



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

THE UPDATE

November 19, 2015

We Give Thanks for Blessings Great and Small

Prayer at Harvest and Thanksgiving

Oh God, source of harvest and giver of all things,
You manifest your infinite majesty, power and goodness
in the earth which surrounds us.

We give you honor and glory...

For the sun and the rain,

For the fruits in our fields,

For the increase in our flocks and herds.

We thank you.

We thank you for your overflowing generosity to us.

We thank you for our families and friends.

We thank you for our health, our work and play.

Open our hearts to your love.

We ask for peace in our homes and in our world.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Photography by CMC missionary Ashley Block

“Today love must not be hidden... It must be living, active and true.”

~ St. Frances X. Cabrini

At the recent Provincial Assembly of the Missionary Sisters, one session focused on the way in which Cabrinian ministries are addressing the pressing issues of immigration, migration, refugees, asylum seekers and human trafficking.

This week, we continue our series of in-depth looks at individual Cabrinian ministries and we explore how they are responding to the needs of those who are experiencing upheaval in their lives due to war, poverty, violence, immigration or captivity.

Sacred Heart Center for New Americans

The Sacred Heart Center for New Americans provides English as a second language and basic computer instruction to adult immigrants of the Lower Hudson Valley Area. The school was established in 2012. The program offers a free on-going language and skill training opportunity for students who are motivated and willing to commit to continuing education.

The primary catchment area that the Center services are the towns of Highland, New Paltz, Port Ewen and Kingston, NY. The majority of immigrants in this area are from Mexico. Most are not new immigrants, but, have been living and working in the towns, villages and farms.

At the Center, they encounter both documented and undocumented immigrants. Documented immigrants acquire low paying jobs due to the lack of language and job training. Undocumented immigrants usually find jobs on the farms and are afforded housing and early childhood learning and schooling for their children. Both groups tend to have a stable but poor living situation. Their children progress well in the school system, while parents often remain illiterate and unskilled.

Their ESL and computer program works in conjunction with BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services), Catholic Charities of Kingston and local parishes. BOCES provides a certified ESL teacher, regular testing and school supplies while the sisters provide computer training and augment the learning experience with on-line vocabulary, reading and life-skill programs. The basic ESL course requires anywhere from three to five years to complete. Once the student reached the level of completion they are able to attend adult vocational training programs at BOCES educational center free of charge. The requirements are good attendance and continuation in the ESL program for continued support and assistance in the course of studies offered at BOCES.

The Missionary Sisters maintain a personal relationship with the students and are able to make appropriate referrals for various needs as they arise, from assistance with immigration status, citizenship, food stamps, nutritional instruction, clothing and food pantries.



~ from a report given at the Assembly by Sr. Aloysia Morelli, MSC

Cabrini High School, New Orleans, LA

Cabrini Students Float "Missionary" Boats in Bayou St. John



Cabrini High School students floated paper boats filled with “missionary” violets in Bayou St. John mimicking one of Mother Cabrini’s childhood past-times as part of the week of events commemorating her Feast Day on November 13th.

The students recreated one of Saint Cabrini’s favorite childhood activities, making paper boats filled with “missionary” violets and sending them out into the world to spread good and do God’s work. The students floated their boats in Bayou St. John across from the school, honoring Mother Cabrini and one of the school’s core values – service to others.

From an early age, Mother Cabrini had a great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As she grew older, her faith continued to grow and she longed to become a missionary and go to China. She was not accepted into any religious community because of her frail health, but she never lost faith. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the first missionary order for women in the Catholic Church.

As a young girl, Mother Cabrini made her own paper boats, filled them with purple violets and floated them in the stream near her home. The flowers represented missionaries she imagined sending them out to do good in the world, traveling to help those that were poor and most vulnerable. Even though she was afraid of water, she crossed the oceans many times to help make her dream a reality throughout the world. You will even find many of her institutions near a body of water. ~ *submitted by Nall Gearheard*



The Virgin Mary

Program Alert

On **Sunday, December 13th**,
the National Geographic Channel
will air a program on
the Virgin Mary,

The World’s Most Powerful Woman.

Check local listings for the exact time.

The December issue of National Geographic
will feature an article on Mary in Medjugorje.

Thanks to Sr. Joan Marie Sariti, MSC for this information.



What we do for ourselves dies with us.

What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.” — Albert Pine

Giving. Caring Hearts are Happy Hearts!



Cabrini High School students, faculty, and staff kicked off the Thanksgiving food drive for the Hispanic Apostolate of New Orleans as part of the celebration of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini's Feast Day on Friday, November 13th.

The Cabrini community is collecting food staples for New Orleans' Hispanic Apostolate, an outreach project of the Archdiocese of New Orleans that provides assistance to the Hispanic immigrant population. To commemorate Mother Cabrini's Feast Day, and as one of the school's core values, the Cabrini family embraces her passion for serving those immigrants to this country. Mother Cabrini spent her lifetime in the service of immigrants, which resulted in her being named the Patron Saint of Immigrants by Pope Pius XII.

~ submitted by Nall Gearheard

CMC missionary Denzel Stanislaus (c.) and Cabrini High School Assistant Principal Vivian Coutin (r.) help the Cabrini students pack up all the food donations.



National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Chicago, IL

Holds Feast Day Celebration



The National Shrine of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini celebrated Mother Cabrini's Feast Day with class!

On Friday, November 13th, we were honored to have Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago Most Reverend Francis J. Kane as celebrant. Escorting him into the Shrine were the Cabrini Knights of Columbus. There was a marvelous turnout of over 200 people!

After a beautiful Mass, we had a festive reception with light refreshments. It was a joyous day at The National Shrine!

~submitted by Barbara Willis, Development Manager

Cabrini Health, Australia

BOWLING UP A BIG DAY OUT

ONCE AGAIN THE CABRINI-CHILDREN FIRST (CFF) BIG DAY OUT WAS A WONDERFUL SUCCESS.

The children were picked up from the farm in Kilmore on the CFF bus with Rafx Hamilton from Engineering at the wheel, for the 60-kilometre trip (approximately 37 miles) to Maribyrnong.

This time the children's ages ranged from seven to fifteen years and their countries of origin were even more diverse: Papua New Guinea, East Timor, Palestine, Zambia, the Philippines and Vietnam. As usual, all the children

were awaiting, or recovering from, life changing surgeries and in most instances they had been separated from family for an extended time. The day was a fun distraction and they threw themselves into it.



Judging from their smiles, these youngsters had a really fun time during the Cabrini Day out.

Staff also jumped into the spirit of the day. Kiley Harkness from Communications took the lead role on this trip and said, "For me, it's about providing the children the chance to experience the feeling of being part of a group of people filled with love and compassion, while giving them a moment where they forget everything and just have fun. If I make them smile sometime during the day it makes it all worthwhile for me."

The Cabrini-Children First Big Day Out initiative began in 2004 to support the great work of the CFF in a different way. Staff who engage with Cabrini's Social and Community Engagement Program through volunteering can form special relationships with the children, some of whom they might meet through Cabrini's medical evacuation program or at subsequent outings. "A small core of our regular volunteers form friendships and the kids really start to talk, joke and open up," says Ruth Knight, Community Benefit Program manager. "Staff are always amazed at the transformation of some of the kids. Not just physical, post-surgical correction changes, but the boost in confidence that comes with that. It's overwhelming."



On this occasion, eleven staff and family members accompanied the children and all enjoyed two games of bowling before moving the festivities to a nearby park for a picnic. Food supplied by the Cabrini staff included savoury muffins, sandwiches, fruit, chips, jellies and homemade cakes and slices; so the children had quite a feast. It was amazing that at the end of the day they still had the energy to kick a footy, chase a frisbee and play ping pong – but they did. Here they were able to play freely and enjoy just being kids without thoughts of surgery or homesickness. ~ *submitted by Christine Elmer and Louise Gates*

A group of nine people, including men and women of various ages, posing for a photo in front of a church altar. The altar features a red cloth with a central image of the Virgin Mary and Child Jesus, and a banner with the text "MOTHER".

Looking for a nifty gift?

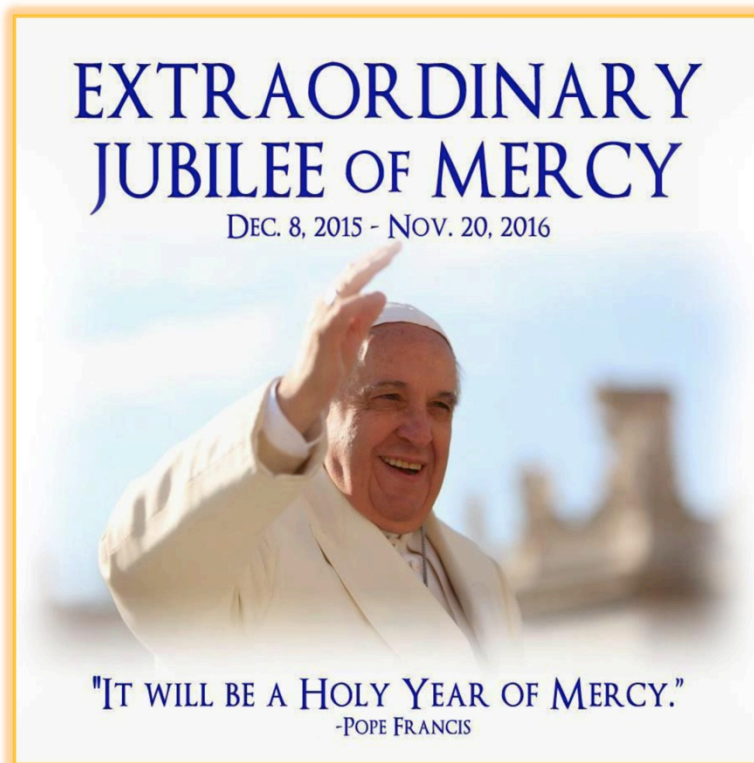
A large collection of handmade cards, many of which are tied with purple and gold ribbons and feature various designs including flowers, sunflowers, and abstract patterns. The cards are arranged on a dark surface, with some stacks visible on the left and right sides.

To order:

Blank note cards featuring beautiful photographic scenes from nature are the perfect choice for gift giving and benefit a most worthy cause at the same time.

SAINT FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE NYC OFFICIAL JUBILEE CHURCH FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

Rite of Opening the Door of Mercy
Sunday, December 13 – 2:00pm Multicultural Mass
Bishop Gerald Walsh and Father Ambiorix Rodriguez



JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE “The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life. Life itself is a pilgrimage, and the human being is a pilgrim travelling along the road. Everyone, each according to his or her ability, will have to make a pilgrimage... by crossing the threshold of the *Holy Door*, we will find the strength to embrace God’s mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us.” Pope Francis in *Misericordiae Vultus* #14

GIFT OF INDULGENCE “A Jubilee also entails the granting of indulgences. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy. God’s forgiveness knows no bounds... God is always ready to forgive, and never tires of forgiving in ways that are continually new and surprising. But the mercy of God is stronger even than this. It becomes indulgence on the part of the Father who reaches the pardoned sinner and frees them from every residue left by the consequences of sin.” Pope Francis in *Misericordiae Vultus* #22

St. Frances Cabrini Shrine, 710 Fort Washington Avenue, New York City

cabrinishrineNYC.org

Cabrini Immigrant Services, New York, NY

Continuing to help others during the holiday season



We're continuing to get ready for the holiday season here at Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC. On Tuesdays, we've started to distribute vouchers to local grocery stores to our clients so they can buy special food for Thanksgiving. We're also starting to buy Christmas gifts for our families, which Santa will distribute at our annual Christmas celebration on December 19.

We still need your help to make sure we have enough Thanksgiving vouchers and Christmas gifts for everyone. Any amount you can donate will help us guarantee that our community can celebrate this holiday season without worrying about whether they can afford a Thanksgiving meal or a Christmas gift. ~ *submitted by Madison Koenig, CMC missionary*

Please donate at www.cis-nyc.org/donate or mail a donation to Cabrini Immigrant Services, 139 Henry Street, New York, NY 10002. **Thank you!**

National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini Chicago, IL

PREPARING FOR THE HOLY YEAR OF DIVINE MERCY

With Fr. Louis Cameli, Archbishop's Delegate
for Formation & Mission

Please Save the Date:

Sunday, December 13

10am: Mass

11am: Program to follow

This free program is sponsored by
Stifel Nicolaus

Join Fr. Cameli as he celebrates the 10 am Mass at the Shrine and then enlightens us about this yearlong jubilee.

[Click here for more information](#)



Cabrini Mission Foundation

Spirit of Christmas Raffle!

Buy One – Support our Efforts!

Tickets are now on sale for the Cabrini Mission Foundation

Fabulous prizes will be awarded!

1st Prize - \$2,500 cash

2nd Prize - \$1,000 cash

3rd Prize - 2016 Entertainment Package including:

The Gift of Theater – One (1) \$300 gift certificate to Broadway.com

Two (2) tickets to a NY Yankees Home Game

If you are interested in selling tickets, please contact the Cabrini Mission Foundation office by phone at 212-228-8608 or email at mpaccillo@cabrinifdn.org. The seller of the 1st prize winning ticket will receive \$200!



Raffle Tickets - \$20 each

Please make checks payable to “Cabrini Mission Foundation”

Cabrini Mission Foundation

222 E 19th Street

Suite 5 E

New York, NY 10003

Drawing will be held on Friday, December 11, 2015 at 9 pm

Winner need not be present to win.



“You gotta’ be in it, to win it!”

The Update Publication Notice

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday in the USA next Thursday, November 26th,
The Update will not be published next week.
We will resume publication on Thursday, December 3rd.

For all those who will be celebrating in the US, we wish safe travels and a Happy Thanksgiving!
We give thanks for our Missionary Sisters, CLMs, CMC missionaries, Cabrini Companions and
Cabinian friends and colleagues throughout the world.

Prayer Requests

A gentleman named Tom

Please remember Tom in your prayers. Tom, a dear friend and colleague, is experiencing some difficult health issues. Requested by Marianne McGowan.

Eugene Block

Prayers are requested for Eugene Block, the grandfather of CMC missionary Ashley Block, who was recently diagnosed with cancer. Please pray that his treatments will be successful and that he will be restored to full health.

Our sisters and brothers in Paris, France

Our hearts go out to the people of Paris. We unite with them in their grief and in our humanity. We pray for all those who lost their lives last Friday and we pray for their family and friends who are left behind to mourn and to try to make sense of this violent assault.

We pray for all of human kind that there will be an end to the hatred and terrorism and that there will be peace and compassion in our hearts and peace on earth.

Laurence Whiteford

Mary Lou Caviglia Whiteford, graduate of MCHS with Antonina Avitabile MSC, requested prayers for her husband, Laurence Whiteford. He was just diagnosed with terminal cancer and was given 6 to 12 months to live. This is devastating news for her and the family so please help them storm heaven for peace at this time. This came about suddenly. He was cutting and chopping wood a week or so ago with Mary Lou. (Mary Lou is also related to the late Sr Annunciata Gandolfo, MSC who ministered in Denver for many years.)

In Loving Memory

M. Jane Durand

The Cabrinian Community joins the College Community in extending sympathy to Carol Kessler, Associate Professor, Education, on the loss of her mother, M. Jane Durand, who passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 3rd, 2015.

A Thanksgiving Reflection

November: Thanksgiving Day, harvest times, awareness of blessings, gratitude for gifts. It is significant and necessary for us to ponder deeply all that we have been given. If we reflect quietly and honestly, we can be almost overwhelmed by all that is ours. God has been very generous. None of the gifts has been earned. God gives all gifts freely. Even Jesus is an abundant free gift to us. God is lavish in love, generous in the outpouring of goodness. November is a good time to remember and thank this generous God. We are called to share these gifts with others in gratitude. *Happy Thanksgiving!*

