman, Brookings and Dell Rapids this Spring, but missed the Flandreau one as it was the weekend of the State Convention. Thus, I met my obligation of attending at least one of each court's financial reviews in this past year. Most of their events were cancelled and their installations & initiations were held very briefly during a meeting with only a few members present.

It has been a struggle and disappointing to not be able to gather, as fellowship with our CDA sisters in an important part of belonging to our organization. I have praised my courts as they have been very creative in raising funds so that they can keep up their financial support of our National, State and their community support.

It has been a pleasure to serve as a District Deputy and I pray that others will come forth to receive the blessings and welcome spirit that lives within our sister courts. This is a beautiful way to meet our prayerful CDA members.

I thank the members of Court St. Agnes in Brookings, Court St. Elizabeth in Colman, Ct. Sancta Maria in Dell Rapids and Ct. Our Lady of Peace in Flandreau for their warm welcome and great work in the Catholic Daughter organization.

Across the State



Court St. Patrick #1699, Kimball members celebrated the ordination of their adopted seminarian, Jacob Doty who was ordained at the Cathedral in Sioux Falls on May 28th.



District Deputy and State Chairman Training

Plans for training are being finalized for the new DD's and Chairman. Training will be held in Plankinton at St. John's Church on Saturday, August 21. Please mark your calendars. More information will be sent out to you by email.



St. Frances #547- Gregory

August 1st 10:30 am Mass

Rsvp: rj_grim@hotmail.com

St. Agnes #687- Vermillion

October 3rd -details soon

St. Rose of Lima #700- Wagner

November 7th 10:30 am Mass

Rsvp: mbweich@charles-mix.com

**"Open Your Hearts
to God's Love and
Listen to Him"**



**Reminder: With the new assignments for Priest effective July 1,
please remember to send in the information for your new Court
Chaplain if it changes. Name, address, phone#, and email.**

CONGRATULATIONS to Court St. Rita #916– Rapid City– COURT OF THE YEAR!

Many courts experienced difficulties due to COVID-19. Meetings were cancelled, activities postponed, and gatherings eliminated. Rapid City Court St. Rita #916 looked for new ways of doing things to keep traditions strong, and also found some new thinking and ways to do things they might not have otherwise done without the restrictions imposed due to the pandemic. The court raised more money this year at the angel bazaar than any other year. They were unable to hold their main fundraiser this year, but they still held nearly 30 activities to serve the needs of others. Although they lost 30 members to either death or resignations, they gained 9 new members and have 106 members to date. The ladies of the court are also in contact with a few prospective members and hope to add them soon. Some of the highlights over the past two years that helped them earn this recognition are: visiting the homebound, host an annual day of recollection, participate in saying the rosary for life on the 2nd Saturday of each month, joined the life chain throughout the city (over 130 participants), and sponsored a right to life billboard.

Spiritual life is very important to the members of St. Rita #916, and members started a book exchange, have asked members to come and sit together wearing their CDA buttons for 1st Saturday Mass, joined together and attended the movie *Unplanned*, passed out spiritual adoption prayer and encouraged all to pray it daily, and added spiritual activities at their annual Advent party. They also started listening to the Bible in a Year podcast. Lastly, the court invited everyone to participate in Spiritual Motherhood for the diocese and, as a group, they cover an hour weekly for adoration.



State Convention



CDA State Officers with Patty Fuegen

FAITH
MAKES ALL THINGS
POSSIBLE
LOVE
MAKES ALL THINGS
EASIER
HOPE
MAKES ALL THINGS
WORK

Patty Fuegen of Court St. Mary #1423, was honored with the SD CDA Member Achievement Award. Patty embraces the motto of "Unity and Charity" in leading her local court as Regent several times and as being a good and faithful member.

Patty started a Seminarian project with the elementary children. At the beginning of religious ed, Patty posted the seminarians' pictures with a little bio identifying each one. Each child picked a seminarian, and prayed for that seminarian at each class and remembered them during their nightly prayers. Each child wrote letters and cards as well. That project was enhanced when she had court members write Christmas letters to encourage and thank the seminarians as well as to tell CDA's story to our future parish priests.

She also started a Vacation Bible School bringing in the CDA members, confirmand teens, and retired couples as volunteers. Although non-Catholic children were welcomed and did attend, she made it abundantly clear that this was a truly Catholic program—not watered down to placate the masses.

When Avera began sending Patty's sister and her husband on Haitian medical missions, her court had a new project. Over a period of six years, they raised funds, gathered over the counter medical supplies and treats & toys for the Haitian children.

Patty has been the parish's back up for conducting RICA classes. She has taught Bible studies for over thirty years.

She has done all of the above and more from the seat of a wheelchair—not an electric one. Projects are always laced with prayer. Never a complainer, Patty always acknowledges that her condition is an opportunity for grace. Her pain and suffering are never wasted.

Membership Updates to State and National

New members—mail completed form to State Secretary and the National Office.

Deceased members, address changes, email changes, resignations, forfeitures— may be emailed or mailed to:

STATE SECRETARY

Lynda Steichen
23579 US Highway 281
Woonsocket, SD 57388
sdcdasec@gmail.com

NATIONAL CDA

ATT: Membership Updates
10 W 71st Street
New York, NY 10023
carmencita@catholicdaughters.org

Convention Basket Winners

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| #1 Corinne Weber | #16 Judy Konechne |
| #2 Deborah Burdick | #17 Bonnie Hammer |
| #3 Cathy Graves | #18 Barbara Konaizl |
| #4 Diane Schurr | #19 Susan Gunn |
| #5 Lori Hettick | #20 Geralyn Malsom |
| #6 Carol Nygaard | #21 Susan Gunn |
| #7 Diane Schurr | #22 Rinse Peters |
| #8 Amanda Konechne | #23 Deborah Burdick |
| #9 Elsie Bay | #24 Barbara Konaizl |
| #10 Joan Grim | #25 Carolyn Downs |
| #11 Barb Wiechman | #26 Elaine Neugebauer |
| #12 Linda Birgenheir | #27 J. Overland |
| #13 Sheila Welbig | #28 Ilene Duncan |
| #14 Judy Konechne | #29 Carolyn Downs |
| #15 Tina Roth | #30 Corinne Weber |

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| #31 Doralee Lynch | #46 Mary Wambach |
| #32 Jean Skies | #47 Mary Wilson |
| #33 Mary Wilson | #48 Alyce Kontz |
| #34 Carol Nygaard | #49 Jeanette Doom |
| #35 Audrey Konechne | |
| #36 Virginia Weber | |
| #37 Ranae Peters | |
| #38 Rita Green | |
| #39 Geralyn Malsom | |
| #40 Tina Roth | |
| #41 Rita Greenhoff | |
| #42 Mary Timmer | |
| #43 Diane Keimig | |
| #44 Toni Hayes | |
| #45 Elaine Kling | |



Power of Prayer



SD Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Our Lady of the Prairie News
Michele Sage Circulation Chrm
125 Gilley Ave
Brookings, SD 57006

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Sioux Falls, SD
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Many of our Sisters in Christ have lost loved ones this past year. Please continue to pray for those who are no longer with us.

In your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our
brothers and sisters.

In this life you embraced them
with your tender love;
deliver them now from every evil
and bid them eternal rest.

The old order has passed away:
welcome them into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow,
no weeping or pain,
but the fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit
forever and ever.

Amen.

Called to Serve



Amanda Konechne, member of Court St. Patrick #1699 of Kimball, presented her art print to Madeline Shields, Executive Director of the Bishop Dudley House in Sioux Falls. An anonymous donor purchased a raffle ticket on their behalf.

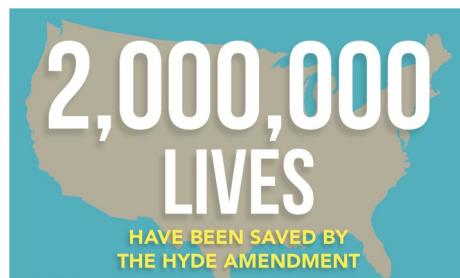
Check the state website for more information:
www.cdasouthdakota.com

Understand the Hyde Amendment

For 46 years there has been bipartisan (Republicans and Democrats) support for the Hyde Amendment. Last Friday, President Joseph Biden released his Fiscal Year 2022 budget in which he proposes to ELIMINATE the Hyde Amendment and other related PRO-LIFE provisions. This would allow billions of our taxpayer dollars to be used to pay for abortions in our beloved America and world wide.

Please CALL your elected representative in Congress and respectfully inform them as their constituent the Hyde Amendment must be made permanent.

In Unity and Charity,
Eileen Peterson
CDA National Legislation Chair



Next State Newsletter Article Deadline:
November 15th, 2021