The Feast of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
November 13, 2017
She who “Shared the Journey” with Immigrants, Migrants and Refugees

A HYMN PIERCING THE DARKNESS

God of our Wandering Ancestors

I am an immigrant, a refugee, an exile from heaven.

You made America a place of immigrants and inspired Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini and her sisters, welcoming and comforting the immigrant, helping to make this nation a home for our children.

Mother Cabrini went down into the mines to meet immigrant workers where they were, her hymns piercing the darkness. But there are dark places I fear to go, people I fear to meet. Fill me with the words that have emboldened your shining saint: I have the strength for everything through God who empowers me.

May it be said of me that, like Mother Cabrini, I treated the stranger not as an alien, but as a brother or sister, greeting them with an embrace and a song of joy.

And when my days on Earth are done, may I be greeted by one such as she, by a hymn piercing even the darkness of death, welcoming me to God’s kingdom, an exile no longer.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, pray for us. Amen.
When Frances Xavier Cabrini arrived in New York from her home in Italy, her experience mirrored that of many immigrants in this world: she was told to go home.

A house that was promised for her and her sisters by the Archdiocese of New York was no longer available and the archbishop insisted that she return to Italy. She refused. Improvised housing was found and she and her sisters went to work scrambling (even begging) for funds, overcoming hardship after hardship, to ultimately found 67 institutions to serve the poor, the uneducated, the sick, the abandoned and especially the immigrant.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the death of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini whose feast day we celebrate on November 13th. It is no coincidence that the centennial of her death falls this year when Pope Francis launched Share the Journey, a global campaign inviting people around the world to love our immigrant and refugee neighbors, to get to know them because Mother Cabrini is the Patroness of Immigrants. ~ from www.sharejourney.org

Meet Your Neighbor

Ruth turned her dreams into reality thanks to DACA. What now?

Ruth* takes pleasure in doing simple things other parents may take for granted. One of the most notable is she can drive her kids to soccer practices, school and community services events without worrying about being stopped by law enforcement. But the joy and freedom Ruth experiences from taking her children to their activities may be in jeopardy.

Ruth came to the United States at age nine. Since she arrived, she has always lived in fear of being separated from her family due to her legal status in this country. She was young when she made the U.S. her home and didn’t understand all the legal challenges she would later face. Ruth says she was forced to live in the shadows, not being able to fully socialize with other kids.

As an adult, Ruth’s situation got even worse. She was not able to continue her dream of going to college. In fact, she could not even obtain a simple job or drive, or go to the emergency room without being asked for identification.

When former President Obama introduced DACA, Ruth says her life completely changed. DACA is the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. DACA provides no legal status or government benefits, but does provided recipients with temporary employment authorization to work in the U.S. and receive a reprieve from deportation.

On September 5, the Trump administration announced the DACA program will be terminated in the next six months. The future is uncertain for hundreds of thousands of people like Ruth who came to the U.S. as a child. What will happen next for Ruth?

* Not her real name. To read more of Ruth’s story: https://www.sharejourney.org/stories/ruth-turned-dreams-reality-thanks-daca-now
A Portrait of Mother Cabrini

As we anticipate the celebration of her Feast Day on November 13th, the Cabrini community pauses to take note of the recent passing of the well-known Australian realist portrait artist Paul Fitzgerald, AM, who painted a rendering of Mother Cabrini at the request of the late Sr. Irma Lunghi, MSC, who served at Cabrini Health in Australia for over twenty-five years. Mr. Fitzgerald died in June at the age of 94.

[The painting is based on the last known photograph of Mother Cabrini, a black and white photograph, taken when she was at the opening of the Sacred Heart School in Dobbs Ferry, NY on July 14, 1914.*]

This portrait hung in the main reception area at Cabrini Health Malvern for many years and most recently graced the reception area of Cabrini Residential Care in Ashwood.

The artist made his career as a professional painter of portraits over 60 years and painted in 15 countries throughout the world.

Speaking to Kairos magazine (the forerunner to Melbourne Catholic magazine published by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2013), Paul Fitzgerald said he had had a blessed and wonderful life, in which his Catholic faith had played an important part. “My faith underpins everything I do,” he said. In a 2004 article in the journal of religious opinion, AD 2000 he wrote, “I believe it is the task of a Christian artist to uphold the epiphany of beauty and goodness and adhere to the truth of God’s creation”.

And so, Cabrini Health is fortunate to have one of Mr Fitzgerald’s works for residents, staff and visitors to enjoy at Cabrini Residential Aged Care in Ashwood.

—from The Beat, with thanks to Christine Elmer and Aznara Davey

* This image of Mother Cabrini, which served as the model for the artist, appears to have been taken from a group photo in Sr. Mary Louise Sullivan’s book Mother Cabrini, “Italian Immigrant of the Century”, in which the caption reads, “Opening of Sacred Heart School, Dobbs Ferry, New York, July 4, 1914. This is the last photograph taken of her.” ~ Cabriniana Room, Cabrini College (CRCC)
Christopher Award for Extraordinary Leadership

honors the

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Named in deference to Mother Cabrini’s dream of launching a ship, The Christopher, to carry Christ’s message throughout the world, the Christopher Award for Extraordinary Leadership is given to those individuals whose life’s work embodies our core values of access to education and social justice.

Cabrini University thereby confers the 2017 Christopher Award upon The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Founded by Cabrini’s namesake, Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is an international missionary congregation of women religious present on six continents and in 15 countries of the world that carries on the apostolic work of Saint Cabrini.

The MSCs have served as the foundation of Cabrini (College) University, from our Sister Presidents to the charism of the MSCs’ that underpins and forms the University’s mission of providing an Education of the Heart and defines our core values built upon the words of Mother Cabrini: to be “bearers of the love of Christ to the world.”

~ adapted from the Cabrini University website entry on Visionaries Gala
With today’s edition of THE UPDATE we conclude a brief series on vocation ministry taken from an article written by Father Joseph Nassal, C.PP.S. which appeared in the Summer 2017 edition of HORIZON, the journal of the National Religious Vocation Conference. Fr. Nassal has worked in vocation, retreat, renewal, and reconciliation ministry. His article is intended primarily for those who work in vocation ministry in religious congregations, yet, his words hold great value for everyone, no matter what your vocation in life.

Six Ways to Thrive in Your Vocation

# 6 Practice kindness

Embracing our imperfections reminds us that we are not invincible and teaches us to be vulnerable. When we are in touch with our own vulnerability, we learn a little more about compassion. Creating an environment for discernment where the candidate experiences a compassionate presence and feels safe enough to share his or her story is one of the most important gifts a vocation minister can give to a person sensing a call to religious life.

To be a compassionate presence in the world where there is so much apathy and indifference, to practice such kindness, we must first go inside and sense the fire of God’s love burning within us. This is where compassion begins because as Henri Nouwen wrote, “When I really bring others into my innermost being and feel their pains, their struggles, their cries in my own soul, then I leave myself, so to speak and I become them; then I have compassion.”

Kindness is born when we learn compassion. And we learn to be compassionate from our losses.

The memory of those who have loved us, encouraged us, and challenged us; the love and compassion we have experienced with God in silence and prayer, in the faith communities we serve and the people we have met along the way; and the name we carry that expresses the charism and spirituality of the life to which we are called will keep us going in our vocation ministry as we seek to create safe places for those we accompany on the journey.

As we journey forward in faith, may these six points fuel our souls to keep the faith, stay calm and carry on.

This concludes our series on Thriving in Your Vocation.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Feast Day
November 13

Please join us in praying the Novena for the Feast Day.

The Novena is on-line on the www.mothercabrini.org website
Please click here to access:
https://www.mothercabrini.org/spirituality/cabrini-novena
Save the Date!

Cabrini Immigrant Services Annual Liberty & Justice Awards Reception

November 16, 2017
Estherwood Mansion
Dobbs Ferry, NY

Honoring:
Thomas Dobbins
Coordinator of Justice and Peace
Producer, Sirius XM Radio
at Catholic Charities of New York

The Sisters of Charity of New York

And in Special Recognition of

Marianne McGowan
Cabrini Immigrant Services
ESL Coordinator, 2002-2017

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
SISTER REGINA PALAMARA
MISSIONARY SISTER OF THE SACRED HEART

Cordially invites you to

CELEBRATE THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF

Mother Cabrini

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
OF HER TRANSITION INTO ETERNAL LIFE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH
TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN
MASS 11’OCLOCK IN THE MORNING

SAINT FINBAR CHURCH
2010 OLIVE AVENUE, BURBANK, CALIFORNIA

DESSERT RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
AT HOLY SPIRIT CENTER
St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine, NYC

St. Frances Cabrini

FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

10:00 am  French Mass
12:00     Italian Mass
1:00 pm   Traditional Procession
          Led by Italian band. (Weather permitting)
2:00 pm   Spanish Mass

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

11:00 am  English Mass
          Celebrant: Bishop Gerald Walsh
1:00 pm   Filipino Mass
3:00 pm   Spanish Mass
          There will be a blessing with the relic of St. Cabrini after each Mass.

St. Frances Cabrini Shrine
701 Fort Washington Avenue  New York, NY 10040
(212) 923-3536  CabriniShrineNYC.org

Save the Date!  Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 5:00 pm
Bilingual Mass for the closing of the Centenary Year with Cardinal Timothy Dolan

Misa Bilingüe Por el Centenario de la Muerte de Santa Francisca Cabrini
Sábado 16 de Diciembre, 2017 a las 5:00
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Feast Day Celebration
Sunday, November 12

8:00 a.m.
Mass & Veneration of the Relic

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Food & Bake Sale & Gift Shop Open House

11:00 a.m.
Mass & Veneration of the Relic

2:00 p.m.
Spanish Mass & Veneration of the Relic
Happy Feast Day,  
Mother Cabrini!  
November 13

Prayer to Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

O Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, who found in the Divine Heart of Jesus the secret of sanctity and the strength to carry His message to many nations, look kindly upon me and hear my prayer.

Inspired by Christ's charity you went about helping many in their spiritual and temporal needs; from the glory of Heaven, where your charity is not lessened, grant my petition and obtain for me the grace I so urgently desire. (Mention your request.)

From the Sacred Heart of Jesus obtain that His Kingdom may be established in this world, now divided by hatred and dissensions; secure peace among nations, conversion of the sinners, health to the sick, alleviation for the victims of war, deliverance of the souls in Purgatory, salvation for the human race redeemed by Christ Our Savior. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

(An Indulgence of 300 days.)

Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago  
July 7, 1946

The Shrine will celebrate the Feast of Mother Cabrini on Sunday, Nov. 12 during the 10am Mass. Light refreshments will be served after.
Frances Xavier Cabrini: The People’s Saint

The US Premiere of the documentary by Lucia Mauro
Tuesday, December 5, 7pm
Bryn Mawr Film Institute, Bryn Mawr, PA

Please consider joining us for the premiere of the new documentary film, Frances Xavier Cabrini: The People’s Saint. Ticket prices begin at $20 and include popcorn and soda. This event is likely to draw people from all over the Philadelphia area with a connection to Mother Cabrini and her charism; come out and enjoy an enlightening evening of good conversation and fine filmmaking.

The director and producer, Lucia Mauro and Joe Orlandini, will join us to introduce the film and for a talkback following the screening. There are also opportunities to join them for more intimate conversation over wine and cheese.

Click here for more information about tickets or contact the Wolffington Center at 610-902-8431.

The film explores the environment and deep spirituality that shaped Mother Cabrini – the Patron Saint of Immigrants and Hospital Administrators – in honor of the Centenary of her passing. It reintroduces audiences to the first American citizen saint and addresses her relevance today for refugees and immigrants around the world. Mother Cabrini -- despite frail health and a fear of water - - crossed the ocean many times to administer to the poor, the sick and children and established schools, hospitals, and safe havens across Europe and the Americas. The film begins in her birthplace of Sant’Angelo Lodigiano, Italy and takes viewers through her brave, tireless commitment to serve those in need in the United States, as well as her global reach. The film includes enlightening interviews with author-scholar Achille Mascheroni, Sister Bridget Zanin, Father Richard Fragomeni, artist Meo Carbone, architect Christopher Payne, Sister Maria Regina Canale, Youth Ministers from the Archdiocese of Chicago, and more.

~ submitted by Tom Southard, Cabrini University Wolffington Center
Handbag SALE

Please join us on Tuesday, December 5
at Cabrini University in Grace Hall Atrium
610 King of Prussia Road, Radnor, PA 19087
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
(New and Like New Items at Very Low Prices)

Cabrini Action & Advocacy Coalition
& Cabrini University's ECG Class 200

Rescued Trafficked Victims Need Our On-Going Help
Proceeds from this sale will help support our
“Cabrini Closet” efforts to supply rescued victims of
human trafficking with much needed items.
Part of the proceeds will also benefit
New Day Drop-In Center

(Cash & Checks Only)

If you have new or like-new purses that you would like to donate,
you can deliver or mail them to:
The Cottage at Cabrini University
1260 Upper Gulph Road, Radnor, PA 19087
For further information: Karol Brewer – 610-902-1038
Prayer Requests

Dolores “Marie” Takes
Your prayers are asked for Dolores “Marie” Takes, the mother of Deb Takes, Trustee Emerita of Cabrini University. Mrs. Takes had two recent falls during which she first broke her kneecap and subsequently, fell again and broke her hip. She underwent surgery earlier this week and is undergoing physical therapy. Please pray for her recovery from surgery and her long-term health. Please pray, too, for Deb, who will be caring for her mom as she recovers.

Lechia Taylor
Please keep Lechia, the wife of Cabrini University President Dr. Donald Taylor, in your prayers. Lechia is scheduled to undergo several procedures on her eyes in the next few days. Pray that all will go well and that she will recover quickly.

In Loving Memory

Victims of the Church Shooting in Texas
With heavy hearts we unite in prayer for the congregation of the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, Texas. We pray for all those who have been killed and injured. We pray also for their family members and friends who are trying to cope with this violent tragedy. Pray for an end to gun violence.