

January 2021

National Regent's Message

(Continued)

The 2020-2022 National Board members are outstanding and have accepted their assignments with eagerness. They are the best board ever! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them through the many changes in our first six months together. Now we are planning for State Conventions, and State Officer Training this summer at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Mesa, Arizona. Busy days that take much coordination and planning!

Thank you for the questions and concerns I receive daily from members. Catholic Daughters are involved in so very many projects and programs. Your care and love for all God's people keeps our organization alive and aware of all the work that still needs to be done. Even though we are limited by the pandemic and not being allowed to meet as a group, work together on fund-raisers, provide in-person care for ailing members and neighbors or plan delightful fun-filled gatherings, members have adapted and continue to follow our motto of Unity and Charity. I urge you to continue staying in touch with court members, neighbors and the many lonely people in your circle of love who do not have family near-by. A phone call, letter, or short note sent to a friend or neighbor, a wave or smile when passing by their home will be appreciated and remembered.

Travel has been limited, but we continue our wonderful tradition of remembering our members and families in prayer. Thanks to Connie Dronette, National Secretary-Treasurer and Susan Champion Hicks, a Past National Director for sharing their talents to provide daily prayer via Facebook. This keeps us united in our hearts with prayer for each other.

Using this new (at least to me) technology of Zoom meetings has helped tremendously with keeping in touch and "attending" meetings. Your National Officers have met several times via Zoom. I enjoy seeing the other officers as we meet to discuss concerns and make plans for the spring and summer. My immediate family gathered via Zoom at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Even our grandson who is a Marine could join us! We are a family of huggers, so I did miss that, but it was wonderful to share our lives, concerns and stories.

A vaccine is available to stop the spread of Covid19. At this time, getting the vaccine is limited to health care workers and those most vulnerable. Each state is using their best judgment on distribution. We must follow the directives presented by our elected officials and local, state and national health care providers. Those directives may affect the ability of states to have in person conventions. However, as you remember, the 2020 National Convention planned for Dallas, Texas, was changed completely using mailed ballots for voting for officers and the nominating committee. The business of the state convention, that is, electing and installing new state officers, electing and installing nominating

committee members, reviewing state finances, transacting business and enacting rules and regulations as may be consistent with bylaws of THE ORDER, enacting laws governing Local Courts within the State in all matters not in conflict with the bylaws, rules and regulations of the National Court or National Board, consideration of all matters relating to the good of THE Order within the state and making recommendations concerning improvement of THE ORDER and reporting same to the National Court for action (from ARTICLE X STATE CONVENTIONS, Sec. 1 PURPOSE) can be done virtually or as with electing new officers by using the United States Post Office for mailing ballots to all elected delegates. Please read Article X STATE CONVENTIONS, Sec, 8 CANCELLATION whereby it becomes impossible to hold a meeting of the State Court.

Please keep me informed as plans are made and changed for your State Convention.

Please stay in touch with your court members and keep them informed of activities and meeting changes. Informational newsletters, notes in the Sunday church bulletins, email blasts, Zoom meetings, phone calls and personal letters are suggestions for keeping all members, but especially those who are most vulnerable to the virus and must limit their contact with other than family members, aware and involved with your court. Ask all members to continue praying for those who have lost their life or been affected during this unusual pandemic year.

Please continue also to "Let all you do be done with love." 1Cor. 16:14

Sherry Nilles

National Regent

Catholic Daughters of the Americas