



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

THE UPDATE

November 3, 2016

Jubilee Celebrations!

A Witness of Missionary Life



It was my privilege and blessing to attend the celebration of Sister Benigna Morais' 60th Jubilee in the chapel at St. Anthony Hospital in Chicago on October 7, 2016. It was indeed a graced time for the community at St. Anthony's and all of us Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

It was obvious that Sr. Benigna has touched the lives of so many of God's people. It was so inspiring to see the diversity in the congregation. From Nigeria: the main celebrant Fr. Cajetan Ebuziem and concelebrants: Fr. Peter Muojekwu, Fr. Michael Okoro, and Fr.

Benedict Ezeoke. From Chicago: Fr. Bob Lombardo. Present in the packed Chapel were Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Sister Benigna's niece Andrea Resende Morais and her grandniece Sophia Resende Morais, the Administration, staff and employees of St. Anthony Hospital, the Missionaries of Charity of Mother (St.) Theresa and the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist of Chicago with their Founder, Father Bob Lombardo, CFR. Music was provided by Alma Molina of St. Agnes Bohemia Church and Tony, the violinist. Sister Joan McGlinchey gave the welcome in which she told of Sr. Benigna's origin in Brazil and her generous response to Jesus' call to be a Missionary. She described Benigna's

extensive travel on her missionary journey to minister to others – one year after profession to New York City to Cabrini Hospital in Harlem, NYC, studying nursing in Chicago, serving



Joining in the 60th Jubilee Celebration of Sr. Benigna Morais, MSC (c.) are from left: Missionary Sisters Joan McGlinchey; Catherine Garry; Bridget Zanin; Sr. Benigna, Renee Kittleson; Alfonsina Gomes; and Joaquina Costa.

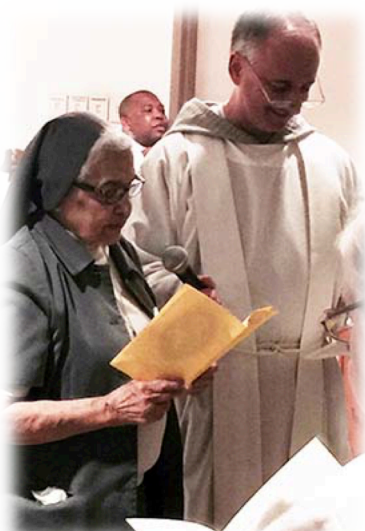


Photo above: Sr. Benigna renews her vows as Fr. Bob Lombardo stands by and listens attentively.

Photo below: Many priests concelebrated for Sr. Benigna's Jubilee Mass.



as an LPN in Seattle where she also studied for Pastoral care, ministering in Pastoral Care at St. Cabrini Hospital in Chicago as well as serving as local Superior and then her dauntless spirit as she transitioned to St. Anthony Hospital as Cabrini Hospital closed.

In the homily Father Kenneth Ekekwe exhorted everyone to “love one another” – the key to life, happiness and peace. James A. Sifuentes, Vice President, Mission and Community Development, commended Sr. Benigna for her dedication in Pastoral Care. He noted that for her it is a true vocation - not just a job. He also thanked her for the support she has given him during his time at St. Anthony's. Perhaps the strongest acclamation came from Guy Medaglia, President and Chief Executive Officer of St. Anthony's. Guy stated with no hesitation his great love and respect for Sr. Benigna and asserted in no small way that she is the “soul of St. Anthony Hospital”.

At the close of the liturgy Sister Benigna thanked everyone and stated clearly that this celebration was

not for her alone but for each of those present. She opened her arms wide and threw everyone a big kiss.

The Mass was followed by a simple reception in the small conference room. It was edifying to watch Elizabeth Zayas who had made all the programs and bookmarks work diligently to keep the platters of food coming for the guests.

The reception was open to all

the employees and as they passed through to greet Sr. Benigna and partake of the goodies. It was a magnificent witness to the dedicated, diverse and united community.

Nancy Golen, Executive Director of Cabrini Retreat Center, captured the moment when she commented that *“the celebration was a tribute to a little known and recognized ministry to an, underserved population representing a variety of cultures and backgrounds.”*

Thank you, Benigna, for responding to Jesus' call, for your generosity and persistence in giving of yourself day in day out. I am sure that Sister Caritas Moscati, your first Superior and mentor at Cabrini Memorial Hospital, looked down with love and pride on you this day.

~ submitted by Sister Catherine Garry, MSC



It was so special to have Sr. Benigna's niece Andrea Resende Morais (r.) and grandniece Sophia Resende Morais present for the Jubilee!

A Time to Give Thanks

On September 10, 2016, a celebration of thanksgiving was held at St. Cabrini Nursing Home in Dobbs Ferry, NY. Five Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus joined to thank God for the call to consecrated life and the graces bestowed upon them over the years enabling them to faithfully respond to that call.



The Jubilarians process into the chapel.



Sr. Ilaria Povero, MSC was surrounded by her family as she celebrated her 70th Jubilee.

Sister Adeodata Gatti, MSC and Sister Ilaria Povero, MSC celebrated 70 years, Sister Catherine Garry, MSC and Sister Romualda Molon, MSC celebrated 60 years and Sister Arlene Van Dusen, MSC celebrated 50 years. The Sisters were happy to celebrate at the Nursing Home so that the Sisters in residence could join in the Liturgy and festivities.

So many people generously assisted in the preparations and celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy, which took place in the beautiful chapel. Miguel Pigue and Housekeeping staff set up the Chapel. Father Edwin Robinson, OFM, was the celebrant and gave a very meaningful homily. Lorraine Campanelli, CLM, provided the piano music and Susan Herceg served as

song leader and soloist for the *Magnificat*. Sr. Susan Greene, RDC, designed the cover for the Mass booklet.

The congregation included Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, other Sister residents, Sr. Ilaria's family, members of the administration and staff, co-workers of Sr. Adeodata and Sr. Romualda, and friends.

Pat Krasnausky, CEO, and Bonnie Burke, Administrator, gave oversight to the whole event. The cafeteria and part of the Adult Day care were magically transformed into a dining area for the magnificent reception. Lorraine Horgan made sure that each table was adorned with beautiful violets – symbols of Mother Cabrini and the logo of the nursing home. Joe Bisaccia and the dietary staff did a stupendous job in



Sr. Adeodata Gatti (c.) enjoyed the festivities with her good friends Veronica Kurian (l.) and Karen Widman (r.).

providing scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and two beautiful cakes. It was truly a family affair as administrators and staff pitched in with the serving and collecting of dishes.

We are so grateful for a blessed day in which the sense of community permeated the proceedings and gave tangible witness to God's abundant love.

Thank you everyone at St. Cabrini Nursing Home!!

~ submitted by Sr. Catherine Garry, MSC



From left: Bonnie Burke, Karen Berlingo, Liliana and Andria Mieras and Susan Strangio enjoy the festive hors d'oeuvres.



Sr. Maria Caeti, MSC (c.) and Judy Schiavo (r.) Pastoral Care Volunteer, raise a toast to Jubilarian Sr. Romualda Molon, MSC (l.).



From left: Honored Jubilarians Sr. Adeodata; Sr. Catherine; Sr. Ilaria (seated); Sr. Arlene; and Sr. Romy, it's time to cut the cake!



May God Bless You!

National Vocation Awareness Week

November 6-12, 2016

National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renewing our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. NVAW began in 1976 when the U. S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year for NVAW. Beginning in 2014, NVAW was moved to the first full week of November.

A Prayer for Vocations

Loving and Generous God,
it is You who call us by name
and ask us to follow You.
Help us to grow in the Love
and Service of our Church
as we experience it today.

Give us the energy and courage
of Your Spirit
to shape its future

Grant us faith-filled leaders
who will embrace Christ's Mission
of love and justice.

Bless the Church by raising up
dedicated and generous leaders
from our families and friends
who will serve Your people as Sisters,
Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers.

Inspire us to know You better
and open our hearts
to hear Your call.

We ask this through our Lord. Amen.



Cabrini High's Sophomore Service Learning at Esperanza

Sophomore Religion Service Learning Program took Cabrini students to The Esperanza School in October. During their time there, Cabrini students read a book with their "buddy" from Esperanza. With a large immigrant family population at Esperanza, some, but certainly not all, need assistance with their English. After reading a story, the Esperanza students completed a worksheet. After the reading was complete, there was time for play and relaxation. By the end of the visit, a bond of friendship was formed between all involved. There are additional Esperanza trips scheduled this year for the Kindergarten, First and Second grades. The project is funded through a grant from The Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation Service Learning Program.

~submitted by Ardley Hannemann



CHS Sophomores Molly Nides (l.) and Donnell Miller work with two Esperanza students.

What Would Mother Cabrini Have to Say About the Syrian Refugee Crisis?

~ excerpts from an editorial by Cabrini University junior and [student newspaper] *Loquitur* Managing Editor Molly Seaman

Who is St. Frances Xavier Cabrini? Some may know her as the first American citizen saint, others may remember her as the foundress of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (MSC). In Radnor, PA, many know her as the reason we...call this campus our home, the name we proudly wear across our chest when we win yet another CSAC championship title and the reason we receive an education of the heart.

Yet, how many [students] remember Mother Cabrini as the Patron Saint of Immigrants? As a fierce advocate for humans of all skin tones and as a humanitarian with a deep passion for promoting the dignity and rights of every person no matter what their background may be?

Mother Cabrini's lifetime was known as the "new immigration" era in which over 3 million Italians made the perilous journey to seek refuge in America. At the time, this was viewed as one of the largest population shifts in history.

Fast-forward to 2016 and we are witnessing the biggest refugee and displacement crisis of our time.

The war in Syria has killed over 400,000 Syrians and displaced more than *12 million* civilians. Millions of people have not only lost their homes but the hope for their future and their children's future.

In fact, many of the extreme hardships, racism and downright unfair treatment that *our* ancestors faced is very similar to those of the Syrians today. Long, treacherous sometimes-unbearable journeys across the ocean; prejudice and extreme poverty upon arrival.

Upon her arrival in the United States until the day she died, Mother Cabrini and her sisters dedicated their entire lives to serving, loving and helping the immigrants that they encountered.

In 1880, Pope Leo XIII [advocated] for the care of the Italian immigrants coming to the US, much like Pope Francis does today.

In fact, last September upon his visit to Philadelphia, Pope Francis stated, "Many of you have immigrated to this country at great personal cost in the hope of building a new life. I ask you not to forget that, like those who came here before you, you bring many gifts to this nation. By contributing your gifts, you will not only find your place here, you will help to renew society from within."



However, how many of us ignore this call? How many would go above and beyond the call, like Mother Cabrini did to serve others?

[In December of 2015], the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus [supported] an official statement made by The Leadership Conference of Women Religious regarding their stance on the topic of the Syrian Refugee Crisis:

<https://www.mothercabrini.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/12.3.15.pdf>

According to the MSCs, it echoes their Corporate Stance on behalf of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

In the words of [St. Cabrini], “Take to heart the interests of the poor immigrants and direct them well when they land on these shores.” ~ *Molly Seaman*

Sr. Grace Waters, MSC responds to Molly’s Question...

“Mother Cabrini wouldn’t have to *say* anything because her actions would speak louder than words!

“The spirit of Mother Cabrini is already being evidenced with the Syrian refugees through dedicated individuals who are serving those who are fleeing and those who are in refugee camps.

“If Mother Cabrini were alive today, based on her life experience, I believe she would be in touch with Pope Francis to ask his blessing on her work. As she did in her day, she would seek official letters of approval to go about her work. In addition, she would ask the Pope for a donation for the refugees from the Vatican’s Peter’s Pence Fund.



Upon arrival in foreign countries, Mother Cabrini would present herself to the local ordinary and the local government officials.

She was always courteous yet persistent in reminding everyone that God would bless them for their help. Although she was only 4’ 11” in height, she was never afraid to ask those in authority for whatever she felt those of the margins of society needed.

Mother Cabrini would encourage both sister volunteers and laity to continue to “be bearers of the love of Christ in the world.”

IMPORTANT REMINDER for All:



From left: Monica Munoz; Scott Royce; Cabrini High School alumna Toni Zavala, '94; Rebecca Kudgus; Louisiana State Police Trooper Justin Berry; Jimmy Mullooly; Kelly Bartlett; Louisiana State Police Trooper Malcolm Brown; John Schmidt; and Cabrini Dean of Students Christen Conwell were all a part of the presentation on Internet Safety to the students at Cabrini High School.

Cabrini Safety Training Designed for Internet Safety

Cabrini High School conducted the annual Internet safety training for all students and faculty recently.



“We feel this iGuardian presentation is essential so we can make our young ladies stop and think before sharing on social media,” Cristen Conwell, Dean of Students explained. “Social media has become such a large part of our students’ lives and we want them to use it responsibly.”

Nine members of Homeland Security Investigations, including 1994 Cabrini alumna Toni Zavala, made the presentation with John Schmidt, Group Supervisor of Cyber Crimes and Trade Fraud Homeland Security Investigations, as the lead presenter.

The three main topics covered were over-sharing on social media, being aware of with whom you are interacting online (the dangers of child predators), and cyber bullying. Before the presentation the forensic team did a “social media dump” search of Cabrini from 48 hours prior to the presentation. As

students entered the gym, they may have seen their own social media posts if they were somehow connected to Cabrini. “It was very powerful visual example of how content can travel online,” she said. The presentation ended with a slideshow of positive social media that Cabrini puts out to show that social media is not inherently bad.

~ submitted by Ardley Hanemann

One Minute Meditation

If God is compassionate, then certainly those who love God should be compassionate, as well. Becoming like the heavenly Father is not just one important aspect of Jesus' teaching, it is the very heart of his message.

Henri J.M. Nouwen/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.



*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*

**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

**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

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>



During the week of All Saints and All Souls Cabrini High Honors Missionary Sisters Who Have Gone Before

[On November 1st and 2nd] Catholics around the world celebrated All Saints Day and All Souls Day and recognize the baptismal life in Christ by remembering those who have gone before. By coming together in a moment of collective remembrance, we are able to acknowledge our loved ones who are among the saints, honor their lives, and cherish our memories of them.



Sr. Alice Zanon, MSC, a member of the faculty at CHS, places a rose at the foot of one of the memorials.

Members of the Cabrini High School (CHS) administration, faculty, staff, alumnae, and student body visited the site of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus mausoleum, located in the historic St. Louis Cemetery No. 3 on Esplanade Avenue. At the site President Jack Truxillo, led a prayer service to pay homage to the 44 Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus who lay at rest, including the foundress of Cabrini High School, Sister Aloysius Almerico, MSC. The assembled gave offerings of prayers and flowers to the Sisters in remembrance of their lives of service to the order St. Frances Xavier Cabrini founded.

~ submitted by Ardley Hanemann



Photo above: Cabrini High School President Jack Truxillo (r.) led the prayer service at St. Louis # 3.

Photo below: At the mausoleum, the names of 44 Missionary Sisters are inscribed.



Prayer Requests

John D. Edwards

Prayers are requested for John Edwards at this time. Please keep him in your thoughts.

Kim H.

Kim is a 46-year-old young woman who is undergoing treatment for a rare cancer. The family extends their thanks and true appreciation for the power of prayer.

Rachel Lubberman's cousin

Rachel Lubberman, a staff member at Cabrini University, asks prayers for her cousin, Shannon, who is undergoing medical testing at this time. Pray that all will be well.

United States Presidential and Local Elections

For those in the United States of America, let us be reminded of our gift of freedom and take advantage of this gift and exercise our right to vote. May God bless this nation with leaders who are called to act with justice; who are ever mindful of those who are on the margins of society and who will govern fairly and honestly and be a voice for all the people.

In Loving Memory

Dr. David Burton

The Cabrini University Community mourns the loss of Dr. David Burton, former faculty member, who passed away on Saturday, Oct. 22nd, 2016. Mass will be offered in David's memory on Friday, November 18th, at 12:30 pm, in the Bruckmann Memorial Chapel of St. Joseph.

Frank Lombardi

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Frank, a friend of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in West Park, NY who passed away last week. Frank for many years was responsible for the burial of our sisters at our cemetery in West Park, NY.

Nicholas B. Sheetz

Nicholas B. Sheetz 63, of Newport, RI, formerly of Washington, D.C., died from complications of ALS on October 29, 2016. Born in Seattle, Washington on November 25, 1952, he was the son of the late Raymond and Elizabeth (Breier) Sheetz. His generosity towards friends was as proverbial as was his always beautifully planned dinners for them at his homes, clubs and favorite restaurants across continents. Nicholas graduated from Seattle Preparatory School and Georgetown University. After graduating magna cum laude from Georgetown with a double major in English and History, Nicholas learned Old Gaelic at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS) and later



earned a Masters degree in Celtic Studies from Catholic University. He was the manuscripts librarian in the Joseph Mark Lauinger Memorial Library at Georgetown University, where he helped build Georgetown's Special Collections. Nicholas was an avid book and manuscript collector. Tracking him through an antiquarian book fair was a little like following Sherlock Holmes in search of a clue. He counted among his many friends a number of poets and authors, including Seamus Heaney, Graham Greene, Norman Sherry, Shirley Hazzard, Phyllis Levin, Annabel Davis-Goff, Ned O'Gorman, Larry McMurtry and Larry Collins. He organized two exhibitions at the Grolier Club of New York: "Edward FitzGerald & The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam" and "William Everson: Poet, Printer & Monk".

Nicholas is survived by his beloved and devoted wife Diana Pearson; his brothers Frederick (Carolyn), Raymond (Joan) and sister Elizabeth Scheetz von Doemming (Gerd) and their families. His project for the last few years has been to develop The Nicholas B. Scheetz Center for the Study of Rare Books and Manuscripts at Fairfield University, where he intends to donate his collection of 22,000 rare books and manuscripts. Nicholas often said he "saved the past for the future."

The Scheetz Family has known the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart since their early days in Seattle, Washington when they attended Sacred Heart School. It was often mentioned that they would stay after school with Srs. Frances, Lorenzina, and Albertina, who cared for them until they were picked up by their parents. This bond with the Scheetz Family has remained strong over the years. Let us continue to hold the Scheetz Family in our prayers and thoughts during this time of their loss.



November

November: harvest times, awareness of blessings, gratitude for gifts freely given, Thanksgiving Day. 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 have been earned.

God is lavish in love, bountiful in the outpouring of goodness. This great munificence can draw us to look at our own generosity: How giving have we been with others in our lives? Are we people who freely offer our treasures to others?

A loving heart is one that can give freely of the gifts of compassion, understanding, patience and forgiveness.

November is a good time to remember and to thank our generous God. It also seems like an appropriate season to reflect on our gifts and on the call to share them gratefully. - Joyce Rupp