



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

THE UPDATE

March 9, 2017

Dr. Donald B. Taylor, President of Cabrini University, shared the following message with the campus community this week: "Being the only university in the world named for the Patron Saint of Immigrants, it is important to share with you the excellent statement issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Migration regarding President Trump's recent executive order."

The complete text appears below:

U.S. Bishops Chairman on Migration says New Executive Order Still Leaves Many Innocent Lives at Risk

March 6, 2017

WASHINGTON—The Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez, Bishop of Austin and Chair of the USCCB Committee on Migration, says that President Trump's latest Executive Order still puts vulnerable populations around the world at risk. In a statement issued after the announcement of today's travel suspension, Bishop Vásquez says that while we seek to maintain our values and safety, we must also exercise compassion in assisting and continuing to welcome the stranger.

Bishop Vásquez's full statement follows:

"We remain deeply troubled by the human consequences of the revised executive order on refugee admissions and the travel ban. While we note the Administration's efforts to modify the Executive Order in light of various legal concerns, the revised Order still leaves many innocent lives at risk.

The removal of one of the original seven predominantly Muslim countries temporarily barred from entering the United States is welcome, but we are disappointed that the revised order maintains the temporary shutdown of the U.S. refugee admissions program, continues the more than 60 percent reduction in the number of refugees who can be resettled into the United States this year, and still temporarily bars nationals from six predominantly



Muslim countries from entering the United States.

The U.S. Catholic Bishops have long recognized the importance of ensuring public safety and would welcome reasonable and necessary steps to accomplish that goal.

However, based on the knowledge that refugees are already subjected to the most

vigorous vetting process of anyone who enters the United States, there is no merit to pausing the refugee resettlement program while considering further improvement to that vetting process.



The United States has long provided leadership in resettling refugees. We believe in assisting all those who are vulnerable and fleeing persecution, regardless of their religion, including Christians, Muslims, and all others. We

believe that by helping to resettle the most vulnerable, we are living out our Christian faith and “welcoming the stranger” as Jesus has challenged us to do.

Today, more than 65 million people around the world are forcibly displaced from their homes. Given this extraordinary level of suffering, the U.S. Catholic Bishops reaffirm their support for, and efforts to protect, all who flee persecution and violence, as just one part of the perennial and global work of the Church in defense of vulnerable persons. Resettling only 50,000 refugees a year, down from 110,000, does not reflect the need, our compassion, and our capacity as a nation. We have the ability to continue to assist the most vulnerable among us without sacrificing our values as Americans or the safety and security of our nation.” ~ *with thanks to Dr. Donald Taylor*



From the Province Vocation Promotion Team ...



On Wednesday, March 8th, the MSCs participated in an inter-congregational Gift of Mission vocation day for the high school juniors of Berks County Catholic High School. The day was hosted by the Bernardine Franciscans on the campus of Alvernia University.

“Cabrini Crunch!”



Regina O’Connell, a resident of St. Cabrini Nursing Home, wanted to reach out to the children from Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS), Dobbs Ferry. She presented her idea to the Resident Council and the “Cabrini Crunch” Mission-in-Action fundraiser began. The residents asked that visitors donate a box of cereal when they come to visit their family member or friend. Quickly the bins were being filled with different types of cereal. Many of the residents asked their family member to buy a box of cereal for them so they too can donate to such a good cause.

On Wednesday, March 8th, many of the children who attend the afterschool homework program at CIS and their parents went to the nursing home to pick up their cereal. The children are in Grades 1-5. You can only imagine the look on the faces of the children when they saw nearly 200 boxes of cereal! They were thrilled to be able to go and pick out whatever boxes they wanted. I don’t know who was smiling more, the children, the parents or the residents.

When asked where the idea came from, Mrs. O’Connell said that she listened to a presentation about CIS and heard the story of a father getting a food card and then said to his son, “Now we can go and buy the cereal you wanted.”



Cabrini Kids with Jay Holman, and Regina O’Connell who spearheaded the Mission-in-Action fundraiser.



The smiling faces of the children show how happy they are to receive the cereal. The Cabrini residents are there to join in the fun, from left: Michael Cruise, Jay Holman, Regina O’Connell, Br. Hildreth Berton, SA and Sr. Catherine McIntyre, RJM.

She began to reminisce about her children growing up and how much they loved cereal. With that thought and the fact she feels the residents of the nursing home have so much, she wanted to ‘spread the wealth.’

On behalf of the children and the families at CIS, I want to thank the Resident Council for all they do to help support CIS. The Cabrini Crunch was a huge success! Truly, we saw the Cabrini Mission in action. God bless you for putting smiles on so many faces.

~ submitted by Lorraine Campanelli



Cabrini High School Achievements and Honors



Art award winners Erin Hayes (l.) and Rebekah Alvarenga. Congratulations, young ladies!

Cabrini Juniors Rebekah Alvarenga and Erin Hayes each won an honorable mention in the inaugural State Rally Art Competition with their original works in two separate media.

Rebekah did a charcoal and conte crayon rendering of the hand, paper, and feather titled "Frustrations of a Writer." Rebekah is in AP Studio Art. Erin's painting was done in acrylic paint and is entitled "La vue d'une cuisine" ("A View from the Kitchen"). Erin is currently in Art II.

Schools were allowed to only send five pieces each to compete for first through third places and up to 10 Honorable Mentions. Cabrini won two honorable mentions.

~ submitted by Cabrini High School



The Cabrini High School Chamber Ensemble under the direction of Elizabeth Argus earned Superior Ratings at the Louisiana Music Educators Association Solo and Small Ensemble Regional Festival. These singers have all qualified for advancement to the Louisiana State Rally Music Event.

~ submitted by Cabrini High School

One Minute Meditation

"If we look forward to receiving God's mercy, we can never fail to do good so long as we have the strength. For if we share with the poor, out of love for God, whatever God has given us, we shall receive according to God's promise a hundredfold."

St. John of God

A Culinary Footnote to His Curriculum Vitae



Dr. Mark Kiselica prepared a delicious pancake breakfast for the Missionary Sisters and the Cottage ladies.

Dr. Mark Kiselica joined the Cabrini University community mid-year in 2016 as the Founding Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. He has had a most distinguished academic career with many certifications and honors to his name. Dr. Kiselica was attracted to Cabrini University because he and his family have long had a special devotion to Mother Cabrini. The Cabrinian charism and the core values of the University resonated with him as he interviewed at Cabrini. Since his arrival he has gained a special respect and affection for the Missionary Sisters and their works around the world on behalf of those on the margins of society.

As a way of expressing his appreciation for the Missionary Sisters, Dr. Kiselica tapped into another area of his interests – cooking! He graciously invited Sr. Grace Waters, MSC and Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC and the ladies who work in The Cottage on the Cabrini University campus for a special pancake breakfast in his Grace Hall office on March 9th.

Specialty pancakes were the order of the day, as the guests enjoyed a mid-morning breakfast together as Dr. Kiselica shared his collection of religious artifacts with the group. An engaging conversation about Mother Cabrini, the Cabrinian charism and the history of the University rounded out the morning. What a lovely way to become better acquainted! Thank you, Chef Mark Kiselica.



Dr. Mark Kiselica (3rd l.) welcomes from left: Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC; Sr. Grace Waters, MSC; Karol Brewer, Province Formation Office; Nancy Costello, Province Communications Office; and Beth Moy, Executive Director of SEPCHE.

Thank you, Mark, for your gracious hospitality and delicious pancakes.



This Lenten season, in what has become a beloved tradition, the Missionary Sisters and some of their lay collaborators will be offering reflections on the Gospels of the Sundays of Lent.

This week's reflection is written by Sr. Martha Lopez Prada, MSC.

March 12th - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9 (25) Pss II

ENLARGING THE PLACE OF OUR TENT: EXPERIENCE OF TRANSFIGURATION



In those days it echoed in the heart of Sr. Pietrina: "Expand the tent of your Province and go to the land that I will show you, now it is the favorable time." And after a prudent time of prayer and discernment, in the splendor of the cloud I heard the voice of the Father who said: This is my Will and that of my Son, the Beloved; listen to Him ".

And there was Moses, the great deliverer of bondage, who gave hope to the anguished people. And there was Elijah, the great prophet who did not let himself be felt, neither in the strong wind, nor in the earthquake nor in the fire, but in the soft and delicate sound of a deep motion and inspiration: to open a new mission in the City of Denver.

And we could exclaim with all spontaneity: "Here we are well in the Shrine, let us continue in our already established Tent. People come to us and we serve them in some way." But Mother Cabrini seemed to sense the anguish and hopelessness that came upon so many immigrants who needed her style of salvation and liberation. And so, we literally "went down the mountain" after the experience of the Transfiguration, to insert ourselves in a parish of 97% of immigrants, of whom about 70% are undocumented. Immigrants who, in these moments of American history, are afraid to go out, are afraid to speak, are afraid to go to work, are afraid of being deported, leaving their families shattered and broken. Mother Cabrini definitely wanted to celebrate the centenary of her death, being among them as one day she was in the same city of Denver among her Italian brothers and sisters.

Today serving our brothers and sisters from the two missions (the Shrine and St. Cajetan Church), together we exclaim to the loving Heart of Jesus, as our Mother Francesca, Patroness of Immigrants:

"May your mercy, Lord, come upon us as we expect of You. "

AMEN.

With appreciation to Nancy Golen, the Director of the Cabrini Retreat Center, Nancy shares the following link to the Pope's Prayer Channel – kindly click on this link:

[Reject the MannequinChallenge](#)

This is a link to a video is a scene of people doing the "mannequin challenge" - the viral sensation in which participants remain motionless. In the video Pope Francis urges Catholics to reject the inertia of behaving like mannequins and instead to hurry to help the poor and refugees.



Prayer Requests

Barbara Geraci

Your prayers are asked for Barbara, mother of Josephine Geraci, who works in the Provincial Office. Barbara is currently experiencing some medical issues. Pray for her return to complete health.

Sr. Immaculate Gough, MSC

Sr. Immaculate is currently recuperating at St. Cabrini Nursing Home. Sr. Immaculate thanks everyone for their prayers for her recovery and asks that you continue to keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Alicia Mendoza

Alicia is the mother of Sr. Gilda Mendoza, MSC, from Central America. She is very ill at this time. Let us hold Alicia and Gilda in our hearts and prayers.

Patty Michaels

Please pray for Patty Michaels who has been diagnosed with a serious illness. Patty is the sister-in-law of our lawyer, Paul Michaels, and he asked for prayers for the entire family at this time. Patty's husband's name is Tom and they have three young children – a 7th grader, a 9th grader and an 11th grader. Pray that Patty will be restored to full health.

Joseph Narog, OSA

Please unite in prayer on behalf of Fr. Joe Narog, OSA, the pastor of St. Thomas of Villanova Parish in Villanova, PA. Fr. Joe will be undergoing surgery in the near future and has asked for our prayers. Please remember Fr. Joe as you continue your Lenten journey.

National Catholic Sisters Week

As we celebrate National Catholic Sisters Week, we give thanks for our Missionary Sisters and for all religious sisters, for their lives of service to the Church and

especially to those on the margins of society. We give thanks for their advocacy on behalf of those who are voiceless in the world. May God bless them in their faithfulness.

Bill Raidel

Prayers are asked for Bill Raidel, a young man who is having cancer surgery. Please pray that the surgery is successful and that Mr. Raidel will be fully healed. Doreen asked for prayers for a friend's husband.

Hugh Waters

Please pray for Hugh Waters, the twin brother of Sr. Grace Waters, MSC and Theresa De Lawrence, who will be undergoing surgery today. Pray that God will guide the hands of the surgeon and that Hugh will experience a full recovery.



With Grateful Hearts

Welcome little Miss Sloane Circa Bergin!

Carmel Jo Madonna, a staff member at Cabrini University, wishes to share the good news of the arrival of her granddaughter Sloane Circa Bergin who came into the world yesterday, March 8th weighing 10.7 pounds and was 22 inches long. Carmel says, “we are blessed, and beyond grateful for all the prayers and well wishes. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

In Loving Memory

Christopher Andes

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Christopher, the 41 year-old nephew of Sr. Mary Lou Andes who went home to God on March 6th. Please hold the Andes Family in your prayers in a very special way. They have lost many family members this year and are in need of our prayerful support and accompaniment.

Mercedes Augusto

Your prayers are asked for Mercie Augusto who passed away on Thursday, February 16th. Many in the Cabrini Family will remember Mercie for her long and generous service to St. Cabrini Nursing Home through the Ladies Auxiliary. Please also remember in prayer her husband Gus and their children and grandchildren during this difficult time.

Fr. Joe Currie, SJ

Fr. Joe Currie, SJ, cousin of Sr. Eileen Currie, MSC, died suddenly last Friday. He had served 20 some years in India, then at Fordham University NY, Loyola University New Orleans, and at the Jesuit Center in Wernersville PA. He touched many, many lives. May Missionary Sisters know him from New York, New Orleans

and Wernersville visits.

Sisters of Sant'Anna, in Ethiopia

Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC, Provincial, has asked for prayers for the Sisters of Sant'Anna. This was the congregation of religious sisters who graciously extended support and hospitality to the Missionary Sisters when they first arrived in Ethiopia to begin their ministry.

These sisters were in a car accident in Meki, Ethiopia as they were on their way to a funeral. These sisters perished in the accident:

Sr. Weynshet (provincial)
Sr. Aberat (novice directress)
Sr. Hanna
Sr. Moetu
Sr. Tigist (sister of our chaplain in Addis Abba)

Another sister, Sr. Martha, is in a coma. The driver of the car also survived.

Please pray for the congregation as they cope with the shock of their loss.

Update Publication Notice

Due to scheduling in the Province Communications Office, next week, The Update will be published on Wednesday, March 15th. To ensure publication kindly submit any news stories by noon on Tuesday, March 14th.

Prayer requests are always welcome at
cabrininews@mothercabrini.org
Thank you.

