



MISSIONARY SISTERS  
of the SACRED HEART of JESUS  
*Bringing Christ's love to the world*

THE UPDATE

October 27, 2016

## PA Secretary of Education Discusses Leadership and Service

On Wednesday, October 25, Cabrini University welcomed Pedro Rivera, Pennsylvania Secretary of Education, as an [Executive in Residence](#). Cabrini's Executives in Residence are selected for their extraordinary spiritual, emotional, and organizational leadership.

Hosted by Cabrini's [Nerney Leadership Institute](#), the program brings renowned leaders to campus to discuss how their leadership style is impacted by a commitment to service.

Rivera has been recognized for his efforts to transform urban education as the Superintendent of the School District of Lancaster, PA and was one of only 10 Hispanic leaders in the U.S. to be honored by the White House as a Champion of Change for doing "extraordinary work in education."

While at Cabrini, Rivera spoke about leading with a commitment to the diverse communities and constituents he continues to serve at the state level.

Rivera was nominated by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf to serve as the Secretary of Education on January 20, 2015, and was confirmed by the state Senate in June 2015.



Commonwealth of PA Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera.



PA Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera (l.) is interviewed by Cabrini University Vice-President of Institutional Advancement Steve Highsmith during an evening forum on education and service.

During his time as Superintendent of the School District of Lancaster—a position he held from 2008 to 2015—he helped develop and implement a new curriculum, an aggressive professional development plan and innovative teacher observation tools. These initiatives resulted in an increased graduation rate and notable improvements in math, science and writing proficiency scores, and enhanced the level of participation from high-performing students in programs that help prepare them for college and other post-graduation opportunities.

He also led the development of a community-schools model that provides students with free breakfast, lunch, eyeglasses, dental care and medical services.

Prior to serving as the Superintendent of the School District of Lancaster, he was a classroom teacher, staff member with the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, an assistant principal and principal, as well as the executive director for the School District of Philadelphia.

A first-generation college graduate, Rivera earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Pennsylvania State University, a master's degree in Education Administration from Cheyney University, and a Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from Arcadia University.

*~ from the Cabrini University website*

## Missionary Sisters' Provincial Assembly Concludes



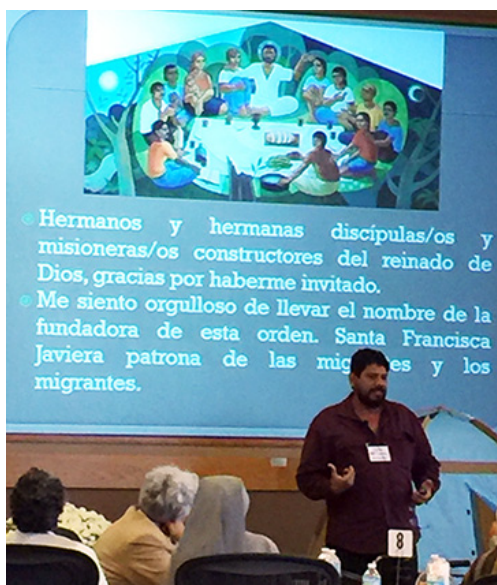
The Missionary Sisters from the Stella Maris Province, Central America and Mexico have concluded their Provincial Assembly, which was held in North Jersey.



Here, Dr. Nick Rademacher of Cabrini University presents the realities in the Church from 1965 – 1974.

Presenters included Arturo Chavez, Ph.D.; Javier Torres Bermudez; and Beverly Bryde, Ed.D.; Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.; Nick Rademacher, Ph.D.; and Abel Rodriguez, JD, all of Cabrini University. Dr. Chavez also served as the facilitator for the Assembly.

With the assistance of simultaneous translation, the Missionary Sisters spent time learning each other's realities by engaging in a timeline exercise, which highlighted parallel events in the US and in Central America and Mexico. This allowed the Sisters to come to a better appreciation of all that has brought them to this moment in time as they prepare to form a new canonical entity. As an important focus of the Assembly, the Missionary Sisters also considered possible forms of governance for the new



canonical entity.

It was a time of growing friendship, greater cultural awareness and understanding, and, of a deeply shared faith and love of God.

Javier Torres Bermudez (standing) shared the realities of life in Central America and Mexico over the past decades. His input served as a catalyst for the Sisters' discussion and sharing of experiences.



*Cabrini Immigrant Services  
Liberty & Justice Awards Reception*

*December 8, 2016*

*Estherwood Mansion  
Dobbs Ferry, NY*

*honoring*

*Sr. Damien Ciminera, MSC*

*Dr. Eric and Donna Garfinkel*

*and*

*A Special Dedication in Memory of Tom Pettit*

*Cocktails and Light Fare 6:00 pm*

*Award Ceremony 7:00 pm*

*All Missionary Sisters are invited to be our guests at the reception.  
Please RSVP at your earliest convenience to Susan Herceg at  
914-693-6800 ext. 502 or [sherceg@cabrini-eldercare.org](mailto:sherceg@cabrini-eldercare.org)*

# Cabrini High School Science Squad Teaches Water Cycle

Cabrini High School's Science Squad was invited to St. Christopher School where they made the Water Cycle presentation.

Science chair Ann Smart with student assistants Lauren Blady '17 and Elizabeth Favret '18 explained to the 59 students in the three, sixth grade classes, how water cycles through the environment and the processes it goes through.

"Showing the children that if we start with water in the ocean, it can evaporate and go up into the atmosphere," Ann Smart explained, "When it cools, it condenses in clouds and comes back to earth as precipitation. On earth, it can soak into the ground, or fall into a body of water like a lake or river. It can be frozen in a glacier or be taken in by a plant or an animal."

The presentation is specifically designed for the elementary level and includes various activities to engage them.

"We began with a water cycle song using hand motions like water going up into a cloud or falling back to the ground," shared Ms. Smart.

From the song the students were given a leather cord with a lanyard hook on it. They started at one station and took a bead representing water then moved on to the next station. Each station is labelled, such as blue for the ocean or green for a plant. They rolled a die to find out where to go next and what process got them there. They did this 20 times then tied it off to hang from their book bags to remember the water cycle.



Elizabeth Favret (l.) a junior at Cabrini High School and Ann Smart, Cabrini's Science Department Chair, conduct an activity with the sixth graders at St. Christopher in Metairie, LA.



The Science Squad is an academic activity open to all schools in the New Orleans area that helps expand the STEM concept at the elementary level. Hands-on science activities exploring chemistry, physics, life and environmental sciences are led by Cabrini science teachers and student assistants. Teachers can choose from a variety of topics, or request a topic and the Science Squad will do their best to accommodate [teachers' requests]. Topics are available in the Science Squad brochure mailed to all schools or on the Cabrini website. Schools may invite the Science Squad to visit their classes, or have their class visit the Science Squad at Cabrini.

*~submitted by Ardley Hanemann*

## Cabrini University Hosts National Conference

Cabrini University is holding a National Conference on Body Image to examine ways to combat body shaming and champion acceptance. The conference is being held on October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

With panel discussions, presentations, and workshops, the program encourages attendees to examine body image through diverse perspectives including religion, pop culture, and art.

- [National Conference on Body Image](#)



This week, Cabrini University is hosting a National Conference on Body Image. Dr. Michelle Filling-Brown (I.) Chair and Associate Professor of the Department of English at Cabrini and the Coordinator of the Gender and Body Studies program welcomes Kate Byard from Exeter University in the UK. Kate presented on how bodies are rendered visible in the public sphere of the digital world. Kate was an overnight guest of the MSC Mission Offices in the Cabrini Cottage

The two-day conference is hosted by the University's [Department of English](#) and the [Gender and Body Studies](#) program. Registration is open to the public.

“Body image is an issue that impacts all of us. From staring at magazine covers in line at the grocery store to scrolling through social media, we are bombarded with the notion that we are insufficient,” said [Michelle Filling-Brown, PhD](#), Chair and Associate Professor of the Department of English at Cabrini and Coordinator of the Gender and Body Studies program. “I am grateful to the KatherineAlexandra Foundation for sponsoring this conference that brings world renowned speakers to our campus to talk about these pressures with students and community members.” ~ *excerpts from the Cabrini University website*

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### One Minute Meditation

Faith demands that we approach the Eucharist fully aware that we are approaching Christ himself. The Eucharist is a mystery of presence, the perfect fulfilment of Jesus’ promise to remain with us until the end of the world.

~ Pope St. John Paul II/ Words of Grace

# Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC...

## Gifting Others Through Your Generosity



As the weather gets colder and you reach for your warmer coats and jackets, we ask you to be mindful of those who might be without that extra layer of warmth. Cabrini Immigrant Services wishes to remind you of their annual coat drive, which will take place in early November. The Missionary Sisters and the good folks at Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC are collecting **new or gently used coats or jackets** that our clients can use. We are **also in need of winter scarves, hats and gloves**. They can be brought to CIS by November 11, 2016.



For **Thanksgiving** this year we are giving out vouchers to use in grocery stores for the food they would need for their holiday dinner. \$25 can feed a family of four. Whatever you can give will be greatly appreciated.

**Christmas** is a big event for the children of our clients. We will have a big party and gift giving. We need to start early to buy gifts and plan for the party. We spend \$40 on each child, making sure that they feel special and receive a gift their parents would not otherwise be able to afford. Please help us guarantee a merry Christmas for these children by donating today.



It is with your support and that of other generous individuals that Cabrini Immigrant Services can continue to make a positive impact on thousands of immigrant working class families. Please help us in whatever way is possible for you. Thank you.

<http://cis-nyc.org/donate/>

← Please see what your donations make possible.

*Please Save the Date  
and Please Join Us*

## **FEAST DAY CELEBRATION**

*for*

**St. Frances  
Xavier Cabrini**

PATRON SAINT OF IMMIGRANTS

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

**10:00 am–4:00 pm**

**10:00 am Italian Mass**

**12:00 French/Haitian Mass**

**2:00 pm Spanish Mass**

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

**10:00 am–4:00 pm**

**11:00 am English Mass**

**2:00 pm Filipino Mass**



## **Saint Frances Cabrini Shrine**

**701 Fort Washington Avenue New York, NY 10040  
(212) 923-3536 [CabriniShrineNYC.org](http://CabriniShrineNYC.org)**

# RITE OF CLOSING THE DOOR OF MERCY

**On Sunday, November 13 at the 11:00 am Feast Day Mass**

Multicultural Mass with Bishop Gerald Walsh and Father Ambiorix Rodriguez



On Sunday, November 13 at the 11:00 am Feast Day Mass, Bishop Gerald Walsh will officially close the Holy Doors at St. Frances Cabrini Shrine NYC. That day the Jubilee is brought to a close in local churches, and the following Sunday, November 20, the Holy Door at the Vatican will close.

To obtain the special Jubilee Indulgence, make a pilgrimage to Cabrini Shrine before the 11:00 Mass on November 13!

**ST. FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE**

*Official Jubilee Church for the Year of Mercy*

701 Fort Washington Avenue, New York, NY 10040 212-923-3536  
[www.cabrinishrinenyc.org](http://www.cabrinishrinenyc.org) | [info@cabrinishrinenyc.org](mailto:info@cabrinishrinenyc.org)

## *From the Province Vocation Promotion Team...*

From October 27th – 31st, Stella Maris Province Vocation Director Sr. Antonia Plata, MSC, and Sr. Martha Lopez, MSC novice, are attending the National Religious Vocation Conference Convocation in Overland Park, Kansas.

The theme for Convocation 2016 is “Awakened by the Spirit: Called to Discipleship.” The theme draws on Pope Francis’ invitation to those in consecrated life to “Wake up the World.” Once awakened by the Spirit, consecrated religious are compelled to move outward and proclaim the Good News.

The Spirit moves in and through us, and God “is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us.” Ephesians 3:20



Convocation speakers include Father Thomas Rosica, CSB, CEO of Canada’s Salt + Light TV; Father Kevin O’Brien, SJ, Dean and University Professor at the Jesuit School of Theology, along with Sherry Weddell, co-founder of the Catherine of Siena Institute.

Please keep Sr. Antonia and Sr. Martha and all those attending the Convocation in your prayers.

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## **Halloween**

Straddling the line between fall and winter, plenty and paucity, life and death, Halloween is a time of celebration and superstition. It is thought to have originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off roaming ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints and martyrs; the holiday, All Saints’ Day,



incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows’ Eve and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a secular, community-based event characterized by child-friendly activities such as trick-or-treating. In a number of countries around the world, as the days grow shorter and the nights get colder, people continue to usher in the winter season with gatherings, costumes and sweet treats.

*~ from the History website*

# Prayer Requests

## ***Mary***

Your prayers are requested for Mary who is applying to adopt a child. She is very eager to become a mom and she asks for your help through prayer.

## ***Beth McCoy Priest***

Please pray for Beth McCoy Priest, former administrative secretary for Cabrini Mission Corps while Sr. Lucille Souza, MSC was director. She was diagnosed earlier this year with advanced cancer. She has undergone radiation and chemotherapy. She has recently undergone brain surgery. Please continue to keep Beth in your prayers, as well as, her husband, Dane, and her daughter, Sarah. Beth continues to be faith-filled and praising Jesus and His love for her during this difficult time.

## ***Vince Pultorak***

Your prayers are asked for Vince Pultorak, the brother of Gina Scarpello, who is experiencing some health problems at this time. Kindly keep Vince and his family in your prayers.

## With Grateful Hearts

Sr. Christine Marie Baltas' sister wishes to pass along a thank you for prayers for her friend's daughter, Helen. Helen, who is a first time older mom, gave birth to a healthy baby girl named Emily Charlotte. Her grandma is grateful for everyone's prayers. Welcome to the world, baby Emily Charlotte!

## In Loving Memory

### ***Gloria Guiffre***

Brenda Guiffre Cowan, Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1974 and her family request prayers for the soul of her mother, Gloria Guiffre, who passed away last week. May she rest in peace.

### ***Victoria Harvey***

Linda Grijalva, an alumna and former member of the Board of Trustees at Mother Cabrini High School in New York City, asks our prayers for the repose of the soul of her mother, Victoria Harvey, who went home to God on September 28<sup>th</sup>. May she rest in God's eternal peace.

November 1<sup>st</sup> is the Feast of All Saints.

November 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Feast of All Souls.

