

Annual Report for The Order of the Daughters of the King October 2024 – September 2025

Vision and Mission Statements

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the vision of The Order of the Daughters of the King® (DOK) is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world. The Mission of the DOK is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through prayer, service and evangelism.

Who We Are

The Order of the Daughters of the King, founded by Margaret J. Franklin at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in New York City in 1885, is a religious order for women and girls who desire a closer walk with the Lord. We are Christian women, both lay and ordained, who are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life and supported by the companionship of our sisters. Our primary goal is to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others. Members take lifelong vows and dedicate themselves to prayer, service, and evangelism. For more information about becoming a Daughter or about starting a new chapter in the diocese, please contact Michele Marini (michelemarini@comcast.net).

Diocese of Central Pennsylvania Daughters of the King Executive Board

President – Kitty Mussett, Dame Julian of Norwich Chapter, State College
1st Vice-President – Kristle Evans, Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter, Lancaster
2nd Vice-President – Michele Marini, Dame Julian of Norwich Chapter, State College
Recording Secretary– Lissa Olson, Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter, Lancaster
Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary – Ross Fairweather, Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter, Lancaster

Chapter Presidents

Vacant, Daughters of Glory, Harrisburg
Susan Steffen, The Peacemakers, Gettysburg
Kristle Evans, Harriet Lane Johnston, Lancaster
Michele Marini, Dame Julian of Norwich, State College
Ann Brooks and Susan Leake, co-presidents, Apostles for Christ, York

Websites Daughters of the King National: <https://www.doknational.org/>

Province III: <http://dokproviii.org/>

Ministry Work 2024-2025

The Harriet Lane Johnston chapter held a Daughters of the King Awareness Month in February during which they held a service project of pasta collection for the Food Hub, a special DOK-focused morning prayer session, a DOK-focused Forum, DOK-focused worship services and an information table set up in the Narthex of the church. They also provided Advent gifts and Valentine cards for the homebound. They completed a Mary Magdalene study using the book *The Mary We Forgot* by Jennifer McNutt. From Maundy Thursday through Good Friday morning, they held the overnight prayer vigil. Beginning on Ascension Day, the chapter participates in **Thy Kingdom Come**, a global initiative through the Anglican Church that focuses on daily prayer for 5 people to be open to the light of Christ. This daily prayer continues through Pentecost, and the chapter is hoping to make it a bigger initiative this year.

The Dame Julian of Norwich chapter completed two book studies including *Advent in Narnia* by Heidi Haverkamp and *The Art of Holy Week and Easter* by Sister Wendy Beckett. They also offered a series of African Bible Study on the Acts of the Apostles. All three of these studies were offered to the congregation. The chapter organized and delivered Lenten and Advent Taizé services. They crafted wool yarn sheep to present to their congregation for Good Shepherd Sunday. They sent Christmas and Easter cards to shut-in members of the church. They organized a celebration for new ministry for Rev. Kevin Lowe. The chapter crafted prayer-to-go bags that were filled with prayer aids and presented to attendees at the Super Diocesan Assembly, hosted by our chapter on March 1, 2025, at St. Andrew's in Lewisburg for DOK members in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, Diocese of Bethlehem and Diocese of Northwestern PA. During the summer months, the chapter hosted an alternative bible study that

welcomed all parish members. Using a method from Martha Johnson Bourlakis' book *Our One Word – Creating Spiritual Joy and Depth*, words such as faith, trust, strength, charity and love were examined from all angles including scripture, hymns, personal encounters, popular culture and more.

The Daughters of Glory chapter continues in their outreach project of sewing dresses for girls who attend a nutrition clinic in Haiti. Daughters from around the diocese traveled to the Daughters of Glory in October to reunite after quite a long absence. It was a joyful meeting that began with the Sunday morning service and continued with fellowship and sharing.

The Apostles for Christ chapter meets monthly and has begun to assist with funeral receptions for their church and continues their card ministry.

Daughters from all over Province III gathered for the annual province retreat held in April 2025, at the Claggett Center in Maryland. Seven daughters from the Diocese of Central PA attended the Province III annual retreat held at the Bishop Claggett Retreat Center in Buckeystown, MD April 25-27, 2025. The theme for the retreat was "Sharing our Stories: Would you like to hear mine?" On Friday, pre-retreat, three daughters from our diocese participated in the Province Board Gathering: Michele Marini, Province President, Kristle Evans, Service and Evangelism Chair and Kitty Mussett, Diocesan President of Central PA. The annual business meeting was held following a welcome dinner. On Saturday, the day began with Morning Prayer and breakfast followed by our first session with our speaker of the day, Rev. Shawn Clerkin, who spoke about the spirituality of creativity. We were given time to create our stories, either individually or in groups. At the end of the day, daughters were given the opportunity to present their stories. Stories were presented in various mediums, including poetry, song, short story, limericks and artwork. After dinner, daughters participated in a service in which we sent our prayers to heaven via fire followed by an evening prayer and healing service. Sunday morning our retreat concluded with our annual Memorial Service, during which we remembered all daughters in the province who died in the past year. We also celebrated Holy Eucharist with a very special sermon by Rev. Tricia Lyons, our Province Chaplain. The service project for the retreat was the Episcopal Community Service – Out of School Time – to which over \$3000 was donated from the Province.

The DOK Province III executive committee, consisting of elected officers, committee chairs, and diocesan presidents from around the province met at the Claggett Center in Maryland, in August for a two-day leadership retreat led by our Province Chaplain, the Rev. Patricia Lyons.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Mussett

President, Diocese of Central Pennsylvania
The Order of the Daughters of the King ®