Successes at CDA Day at the Park with the Astros - June 24, 2018

1. Family:
   - Fourteen hundred and thirty-nine tickets sold throughout the State of Texas! How wonderful and unbelievable was that? Yes, 1,439 tickets!
   - The support was there for the World Series Champions, of course, they were the main attraction.
   - But adding to that, was the support for our exemplary Leader, Rosie Stockwell, Texas State Regent, who threw the ceremonial first pitch. Many came to see that happen and also came in support of Rosie; she has a big following throughout the state which was evident in the ticket sales. Her area of the state bought many, many tickets.
   - No matter why they came, the fact is, they were here as FAMILY, CDA family, biological family, church family and community family. All spent their time bonding with others and enriching family life not only within CDA but beyond.
   - Contributing to Family, was the 10th Inning Party after the game. About 300 CDA and guests attended this get together at the Hampton Inn. Although Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner could not attend, he did proclaim June 24, 2018 as Catholic Daughters of the Americas Day in the city of Houston, and the proclamation was presented to State Regent Rosie Stockwell.

2. Spiritual:
   - The mass at Annunciation Church was standing room only; comments from church staff, CDA members, and parishioners included:
     "It was awesome to see the church at its capacity."
     "The choir added so much to the mass! It was like angels singing for us."
     "The mass to start the Event (CDA at the Park) was special in that our own, Father Greg, State Chaplain, was the Celebrant."
     "It was great to start the day with so many CDA members, being able to thank the Lord for this memorable event, and also that CDA was included in the Prayer of the Faithful."

3. Charitable:
   - Operation Purple Envelopes was a huge success. Purple envelopes were passed out to CDA ticket holders at the beginning of the mass and were asked to put donations into the envelopes. The money collected is to benefit the restoration of Annunciation Church, the oldest functioning Church in the city of Houston, which is being restored for their 150th anniversary in 2019. It is reported that $1,186.00 was collected through the purple envelopes.
   - Another way we were able to help Annunciation Church was through the sale of the Astros Rosaries. The Blue and Orange rosaries are a big fundraiser for Annunciation Church, and sales hit record high for that day. About $7,000.00 in sales for the day, which is their record. Over $1,000.00 in rosaries were sold at the 10th Inning Party, but many were also purchased by CDA and guests after the mass at the church.

4. Patriotism:
   - What a better way to honor our country than to have our State Chaplain, Father Greg, along with the Viva Symphony Choir under the direction of Lee Gwozdz, from Corpus Christi, representing CDA in the singing of the National Anthem at the Astros game. Many expressed that this was the highlight of CDA at the Park.

5. Membership/Leadership
   - First Vice State Regent, Melodie Brunt, met with Father Felix, pastor of Annunciation Catholic Church and secured approval for a new court at Annunciation. CDA will move forward see that happen.

CDA at the Park Committee stepped up as leaders—mailing tickets, picking up cupcakes, making mums, passing out souvenir bracelets, getting mums to dignitaries, greeting at the church, & helping wherever they saw a need. They also conducted two fundraisers to help pay for the expenses incurred by the event. CDA members outside the committee, & outside Houston area.

CDA Sisters & Families who helped make this event possible:
- Rosie Stockwell, State Regent—led with dignity, morals, understanding, by example; gave us a task & allowed us to do it;
- Fr. Greg Labus—celebrated Mass, sang National Anthem;
- Lee Gwozdz, Director of Viva Symphony Choir;
- Judy Gutierrez, State COL Family Chairman;
- Julia Whited, Ct. 2674 Regent—committee member who was there from start of planning to finish of the project;
- Glenda Bautista, Ct. 2258 Regent—committee member who was there from start of planning to finish of the project;
- Pat Keller, Ct. 2071 Regent—ran Garage Sale fundraiser; sold out bracelets at game;
- Mary Lou McKinley, Lydia Rodriguez, Olita Sanchez, Josie Ochoa, Ct. 2674—coordinators for Style Show, 10th Inning Reception, ticket sales;
- Janie Colmenero & Miriam Spann Ct 2674—Treasurer & Financial Secretary for the event and fundraisers;
- Cathy Bittner, MOM Chairman designed T-shirts;
- Fr. Felix, pastor Annunciation Church opened its doors to CDA, Fr. Greg, and Choir;
- Martha Alvarez & Elsie Hernandez—Asst to pastor & Capital Campaign coordinator at Annunciation Church
- Yesenia Castillo, Hampton Inn Sales Manager;
- Chris Garza, spouse—donated cost of truck to transport chairs for Style Show fundraiser;
- Michelle Puckett Designer Diva, LLC—Style Show venue
- Rhonda Palasota DD #35; provided models for Style Show

⇒ ALL CDA SISTERS & FAMILIES WHO SOLD TICKETS AND CAME TO THE GAME!