



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

THE UPDATE

December 10, 2015

"I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is a journey that begins with spiritual conversion. For this reason,

**I Have Decided to Call An Extraordinary Jubilee that is
to have the Mercy of God at its center. It shall be**

A Holy Year of Mercy

~ Pope Francis
April 11, 2015

"The Year of Mercy shall be from December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016. We want to live this year in the light of the Lord's words: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36). May the whole Church find in this jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful God's mercy, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time."

Our task is to contemplate, imitate and adopt God's mercy as our lifestyle. The Holy Year which began on the Feast of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, recalls God's merciful actions from the very beginning of mankind's history to draw us back into the right relationship with God and others that was lost because of sin. God responds with the fullness of mercy. No one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive.

Pope Francis desires that this Jubilee Year "will be steeped in mercy, an extraordinary time of grace, so that we can go out to every man and woman bringing the goodness and tenderness of God! May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the kingdom of God is already present in our midst."

Jubilee years are characterized especially by prayer, good works, pilgrimages to sacred sites (especially Rome) and special indulgences for those who participate.

~ Pope Francis, All Saints Press and Words of Grace



Pope Francis opened the holy door in St. Peter's Basilica towards the end of the Mass on Tuesday. The Pontiff asked God to grant "a year of grace, a favorable time to love you and our brothers and sisters in the joy of the Gospel."

“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 or captivity.

Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY

Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS) Dobbs Ferry offers the following services to those who come for assistance:

Immigration Services:

- Assist clients regarding their eligibility for citizenship.
- Offer English classes and citizenship test preparation for adults
- Assist adult students to gain conversational skills in the Conversation Partners Program
- Work with an immigration attorney and the medical director of St. Cabrini Nursing Home to obtain documentation for clients who are unable to take the citizenship exam due to a cognitive disability.
- Make referrals to immigration attorneys

Educational Services:

- Offer English classes to adult learners
- Offer an after-school program for English Language Learners
- Offer parents access to computers
- Assist students with college applications, homework, term papers, etc.

Social Services:

- Assist with job searches/resume writing/housing
- Assist clients in obtaining needed services

Other:

- Refer clients to SPRING Community Partners. SPRING assists in giving children the resources needed to succeed in school and beyond. CIS also refers families to the local food pantry.
- Offer free flu shots – vouchers were made available for the uninsured
- Will be offering free blood pressure checks monthly



~ from a Provincial Assembly presentation by Lorraine Campanelli,
Director of Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY

Cabrini College, Radnor, PA

Speaking Truth to Power



18 Cabrini College students made 38 lobby visits Friday on behalf of our brothers and sisters around the world who are refugees fleeing war, experiencing climate change, or hoping to live a fully human life. So proud of these students, as well as several hundred Cabrini students in prior years, who have risen to the challenge to master difficult material, negotiate political differences, discover their core values, overcome nervousness, in order to speak truth to power.

Well done! Wanda Hernandez, Cabrini Mission Corps Rachel Recolcolin, Julia Alexis, Sarah Davis, Cabrini Missioner Morgan Perry, CRS Ambassador Casey Semenza, Cabrini Missioner Vanessa Miranda, Katie Montella, Cristabel Ruiz, Mike Burrell, Jordan Floyd, Alissa Oliveras, Kiley Sharp, Jerome Bailey, Steve Halko, Leonard Brock, Amina Etienne, Kalle Blindenbacher



Cabrini Mission Corps missionaries Rachel Recolcolin (2nd l.) Morgan Perry (c.) and Vanessa Miranda (3rd r.) joined with Cabrini College students in lobbying members of Congress regarding refugees, climate change and funding for poverty.

They spoke with aides to Senator Pat Toomey, Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr., Congressman Joe Pitts, Congressman Robert Brady, Congressman Chaka Fattah, Congressman Patrick Meehan, and Congressman Brendan Boyle

Supporting the work of [Catholic Relief Services](#) and [CRS University](#), they delivered 400 letters supporting CRS's [#IAmClimateChange](#) campaign and the Green Climate Fund. They spoke in support of \$1 billion in additional funding for Syrian refugees, as well as to maintain or increase poverty-focused development assistance.

Beginning in 2008, students each semester have traveled to our nation's Capitol to meet with our elected representatives in conjunction with Catholic Relief Services and the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to "[Confront Global Poverty](#)." This year, Pope Francis has placed special attention on Caring for Our Common Home and climate change, and these students responded by discussing climate change with congress during the very weeks leaders from around the world are meeting in Paris to come to an historic agreement. Similarly, in this contentious time, these students also bravely spoke about Syrian refugees

and our duty to protect refugees seeking safety.

These students truly continue the work of St. Frances Cabrini, the patron saint of immigrants, after whom Cabrini College is named. #JusticeMatters

~submitted by Dr. Jerry Zurek

More photos at <https://www.flickr.com/ph>

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 and Mission

Please Save the Date:

Sunday, December 13

10 am: Mass

11 am: Program to follow – this free program
sponsored by Stifel Nicolaus

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

[Click here for more information](#)

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

Celebrates Feast Day



The Shrine Chapel welcomed a standing room only crowd on November 13th in honor of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini's Feast Day. Saint Cabrini is the first American citizen Saint and the Patron Saint of Immigrants

The Most Reverend Francis J. Kane, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, celebrated Mass and during his Homily reminded us all to know, live and share our faith in the spirit of Mother Cabrini.

The Knights of Columbus Honor Guards added a regal touch to the festivities. Afterwards, a reception was enjoyed by all.

~ submitted by Linda Thornton, Shrine Office Manager

The Knights of Columbus form an honor guard for the Most Reverend Francis J. Kane, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago following the Feast Day liturgy.

Cabrini High School, New Orleans, LA *Holds Dresseember Event to Aid Victims of Human Trafficking*

Cabrini High School held a Dresseember event to raise money for Eden House and generate awareness of Human Trafficking.

Cabrini's Dresseember event allowed students to wear dresses to school instead of their uniforms in exchange for a donation to Eden House, local transitional housing for victims of human trafficking. The event is part of an educational series developed by Vivian Coutin, assistant principal, and Laura Arand, director of Campus Ministry, on human trafficking to coincide with Mother Cabrini's Feast Day, cognizant of Mother's concern for immigrants and women, two groups traditionally victims of human trafficking.



Cabrini High School students dress up for school as a fundraiser for Eden House, transitional housing for victims of human trafficking.

The Dresseember Foundation works in conjunction with the International Justice Mission, a human rights organization that rescues victims of slavery and sexual exploitation. An International movement, Dresseember originated in the fashion and creative industries to promote dignity and freedom for all women.



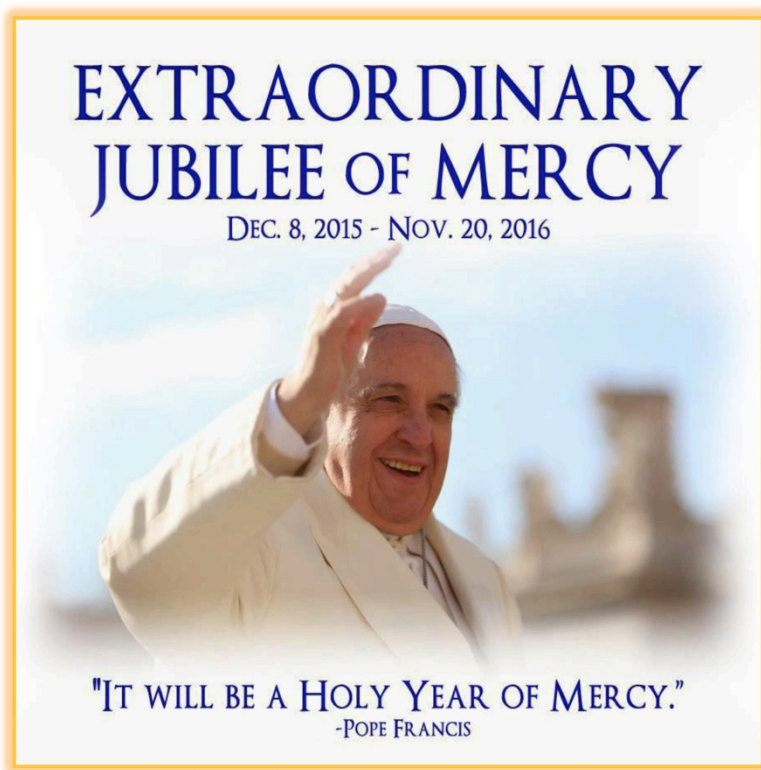
Dresseember continues the tradition at Cabrini High School supporting the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus' commitment to stop human trafficking, a practice affecting 30 million people worldwide. Though education is the main focus of Cabrini's efforts, Dresseember did raise hundreds of dollars for Eden House, a New Orleans outreach program that helps victims of human trafficking rebuild their lives. Dresseember also strives to develop self-esteem in women by promoting appropriate dress that is fashionable, modest, dignified, and feminine. ~ *submitted by Nall Gearheard*

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

Christmas is getting closer...

Get your "Bloom Where You're Planted" blank notecards benefitting the good works of Cabrini Mission Corps today! Makes a fabulous gift.



Lovingly assembled by CMCs
and MSCs. Photography by
CMC's own Ashley Block.

Adorned with Mother Cabrini and Sacred Heart of Jesus medal. It doesn't get any better than this!
Order yours today!

To order:

<http://www.cabrinimissioncorps.org/product/blank-bloom-where-you-are-planted-notecards>



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.

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. We're 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 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 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!



This is the Second Week of Advent

For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear, much in our fleeting lives is not passing but lasting, not dying but coming to life, not temporary but eternal. Amid the fragility of our lives, we have wonderful reason to hope.

Some call this hidden reality “grace,” others “God’s life in us,” others still “the kingdom of God among us.” Anyone who believes, Jesus reminds us, has eternal life. (John 6:40) Become aware of God’s presence in the human family. It is the life of the divine Spirit within us.

~ Henri J. M. Nouwen

Save the Date Cabrini Day of Prayer, Reflection and Restoration March 12, 2016



SAVE THE DATE

Where?

Cabrini College, Radnor, PA 19087

When?

Saturday, March 12, 2016, 10AM-4PM

Who?

All are welcome! Cabrini College Employees, Cabrini Companions, Cabrini Lay Missionaries, Cabrini Missioners and Alums, and MSCs

What?

Come join the Cabrini Community for a day of Prayer, Reflection and Restoration - \$25. Includes continental breakfast, boxed lunch, afternoon refreshments and materials. Pre-registration begins January 4, 2016.

Event sponsored by:



Prayer Requests

Scott Ryan

Dr. Anne Marie Borneman, Cabrini College alumna and Board member, requests prayers for Scott Ryan, a friend of Anne Marie's daughter Liz. Scott has a wife and two very young children and was diagnosed with cancer. He is now in very critical condition and will not recover. Please pray for Scott, his wife Rachel and their children Arthur (1 year) and Lillyan (4 years). This is such a tragedy for this beautiful young family.

In Loving Memory

Suzy Haffner

Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC requests prayers for Suzy Haffner, an alumna of Mother Cabrini High School, who returned home to God recently. She was a beloved teacher, devoted wife and dear friend to many of her former classmates.



The Update

Next week will be the last edition of The Update for 2015.

Due to scheduling in the Province Communications Office, we will be publishing on **Wednesday, December 16th**.

Kindly submit all news stories and submissions by noon on Tuesday, December 15th at noon. Thank you.