Newsletter

October 1, 2026 - Special Issue

CDA Court #2690

Editor: Marisa Perez,
mbperez68@gmail.com

"Unity and Charity"

Meetings:
The Second Tuesday of the Month
Rosary: 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Meeting: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
location: Upon This Rock Campus,
St. Anthony Hall

St. Peter the Apostle Church, 202 Kronkosky St., Boerne, TX 78006 www.cdaboerne.org

Unity in Service, Charity in Leadership

Mission:

CDA strives to embrace the principles of faith, working through love and service in the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all.

Editor's Letter

Dear Daughters of Court #2690,

First, a word of thanks and an apology. Thank you for your patience. I am sorry that the May–June issue, and the issues after it, never reached you. Work kept me far busier than I planned this year, and the newsletter fell behind. You deserve better communication from me, and I take responsibility for the gap. This special issue is a way to begin again. It is short on purpose, and it is all about our sisters.

Here is what you will find inside:

- A farewell to our officers, June 2024 – May 2026, with a message from our former Regent, Janice Almeida: "Unity in Service, Charity in Leadership"
- A welcome to our officers, June 2026 – May 2028, with a message from our new Regent, Dorothy Meuth
- Our newest members, with photos and short bios of everyone who has joined us from July through September
- Birthdays and anniversaries for May through September, so every special day is celebrated
- Apparitions of Our Blessed Mother, by Nancy Roberts
- Our Court #2690 Scholarship Award Recipients and Jeanette Lane, Scholarship Chairman
- This letter, about where we have been and where we are going

To our former officers: thank you. Under the leadership of Regent Janice Almeida, you gave your time, your prayers, and your energy to this court. Your service made our work possible, and it will not be forgotten.

To our new officers: welcome. Regent Dorothy Meuth and your team, thank you for saying yes. Our court has always been a relay, and it is a joy to watch the torch pass from steady hands to willing ones.

Editor's Letter Cont.

To every new member who has joined us this summer: welcome to the family. We are so glad you are here, and we hope these pages help all of us get to know you. I also want to share a change. To keep the newsletter steady and on time, we are returning to a bi-monthly electronic publication.

Here is what that means for you:

- Our next issue will be published on January 1, 2027.
- It will cover everything from October through December, so no event or act of service is left out.
- To make that possible, please send your news to catholicdaughters2690@gmail.com by these dates:
  - November 5: October events, with photos
  - December 1: November events, with photos, plus regular features (committee updates, Featured Daughters, birthdays and anniversaries for November through March, and upcoming events for January through March)
  - December 20: December events, with photos

A few sentences and a photo with names are all we need. Please put the event name and date in your email subject line, and please don't wait for the deadline. The sooner we have your news, the better we can tell your story. Thank you for your faith in this newsletter and in the work we do together. I look forward to sharing the year ahead with you.

In service and gratitude,
Marisa Perez
Newsletter Editor, Court #2690

CDA Officers

Court #2690

June 2024 - May 2026

Regent
Janice Almeida
janice.maggie1@gmail.com

Vice Regent
Kimberley Goodman
kimberley.goodman@icloud.com

Recording Secretary
Clare Smith
cksmith81980@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary
Debbie Noack
dayn1152@gmail.com

Treasurer
Susanne Hanna
susiejdt@gmail.com

Chaplain
Deacon Marty Lee
deaconmarty@stpetersboerne.com

Unity in Service, Charity in Leadership

by

Janice Almeida, Regent 2024-2026

As my time as Regent is quickly coming to an end, I find myself reflecting deeply on the mission of the Catholic Daughters: Unity and Charity. I am reminded of the guidance our Lord and Savior has given us—to love God and to love one another as God asks us to love ourselves. Jesus taught us to pray the Our Father, seeking forgiveness that is conditional upon our willingness to forgive those who have offended us. For a long time, I wondered why this was of such importance—until I was called to live it out.

I experienced a tragic event in my life that required me to forgive someone who had truly hurt me. I have also had to ask forgiveness for having offended someone I deeply care about. In both instances, the experience changed me. It opened my heart to loving others more fully and to being more open to receiving love in return. I believe we are one body, yet we cannot be who God has called us to be if division exists—within our court, and even more so in our world. Love is the answer, and God is our source. It seems that division is increasingly present, no matter which group of people I am with. At times, it feels as though we have given the "enemy" a seat at our table, when instead we should be following God's example and telling the enemy to leave.

I can attest that this is not easy. No one enjoys confronting harsh words, uncomfortable feelings, misunderstandings, or judgments. Nevertheless, we must have the courage to do so lovingly—for the sake of sanity and serenity in our lives and in our world. I believe we must be charitable in both word and deed, because one is not sincere without the other. I remind myself that I must do the right thing—in thought, word, and deed—even when no one is watching. God is watching. It is difficult to do the right thing when you feel misunderstood or criticized. It is difficult to remain charitable when that charity is not returned. I also believe it is important to be honest and to admit when I have done something wrong. I recognize that we all have defects of character. What is vital is having the faith to move forward in God's will—changed by the lessons we have learned—and asking God to remove those character defects. It is equally important to understand that we all grow at different paces and in different ways. If I am who I say I am, I must remember that unity becomes visible only when charity becomes real. As St. Paul reminds us:

"Charity is patient and kind…it does not insist on its own way…it is not irritable or resentful… it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."
—Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1825

Welcome Court #2690 Officers
June 2026 - May 2028

Our new court officers were elected on May 12, 2026, during a regular court meeting, and their induction ceremony to court was held on June 10, 2026.

Elected Officers (L-R):

Financial Secretary:
Debbie Noack

Vice Regent:
Kimberley Goodman

Regent:
Dorothy Meuth

Recording Secretary:
Oralia Barrera

Treasurer:
Peggy Pillar

A Message from our Regent

Dorothy Meuth

It is with great joy and much gratitude that I am able to lead the Catholic Daughters for a second time. I am honored to work with you and alongside you. As we begin this new term together, I pray that we will continue to grow as an organization but also in our faith, friendship, and service to others. Each member brings special gifts and talents and if we work together, we can accomplish great things for our parish, community, and to those in need.

I also hope our meetings will be a time of fellowship, encouragement, and inspiration. I hope each member feels welcomed, valued, and knows that her ideas and participation matters. There will be many opportunities ahead of us...opportunities to serve, to learn, to laugh, and to make a difference. I look forward to sharing these moments with you.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in all that we do and to help us follow the example of our Blessed Mother by serving others with comp--assion and love.

Thank you for the confidence you have placed I me. I look forward to this journey with you.

Blessings,
Dorothy Meuth, Regent

Court 2690

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTERS!

Meet Tracey Craig

My name is Tracy Craig. I have lived in Boerne and been a member of St. Peter's for 2½ years. My husband and I are empty nesters. I have a son and a daughter. My daughter is married, and I have my first grandchild, who is 8 months old. I am a technical consultant for a laboratory in Dallas, where I have worked for 25 years. I like traveling, exercising, and being outdoors. I love watching sports and trying new things. I came to CDA to meet more women in our parish and look for opportunities to serve. I'm happy to be joining a wonderful group of strong women.

Lillian "Lily" Calderon-Fata was born in Tucson, Arizona, and is married to retired Navy captain Andrew "Andy" Fata. A dedicated federal law enforcement professional with 36 years of service, Lily has spent her career serving and protecting communities across the country. As a military spouse, she has had the privilege of calling Florida, Japan, Rhode Island, Alexandria, Virginia, and now Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas, home. She and her husband have been members of St. Peter's Catholic Church for the past six months and are grateful to be part of such a welcoming faith community.

Lily earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Maryland. Beyond her professional career, she enjoys giving back to her community through volunteer service and civic involvement. An avid reader and passionate home baker, she especially enjoys decorating cookies to share with family and friends. She also loves exploring the beautiful Texas Hill Country on her Harley-Davidson motorcycle with Andy, embracing every opportunity to experience the people and places that make Texas feel like home.

Court 2690

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTERS!

Meet Josephine Rodriguez

I have been a parishioner of St. Peter's for 59 years. I am married and have children and grandchildren. I am retired. I like to read, garden, spend time with family, and volunteer.

Dorothy invited me to become part of Catholic Daughters. It is time to give back.

Meet Aida Gonzalves

I have been a member of St. Peter's for two years. I am married and have two children, Rania (4) and Luca (2). I am the manager of St. Peter's Cana Ballroom. I like to dance and walk. I joined CDA after Dorothy invited me.

I want to pray the Rosary more often and be part of a women's community group. I ask for prayers for my marriage as we continue to grow together in faith, love, and understanding.

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTER!

Meet Stephanie Aldridge

My name is Stephanie Aldridge, and I have called Boerne home since July 2021. I began attending St. Peter's that same month, so it has been wonderful to spend the past five years becoming part of this community. I am a single mother to my 15-year-old son, and our family is spread throughout other parts of Texas. That has made finding meaningful friendships and a sense of community especially important to me.

I work from home as a Talent Acquisition Program Manager for a global Recruitment Process Outsourcing (RPO) organization, which keeps me busy and gives me the opportunity to work with people from all over the world. Outside of work, I love staying active and experiencing new things. Some of my favorite things include karaoke, traveling whenever I can, live music, dancing, shooting, trying new restaurants, board games, comedy shows, and the occasional book. I also enjoy volunteering and spending time with good people. I am involved in Bible study, which has become an important part of growing in my faith and building deeper relationships with other women.

I came to CDA because I wanted to meet more women within our parish, build new friendships, and learn more about the ways CDA serves and makes a difference in our community. I'm excited to get to know everyone, find ways to contribute, and see where God leads me through this new chapter. I'm grateful to be part of such a wonderful parish community and look forward to getting to know my fellow CDA sisters!

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTERS!

Court 2690

Meet Mary Strapper

My name is Mary Stapper. I have lived in Boerne for eight years and have been a parishioner for six years. I am married and have two children and six grandchildren.

I am involved in Come to the Table Family Mentoring here at St. Peter's. I also enjoy ranching and gardening. I came to CDA because of Kathy Hassenger. I am happy to be part of CDA.

Meet Kathy Morgan

My name is Kathy Morgan. Colorado was our home for 33 years before my husband and I moved to Boerne in 2016. I have been a parishioner of St. Peter's for more than 10 years.

After almost 45 years of marriage, I am now a widow. I have three sons (one deceased), one daughter, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. I am a retired Army nurse and a published fiction author in the Christian market. My interests are quilting, gardening, and, of course, writing. I joined CDA because I have always been impressed by the camaraderie and the many ways CDA serves the Church.

In addition to a white, hairy "poor man's hunting dog" with a ridiculously long French breed name, I have a Belgian Malinois that loves to swim!

Court 2690

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTERS!

Meet Sharon Chapman

I have been a parishioner at St. Peter's since we moved to Boerne in 2016. Sadly, my husband, Steve, died in November 2024. We had been married for 52 years. He was my best friend and soulmate, and I miss him very much. I have three sons from this wonderful union: Matt, Aaron, and Drew. I have four grandchildren: Ben, Ella, Jack, and Grant. Ben, my oldest, will be getting married on October 15, 2027. We are a very loving family with many family traditions.

I retired from my 25-year nursing career in 2020. Nursing was like a ministry to me. I loved comforting people during difficult times and making a real difference in their lives. My hobbies include reading, learning to play the piano, boating, UT football, and exercise. I want to join the Catholic Daughters for sisterhood, support, and spiritual growth. I have several friends who belong to CDA and are wonderful role models for me as I continue to grow in my spiritual journey.

Meet Mary Longloy

My name is Mary Longloy. I have lived in Boerne for three years and recently joined St. Peter's Parish. I have two granddaughters and am a retired school principal.

My interests include traveling and gardening. As a retiree, I joined the Catholic Daughters of the Americas to serve Jesus, Mary, and others.

Court 2690

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTERS!

Meet Victoria Young

My name is Vicky Young. I have lived in Boerne for two months. I am married and retired. I enjoy scrapbooking, card making, and gardening. Debbie Noack's welcoming personality brought me to CDA.

My husband and I are so blessed to have our two fur babies, Jimmy and Roony, in our lives. We enjoy playing with them, and they make us laugh. I am looking forward to meeting and working with such nice and godly women.

Meet Carmen Burns

After being a longtime resident of Dallas, I moved to Boerne almost five years ago. The past four years as a parishioner at St. Peter's have given me the opportunity to learn more and find deeper meaning in my Catholic faith. I have three loving sisters who are also my best friends.

My parents strongly believed that volunteer service at church was an important part of discipleship and a demonstration of love and faith. I knew that I would want to honor them by serving in a similar way.

St. Peter's, with its welcoming and Spirit-filled service community, has been a blessing to me. Watching the ladies of CDA work tirelessly from one event to the next and support their fellow ministries convinced me that this is where I could lend a helping hand while also growing in fellowship with its members. I look forward to supporting and working alongside everyone. I enjoy traveling and the theater. Sports, especially tennis and golf, are enjoyable, too. Coming from a family filled with Texas Exes, I support my fellow Longhorns, especially during the football and basketball seasons.

WELCOME NEW DAUGHTERS!

Court 2690

Meet
Tricia Speaker (L) & Glady Betancourt (R)

My name is Tricia Speaker. I have been a member of St. Peter's for 18 years. My husband, Wayne, and I have two boys and two granddaughters. I worked in the school system for 30 years. I started as an elementary teacher and then earned my master's degree to become an educational diagnostician.

I started riding horses when I was seven. When we moved to Boerne, we had horses, and I provided equine therapy for children with disabilities. I did this for 15 years. I enjoy playing with my granddaughters, who live next door.

My name is Gladys Betancourt. I have lived in Boerne for one year. I am married and have children and grandchildren. I was a stay-at-home mom.

Happy Birthday!

May, June, & July Birthdays

Robbie Martin, 5/3
Trish Anderson, 5/8
Barbara Vogt, 5/8
Judi White, 5/15
Nancy Lysinger, 5/18
Heidi Bower, 5/22
Donna Price, 5/23
Maria Ann Wladika, 5/23
Mary Helen Torres, 5/26
Donna Oates, 5/28
Gina Vina, 5/29
Kathy Hannig, 6/4
Susan Markworth, 6/4
Frances Martinez, 6/4
Peggy Pillar, 6/10
Lisa Strain, 6/10
Esther Keeley, 6/14
Kathryn Hassenger, 6/16
Suzanne Rausch, 6/19
Gloria Villanueva, 6/19
Kathy Sitka-Chopra, 6/20
Michelle Lee, 6/20
Cynthia Perez, 6/20
Arla Mangold, 6/23
Beth Dewey, 6/24
Carol Lyle, 6/25
Ree Laughlin, 6/26
Ginny Sledge, 6/26
Sally Taylor, 7/2
Jeanna Moravits, 7/8
Delia Sosa, 7/13
Donna Hans, 7/14
Janice Kelley, 7/15
Kandice Collins, 7/17
Karen Eulberg, 7/18
Patti Burns, 7/23
Hope Hernandez, 7/26
Patti Jetter, 7/23
Laura Hooge, 7/30
Stella Cano, 7/31

Happy Anniversay!

May, June, & July Anniversaries

Mary & James Barton, 5/5
Kathy Sitka & Shalindaa Chopra, 5/8
Angie & Peter Lozano, 5/8
Esther & Thomas Keeley, 5/19
Patti & Nelson Jetter, 5/22
Marti & Richard DeLaGarza, 5/22
Anne & Bill Edwards, 5/22
Nancy & David Boerner, 5/29
Oralia & Francisco Barrera, 5/29
Paula & Ed Hoeppner, 5/29
Teresa & Raymond Valderaz, 5/31
Ree & Rich Laughlin, 6/1
Donna & Randy Oates, 6/3
Jeannie & Tony Hernandez, 6/3
Barbara & Rob Walz, 6/4
Patricia & Victor Ptak, 6/4
Paula & Kevin Beaton, 6/9
Dana & Greg Gonyer, 6/10
Janice & Michael Kelley, 6/12
Kristine & Jim Luisi, 6/20
Karen & Ray Smajstrla, 6/20
Sherry & Carlos Barrera, 6/24
Rose & Greg Jaeger, 6/25
Arla & Tommy Mangold, 6/25
Kathy & Oscar Hannig, 6/28
Eleanor & John Moring, 6/29
Karen & Tim Stevenson, 6/30
Jeanette & John Belter, 7/2
Stella & Tony Cano, 7/2
Sheila & Wade Dillard, 7/3
Barbara & Doug Vogt, 7/22
Diane & Steve Beaton, 7/23
Belinda & Jeffrey Weaver, 7/23
Ginny & RJ Sledge, 7/26
Barbara & Jim Franklin, 7/27
Jeanna & Allan Moravits, 7/27
Lucia & Greg Ruiz, 7/29

Happy Birthday!

August & September Birthdays

Linda Frey, 8/5
Belinda Weaver, 8/8
Nancy Roberts, 8/14
Arleen Skwara, 8/16
Dianna Roberts, 8/20
Susan Krieg, 8/25
Alethea Boyles, 8/28
Debra Carrisal, 8/31
Cheryl Akin, 9/2
Eleanor Moring, 9/3
Catarina Beresky, 9/4
Clare Smith, 9/5
Patsy Schwab, 9/5
Rodeana Reynolds, 9/9
Jeanette Belter, 9/11
Patricia Ptak, 9/11
Gloria Cardenas, 9/18
Marti DeLaGarza, 9/19
Rose Jaeger, 9/19
Mary Jo Perley, 9/23
Alma Hilburn, 9/23
Elzys Konz, 9/25

Catarina Beresky, 9/4
Clare Smith, 9/5
Patsy Schwab, 9/5
Rodeana Reynolds, 9/9
Jeanette Belter, 9/11
Patricia Ptak, 9/11
Gloria Cardenas, 9/18
Marti DeLaGarza, 9/19
Rose Jaeger, 9/19
Mary Jo Perley, 9/23
Alma Hilburn, 9/23
Elzys Konz, 9/25

Happy Anniversay!

August & September Anniversaries

Karen & Del Eulberg, 8/1
Lornell & Dean Walden, 8/3
Debbie & Dusty Clayton, 8/5
Charlene & Stanley Jones, 8/7
Arleen & Tony Skwara, 8/8
Michelle & Marty Lee, 8/10
Renee & Joe Macaluso, 8/11
Lisa & Rodrigo Sallick, 8/15
Linda & Jeff Aurit, 8/16
Suzanne & Jim Rausch, 8/18
Cindy & Ron Gonzales, 8/19
Susan & Don Krieg, 8/19
Darlene & Ken Hicks, 8/20
Angela & Shawn Hudson, 8/20
Carol & Mike Lyle, 8/20
Lisa & John Burnside, 8/22
Suzelle & Gilbert Yanes, 8/23
Julia & Joe Cortez, 8/25
Cecilia & Kevin Drennan, 8/27
Janice & Tony Almeida, 8/27
Amy & Mark Ogden, 8/28
Kathy & Peter Hossenlopp, 8/29
Clare & Kevin Smith, 8/30
Nancy & Sam Roberts, 9/8
Sarah & Ron Amster, 9/12
Doe & Jim Morey, 9/20
Maria & Bill Wladika, 9/21
Elzys & Bob Konz, 9/21
Marcie & Jeff Lloyd, 9/25

Apparitions of Our Blessed Mother

by Nancy Roberts

Why does our Lord send His precious Mother to us? God is calling His human family to live the Gospel and return to holiness. In His love and mercy, the Lord sends us His most powerful intercessor and guiding light—our Blessed Mother. She is always leading her children to her Son, and at times she does so through both public and private apparitions.

Sources suggest that there are 26 Church-approved Marian apparitions from every corner of the world, including Our Lady of Champion in the state of Wisconsin. In addition, there are approximately 2,000 lesser-known or unconfirmed apparitions reported since the beginning of Christianity. For an apparition to be considered authentic, the local bishop must formally declare it “Worthy of Belief.” In making this determination, the bishop follows strict guidelines established by the Vatican, which has identified several categories under which reported apparitions may be evaluated.

What messages has our Queen of Heaven brought to us? She calls us to pray the Rosary daily and to pray fervently for the conversion of sinners. She has issued warnings of world catastrophes and premonitions of future events. Above all, Mary calls for repentance of sins and urges us always to turn to Jesus, who is our salvation. In the next newsletter, I will be highlighting the only Vatican-approved Marian apparition in the United States, *Our Lady of Champion*.

Court 2690

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Harris Preismeyer

Harris, the grandson of Sharon Mecke, is the son of Jodi and Matt. This fall, he's attending Texas Tech, Harris was awarded a State Scholarship of $1,000.

Lexie Scheidt

Lexie, along with her parents Scott and Julie, is attending Oklahoma State University with a scholarship of $1,000.

Carissa Breneiser

Carissa, along with her parent Chris, is attending UTSA, she was awarded a scholarship worth $1,000.

Elizabeth Hoeppner

Elizabeth, alongside her parents Christina and Michael, is attending UTSA, she has been awarded a $1,000 scholarship.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Court 2690

Gracie Marino

Gracie, pictured with her parents Peter and Maura, is the granddaughter of Esther Keeley. She headed to Texas A&M with a $1,250 scholarship award.

Simon Lozano

Simon with parents his PJ and Kerri, he is both Angie Lozano's and Sharon Mecke's grandson. Simon is attending a Welding School, he was awarded a $2,535 scholarship.

Ty Kopecki

Ty with his parents, Blaise and Kim Kopecki, and his sister. Ty is attending Texas A&M, Corpus Christi, and is also the nephew of CDA member Clare Smith. Ty was awarded a $1,000 scholarship.