



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

THE UPDATE

November 10, 2016

Pioneering and Dynamic

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

On November 13th we will celebrate the **Feast Day of our Patroness St. Frances Xavier Cabrini**, who was truly a pioneer in international missionary work and a dynamic role model to follow in the 21st century.

Mother Cabrini's pioneering spirit was manifested early on, even before she founded the MSCs, as she grew in discernment, courage and energy, her capacity for relationship, her drive and tenacity. She learned early in her life how to deal with setbacks, blocks and frustrations: a gift she had learned from her deep and intimate prayer life and her loving relationship with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, her spouse and her model. She was a very passionate woman – passionate to help others, passionate in overcoming the difficulties which were always assailing her, passionate in deepening a gospel spirituality not only in her sisters but also in those to whom she and her sisters were ministering. Through the years, Mother Cabrini had become expert at handling struggles and adversities, always maintaining her peace and always alert to the needs of others, especially the poor, the marginalized, the immigrant. She had a far-sighted vision of mission and had planted her Institute in eight countries by the time she died [in 1917].

What was her secret? Where did all this energy and insight come from? From an early age, Frances knew how to immerse herself in the depths of the Heart of Jesus and Scripture. She took every problem she had to the Heart of Jesus who inevitably showed her his love for her, how to resolve her difficulties, what he wanted from her, and what her priorities had to be.



Mother Cabrini was always writing in her diary and we are so blessed to have these intimate glimpses into her heart and soul, her passion and energy, her love and zeal. She was truly “a contemplative missionary” and she encouraged all her sisters to be the same. Today that is the same challenge that is offered to every Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

every Cabrini Lay Missionary, every Cabrini collaborator and employee who is called to serve the Lord and his people with compassion and zeal, determination and farsightedness.

Let us continue to seek and establish new outlets for this passionate Cabrinian spirit throughout the world, bringing Mother Cabrini's charism, not only where and how the Cabrinian Family is currently, but also to new spaces and new missions where together sisters and laity alike, can spread our charism and zeal to the people of God. What a blessing it is for us in the Cabrinian Family in the 21st century to have such a legacy, a far-sighted vision of mission "to the ends of the earth"! ~ Sister Patricia Spillane, MSC

General Superior 2008 – 2013

From the Foreword to St. Frances Cabrini, a Passionate Life by Mark Davis

A MISSIONARY AT HEART

*As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of St. Cabrini on November 13th, we are pleased to share this story on Sr. Alice Zanon, MSC. This article first appeared in **The Beat**, the news magazine of Cabrini Health in Australia. Given the extensive nature of this account, we will share the story of Sr. Alice over the next few weeks.*



Sr. Alice identifies not as Australian, Italian, English or American – she is at heart, a Missionary Sister, always ready to go wherever she is sent to carry on the work of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini and her congregation.

Sr. Alice Zanon, MSC is unfazed by the dynamic life she has led as a Cabrini Sister. As a first-generation Australian daughter of Italian parents, she was raised in the Melbourne suburb of Brunswick East. She entered the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus aged 23 in Malvern in 1968. Prior to that, Sr. Alice had been working in a secretarial capacity to the managers of an insurance firm in Collins Street and at the resources firm Ampol Petroleum. During her lunchbreaks, this young city

woman would attend Mass at St. Francis Catholic Church in Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. Her colleague and friend Greta noticed how happy Alice always looked after she had attended Mass and received Holy Communion and asked whether she had thought of entering religious life. Indeed, she had. “I perceived a calling to enter religious life but procrastinated, as I did not know where to go,” said Sr. Alice.



Sr. Alice is currently missioned at Cabrini High School in New Orleans where she is on the faculty and teaches religion.

While working with the Legion of Mary and during a weekend stay at Ave Maria Retreat House for Women in the Melbourne suburb of Essendon, Alice sought the counsel of the late Rev. John Robinson, a Vincentian priest, to whom she opened her heart about her desire for religious vocation. He told her about the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and their work at Cabrini Malvern. She learned there were 22 Sisters missioned there including Sisters who worked in administrative roles. Alice saw a place there for herself and made contact with Sr. Ilia Xavier Peveralia MSC, who was Superior and Hospital Administrator from 1968 until 1973. “I was drawn by the international nature of the community – seven nationalities were represented among these Sisters and as a child of immigrants, I never looked anywhere else,” said Sr. Alice. She remembers the late Sr. Ilia with great affection. “She was a good, kind, compassionate Sister, a mentor and a friend,” said Sr. Alice.

Sr. Alice entered religious life on Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini’s Feast Day (13 November) in 1968 and made her perpetual vows in February 1978. “It was a good day to enter,” she said. Her decision made, it was time to break the news to her parents – mother Serena and father Segundo Diano, co-manager at a concrete and paving firm – who were initially devastated, as they felt that they were losing their precious daughter. “My father took the news particularly hard but my mind was made up.”

As Italian immigrants, Alice’s parents had worked hard to provide Alice, her sister Dina and two brothers Danny and Angelo with a good education, a better life than they themselves had had and a comfortable future. Alice and her siblings attended Mass regularly and went to Catholic schools. Alice had

attended Our Lady Help of Christians primary school in Brunswick East and later, Academy of Mary Immaculate in Fitzroy where she was taught by the Sisters of Mercy. Her siblings are alive today and themselves grandparents. Sr. Alice sees them on her infrequent visits to Australia, which included attending the Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass in the chapel at Cabrini Malvern in June 2015.

While missioned in Australia, Sr. Alice was among four Cabrini Sisters who went to Perth to serve at a home for assisted living where she remained for four years. Whereas three Cabrini Sisters worked in this home, Sr. Alice worked at a kindergarten for Italian children operated by the Italian Consulate. To acquire further training as an educator, she attended the Churchlands Teaching College (now part of Edith Cowan University). “I had not expected to become a teacher,” she said. “Yet the seed fell, took root and all fell into place.”

~ with many thanks to Christine Elmer and Kate Stivala of Cabrini Health

Next week: Sr. Alice is asked to go to London.

Mother Cabrini Shrine October Pilgrimage to Italy



A group of 32 adventurous pilgrims from Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, Colorado left Denver on October 3 to begin a ten-day pilgrimage and tour of Italy. The group began the tour in Milan and then traveled to Codogno, Sant' Angelo, Florence, Siena, Assisi and Rome. Each city included tours and visits to beautiful basilicas, cathedrals, duomos, Holy Doors for the Year of Mercy, museums and as many local attractions as we could fit in a day. Daily Mass was included in beautiful side chapels as well as in the basilicas and cathedrals.



Sr. Maria Regina Canale, MSC welcomes the group.

A highlight of the trip was the visit to Sant'Angelo, the place of Mother Cabrini's birth and to Codogno, where she started the order of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sr. Maria Regina Canale, MSC, General Councilor for Europe, in true Cabrinian hospitality, welcomed us with open arms and gave a wonderful tour of the Cabrini Museum, the Center of Spirituality, the school and Mother Cabrini's home.

Our group was delighted to meet some of the other Missionary Sisters in Sant'Angelo who prepared a lovely reception for our afternoon visit to the school. How special and grace-filled that day was and what a wonderful gift to be able to see where Mother Cabrini's life and ministry began!

The pilgrimage ended in Rome with a tour of the Vatican Museum and a visit to St. Peter's Basilica where we had a surprise meeting with Cardinal Stafford of Denver, who just happened to be there that day. We also were very happy to have the opportunity to meet up with Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC, General Councilor for the Stella Maris Province, who joined our group as we were touring near the Pantheon, on our walk to the Trevi Fountain and for a special trip to a gelato shop and a lovely dinner later that evening. Our group really appreciated the



Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC, (l.) joins Mother Cabrini Shrine Director of Development JoAnn Seaman (foreground left), Gift Shop Manager Shellie Marsh (r.) Shrine Gift Shop Manager and Fr. John Lager, OFM, Cap. for dinner in a little trattoria.



The pilgrims from Denver had a surprise and pleasant encounter with their own Cardinal Stafford who just happened to be in Rome when they were on their pilgrimage.

time with Sr. Bernadette and enjoyed meeting another Missionary Sister to continue the Cabrini story on our journey.

The final day in Rome was spent at the Vatican where we attended the Papal Audience with Pope Francis. It was a lovely day with thousands of pilgrims praying and receiving the Holy Father's blessing. This pilgrimage was a beautiful experience filled with many graces and blessings and our hearts are filled with gratitude for this time in Italy. ~ submitted by JoAnn Seaman



The conclusion of the trip brought a stirring highlight - the papal audience with Pope Francis. Here the group with thousands of others gathered in St. Peter's Square received the papal blessing.



Ms. Cindy Ross (back, 2nd r.) takes a moment for a photo with her students outside the Tenement Museum.

Sharing the Immigrant Story

Recently, Ms. Cindy Ross, staff member at the Holy Spirit Library, and Dr. Bobbi Jacquet, Library Director at Cabrini University, took 13 students from their ECG-100 classes entitled: "Coming to America" and "English with an Accent" to visit the Tenement Museum to learn more about immigration. Immediately following the tour, seven

of the students traveled with Ms. Ross to the Sacred Heart Convent to meet with the sisters and to gather their Christmas "wish lists" for the Library's annual campus Christmas Stocking gifts for the Cabrini Senior Sisters. ~submitted by Cindy Ross



Cabrini University students have the opportunity to become better-acquainted Sr. Mona Hallock, (standing, c.); Sr. Archangel Turco, (seated, l.) and Sr. Margaret Mary Hernandez (seated, r.)

Cabrini University Hosts Visionaries Gala



On Friday evening, November 4th, Cabrini University hosted the second Cabrini Visionaries Gala honoring the power of education and celebrating the individuals who embody the true spirit of Cabrini.

The event featured a cocktail reception, dinner, an auction and dancing. A highlight was the presentation of the Christopher Award for Extraordinary Leadership to Joanne Kovacs Balshi '69 and Dr. Thomas Balshi, DDS, FACP; HON '10; the Luminary Award to Cabrini alumni Eric Tidwell '96 and Michael Kazanjian '03 and the inaugural Compass Award to Shirley Dixon, '84, M.Ed '89.



From left: Visionaries Gala honorees from left: Michael Kazanjian '03; Eric Tidwell '96; Shirley Walker Dixon '84 M. Ed. '89; Joanne Kovacs Balshi '69 and her husband Dr. Thomas Balshi, DDS, FACP, HON '10; and Dr. Donald B. Taylor, Cabrini University President.



Proceeds from the event will go toward enhancing the student experience, helping to enhance Cabrini's mission of providing an Education of the Heart for our students. ~ from Cabrini U. website

To learn more:
<https://www.mothercabrini.org/news-and-publications/cabrini-university-hosts-visionaries-gala/>

University students served as greeters and ambassadors during the Visionaries Gala. Here the students pose for photos with the Cabrini Cavalier mascot (c.) and President (c. l.) and Mrs. Donald Taylor (c. r.) .

National Vocation Awareness Week

This is National Vocation Awareness Week, during which Catholics celebrate and encourage vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. It's important for every Catholic to participate in creating what the bishops call a "culture of vocations," and that includes praying for vocations and proposing vocations to young people. Many priests, sisters, and brothers have said that they first considered a



vocation when someone simply asked them if they would consider it. Do you know a special young person who might answer the call if you asked them the question?

In celebration of National Vocation Awareness Week, read GlobalSistersReport.org to see how sisters all over the world are working to improve the dignity of our communities.

Praying for Peace



Gathered to reflect on peace are members of the campus community. Last week, Sr. Grace Waters, MSC and the members of the MSC Mission Offices led the prayerful reflection.



Each Tuesday at 12:30 pm, the Cabrini University community is invited to gather on the front steps of Founders Hall, the main academic classroom building, for 15 minutes to reflect and join together for peace. This Moment of Peace is sponsored by the University's Wolfington Center, Campus Ministry and the Office of Student Diversity.

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.** ***Items must be brought to CIS by TOMORROW - 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.

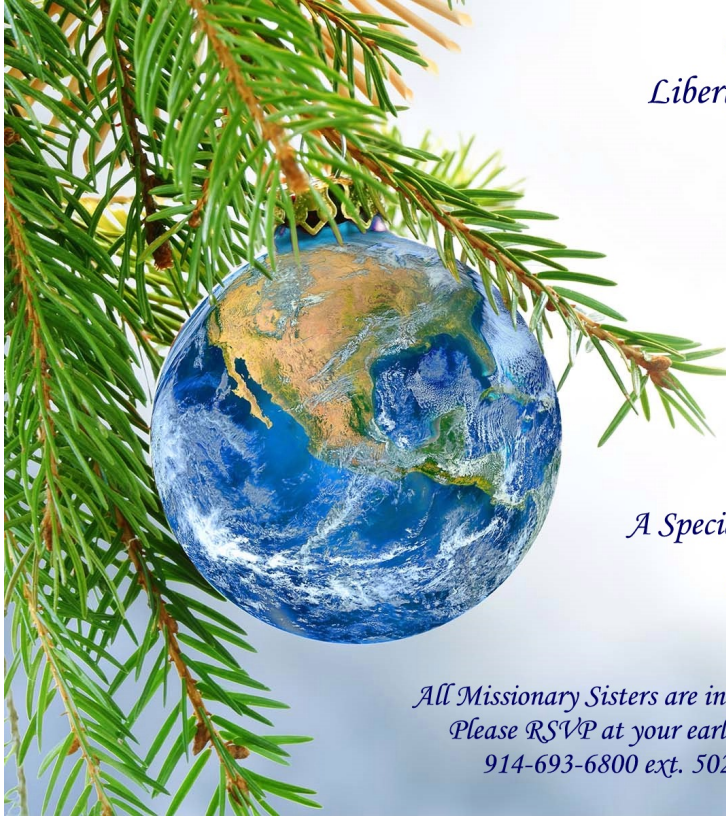


It is with your support and that of other generous individuals that Cabrini Immigrant Services can continue to make a positive impact on thousands of immigrant working class families. Please help us in whatever way is possible for you. Thank you.

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



Please see what your donations make possible.



*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*

**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 | info@cabrinishrinenyc.org

**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

Sunday, November 13th is the

Feast Day

of our Patroness,

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

In preparation for the Feast Day, please join us in praying the Mother Cabrini Novena. Kindly click here to access the novena prayers:

<https://www.mothercabrini.org/spirituality/cabrini-novena>



Prayer Requests

Maria Valente Breeser

Your prayers are asked for Maria Valente Breeser, a 1973 graduate of Cabrini College/University. Maria underwent surgery yesterday and tolerated her procedure well, however, she is in some discomfort. Please pray for a swift and uneventful recovery.

Elaine Chronis

Please pray for Elaine, the sister of Debbie Kavourias, a Mother Cabrini High School (MCHS) grad and former MCHS vice principal, who is having extremely serious spine surgery on Friday.

Bern Currie

Sr. Eileen Currie, MSC requests prayers for her brother Bern, who is currently undergoing treatment for protracted cancer. Pray that all will go well with this round of treatment.

Jim and Eleanor Currie

Your prayers are asked for Jim Currie, brother of Sr. Eileen Currie, MSC, who is also undergoing treatment for cancer. Please pray, too, for Jim's wife, Eleanor, who is ill with shingles. Pray that they will be restored to full health.

Sr. Eileen is most grateful for the prayers of the MSCs and the Cabrinian community for her brothers and her sister-in-law.

Becka Francis

Your prayers are asked for Becka, the daughter of Tom Francis, a long time employee of Mother Cabrini Shrine Colorado, who is recuperating from a severe infection.

Mary Jo Janc

We have received the following prayer request from Fr. Pio Jackson, OFM: "When my former superior was a young boy he had a serious infection in his leg which would have required amputation. His parents taped a first class relic of St. Frances Cabrini on his leg and the next morning the doctors discovered that they did not need to amputate. Now, [many years later] his sister has been diagnosed with a rare disease that is compromising her entire immune system. She has been given a relic of St. Cabrini. She is very much in need of prayer and healing. We are asking for the prayers of the Missionary Sister and Mother Cabrini. Thank you."

Bonnie and Bud Lager

Bonnie Lager, the mother of Fr. John Lager, OFM, CAP, longtime friend of the Missionary Sisters, just had breast cancer surgery and is doing alright at this time, but, has a long road to recovery. Please pray, too, for Fr. John's father, Bud, who is also in the hospital. Pray for Fr. John, as well, as he cares for his parents at this time.

Ray Lambert

Your prayers are requested for Ray Lambert, husband of Amy Lambert, a member of the Cabrini University Board of Trustees. Ray underwent heart surgery on Monday and is now recuperating. As of today, Amy reports that her husband's surgery went well and he seems to be recovering nicely. Amy and Ray thank the Missionary Sisters and the Cabrinian Community for your prayers and concern, which are so appreciated.

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Frances X. Cabrini, let us keep our Missionary Sisters throughout the world in prayer. We give thanks for their lives of service to the Church and to all those on the margins of society. May God bless you in abundance, Sisters.

Tyler

A Cabrini College staff member asks your continuing prayers for her grandson who is struggling with an addiction.

St. Cabrini, Woman of God, Woman of Spirit and Vision, intercede for us through the Heart of Jesus. May we always recognize Christ in the people we meet and respond to them with respect and sensitivity as you did. Amen.

