

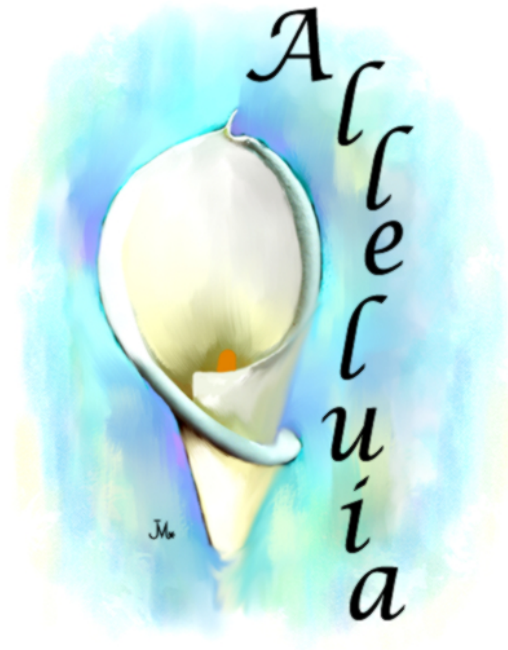


MISSIONARY SISTERS
of the SACRED HEART of JESUS
Bringing Christ's love to the world

THE UPDATE

April 2, 2015

Jesus is Risen!



This week, Holy Week, which leads to Easter, as women religious continuing on this journey of consecrated life, we are making every effort to be mindful of the messages from Pope Francis.

In his Palm Sunday homily, he has reiterated the way in which we are being called to follow Christ's way – the way of humility.

Pope Francis reminds us that our daily lives bring the opportunity to serve "the other" in our ministries, in our communities and indeed, in our own families.

Let us take the renewal and joy of Easter to recommit our hearts, centered in the love of the Lord, knowing that his love will sustain us, guide us, and strengthen us.
Alleluia!

**At Easter and always, may God's love fill your heart
and bring joy and peace to your life.**

The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – Stella Maris Province

An Important Message from Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC ~ Provincial



Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Stella Maris Province
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March 30, 2015

Dear CEO's, CLM's, Directors, Board Chairs and Provincial Staff:

Blessings on this last week in lent as we enter into the holiest of days for us as Christians and for our Jewish brothers and sisters who celebrate Passover.

It is my privilege to announce the new Councilors that will assist in the governance of the Stella Maris Province over the time of my service as Provincial.

- **Sr. Lucy Panettieri, MSC**
- **Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, MSC**

I would like to thank these sisters for their "yes" to this call of service and ask you to support them by your prayers.

My gratitude goes to Sr. Catherine Garry, Sr. Diane Olmstead and Sr. Tommasina Lanski for their service over these last six years. These women of deep spirituality and integrity have been a great help in moving us forward during very difficult times.

Sr. Catherine Garry, MSC will continue her ministry responsibility as Corporation Officer working with our legal advisors, both civil and canonical, as well as our boards and CEO's. Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC will continue her ministry as Province Treasurer and business manager taking care of health insurance, office policies, and liaison for some of our directors. With God's grace we will find the courage and energy to fulfill our missionary vision.

Thank you for all that you do on a daily basis to bring the love of God to all you encounter.

Sincerely in the Heart of Jesus,

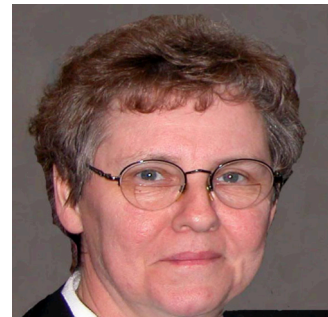
Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC

Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC
Provincial



Congratulations
and
blessings,
Sr. Lucy (l.)
and
Sr. Arlene. (r.)

Be assured of our prayers
and support in your
ministry of leadership.



Cabrini College, Radnor, PA

An Alternative Spring Break – Serving in Guatemala

It was 4 AM when we gathered at the airport in Philadelphia. Some of us weren't quite awake after a short night's sleep, while others had pulled "all nighters" foregoing the chance to catch a few zzzzzzs. Who were these people carrying backpacks and hauling luggage so early in the morning? Why were they heading for a foreign country?

The group from Cabrini College consisted of Drs. Raquel Green and Jerry Zurek, Matt Kaehler, a Cabrini Mission Corps missionary, eleven students and myself. We were heading for the "Land of Eternal Spring," as Guatemala is called in the travel literature. I think we were all happily looking forward to eighty-degree temperatures after our very cold Pennsylvania winter.



Sr. Christine Marie Baltas (l.) makes the trek up the Guatemalan hillside with the Cabrini College students.

Our final destination was San Lucas Mission located in the Guatemalan Highlands about two and a half hours from the airport in Guatemala City. For us first timers there was a sense of security and confidence, as both Raquel and Jerry, our trusted leaders, had made this trip many times. They knew the ropes, and were able to guide and steer us in the right direction, whether it was about changing currency or drinking water, or a myriad of other questions we had.

Guatemala is a land of beautiful mountains ringed with volcanoes. The views from up in the mountains are magnificent, and inspire a sense of awe and wonder. San Lucas Mission located on the shores of Lake Atitlán dates back to the 15th century, and is rich in both Mayan and Ladino cultures. In our classes we studied the history of Guatemala, and the thirty-six years of Civil War that ended in 1996 with the signing of the Peace Accords. Despite all their suffering and very hard lives, we found the people to be warm and engaging.

In addition to having an immersion experience, we came to be of service to the Mission in whatever way our help was needed.

Jumping into open back trucks and heading to the day's work site over bumpy dirt or pothole-ridden roads gave us a sense of adventure and excitement. One day the truck stopped when we were about fifteen minutes away from the town, and we were told to get out. We soon found out why when we saw the suspension bridge spanning a ravine that we would have to cross to get to our destination. It was with fear and trepidation that I held tightly to the cables on either side as I made my way across. I had to keep telling myself not to look down. Making it safely across only reminded me that I'd have to do it again on the way back. Trekking up a rocky and winding path brought us to our work site where we helped by making cement for the houses that were being built for very poor families. The water needed by those living here was pumped up the mountain, and the pump had been broken for three weeks. We realized in a very tangible way just how precious water is. Some members of our group



made their way back down the path, and returned carrying water needed by the builders for construction and by the women for their household chores.

On Wednesday we boarded the Mission van for a trip to Chichicastenango, a town about three hours away. There, we were graciously welcomed by the Sisters Servants of the



Cabrini Mission Corps missionary Matt Kaehler (r.) carries water up the hillside with Cabrini College student Chris Ryan.

Immaculate Heart of Mary of Scranton who run the school. Located on the property was a boarding school where about 200 poor teenage girls from outlying communities live and study to become teachers. There was also a large elementary school attended by about 600 local children. We were impressed with how expansive and well-maintained the property was. Our Cabrini students had no trouble relating to the teenagers and the younger children both in the classrooms and out in the playing fields. It was great fun for both groups to ask questions of each other, and to come to a greater understanding of our respective lives.

We had many opportunities to learn about the work of Fr. Greg Schaffer who labored for forty-nine years at the Mission. Through his vision and giftedness a school, hospital, coffee processing plant, a women's center were built, along with many other projects that would improve the lives of the people of San Lucas and the neighboring communities. We were inspired by the spirited singing and the overflow crowd of people in attendance at the Sunday Mass. People smiled and greeted us and made us feel like we belonged.

The week passed all too quickly, and before we knew it, we were heading back to the airport and to our very comfortable lives. It had been a week that none of us will

ever forget. We had been drawn into an experience. We had witnessed how 5/6ths of the world's people live. Our hearts were educated. Now the challenge lies before us. When faced with decision-making, will we make choices that will benefit the poor of the world? Will we continue to be involved in matters of social justice? If we can say "yes" to these questions, then this will have been a week that made a difference in our lives.

~ submitted by Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC

St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine, New York *TV Special on Holy Week Services*

Carlos Guillen, NYC permanent correspondent for NTN24, an international Spanish news channel out of Venezuela, will be airing a 2.5-minute segment on the Shrine's Holy Week activities on Friday, sometime between 5-7 pm. In addition to the Lenten mid-day mass and general Shrine footage, those being interviewed during the piece are Fr. Rodriguez, pastor at nearby St. Elizabeth's Parish, Sr. Maria Loretta Caeti and Shrine Director Kris Reed.



ST. FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE HOLY WEEK

Semana Santa

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
Palm Sunday Masses
9:00 am & 11:00 am

TUESDAY, MARCH 31
Mass 12:15 pm

THURSDAY, APRIL 2
Holy Thursday Mass
5:00 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
Celebration of the Passion of Christ
12:15 pm

Seven Last Words of Jesus
1:30 pm

Shrine and Gift Shop will close
at 3:00 pm on Good Friday

SATURDAY, APRIL 3
Morning Prayer Service 8:00 am

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
Easter Sunday Masses
9:00 am & 11:00 am
Shrine and Gift Shop will close
at 2:00 pm on Easter

DOMINGO, MARZO 29
Domingo de Ramos
Misa a las 9:00 AM y 11:00 AM

MARTES, MARZO 31
Misa a las 12:15 PM

JUEVES, ABRIL 2
Jueves Santo
Misa a las 5:00 PM

VIERNES, ABRIL 3
Liturgia de la Pasión del Señor
12:15 PM

Las últimas siete palabras de Jesús
1:30 PM
Santuario y tienda de regalos se cerrará
a las 3:00 pm en Viernes Santo

SÁBADO, ABRIL 4
Oraciones de la Mañana 8:00 am

DOMINGO, ABRIL 5
Domingo de Pascua
Misa a las 9:00 AM y 11:00 AM
Santuario y tienda de regalos
se cerrará a las 2:00 pm en la Pascua

701 Fort Washington Avenue New York, NY 10040

cabrinishrinenyc.org 212-923-3536

St. Frances Cabrini Shrine



Carlos Guillen attributes his family's success during a difficult INS time in Miami to Mother Cabrini (he wears her medal with his crucifix) and when he received the assignment to find a tri-state Holy Week locale, he said he thought of no other place than the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine. Carlos and his family are regular visitors there.

~ submitted by Kris Reed

For your information: NTN24 is on Verizon 418 in the tri-state area.



All are welcome at the St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in NYC for Holy Week and Easter services.

Cabrini College, Radnor, Pa *Hosts Breakfast with the Bunny*

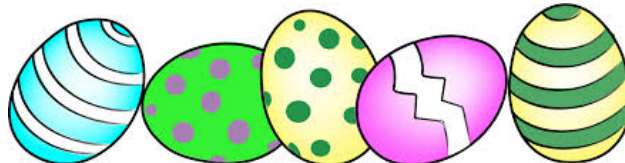


Dr. Don Taylor, President, enjoys his very first "Breakfast with the Bunny" at Cabrini College.

~ photo credit Hollie Havens

A beloved springtime tradition at Cabrini College, sponsored by the Office of Alumni Engagement, is Breakfast with the Bunny. Alumni, their children and grandchildren gathered on campus in their finery, colorful Easter baskets in hand this past Saturday.

During a festive breakfast, the Bunny had a photo op with each family. Cabrini College President Dr. Donald Taylor read a special storybook to the little ones. Next, was the Easter egg hunt, usually held on the College Commons; this year, however, winter maintained its cold grip and the egg hunt – over 800 eggs to find! – was moved to indoors to the College's historic Mansion. ~ submitted by Nancy Costello



Saying hello to the Bunny is a special moment for youngsters.



Cabrini *Action and Advocacy* Coalition

Arts Night Raises Awareness of Human Trafficking



Last week the Cabrini Action and Advocacy Coalition (CAAC) hosted a night of arts and poetry written and performed by survivors of human trafficking. It was a wonderful event attended by more than 50 people. More than \$700 was raised for LifeWay Network and BeaSister2aSister.

The event began with snacks and acoustic guitar music performed by Dan Baker. Josh Guerrero, an anti-

trafficking activist from Washington Heights, was the MC of the evening. Poets Melanie and Takira performed pieces they wrote for this event. Cherisse created a photo slide show to the Whitney Houston song, "I Never Knew My Strength." Actor AJ Hayes from The Possibility Project performed a narrative of one survivor's story and move into activism. Members of the crowd were overall very moved. Some, including MC Josh, found themselves in tears. Speakers from LifeWay Network, BeaSister2aSister, and Mentari spoke to the crowd about the work their respective organizations are doing in the fight against human trafficking. The evening concluded with a raffle of four amazing prizes.

A huge thank you is due to everyone who prayed for the success of this event. Your support was certainly felt and very much appreciated. ~ *submitted by CMC missionary Melanie Paccillo*

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Building The Cabrini Closet, NYC



Last week, the CAAC in partnership with LifeWay Network and St. Raymond's High School for Boys began construction of the Cabrini Closet, NYC. The boys receive training on human trafficking and then they performed the service of transforming an open space into a beautiful boutique. In total, approximately 84 boys will participate in this program. The closet will provide fashionable young women's clothing to those who very often have nothing after leaving their trafficked situation. After three sessions, the closet is on schedule to be open early May in the Grammercy



The young men from St. Raymond's High School for Boys went to work in creating a Cabrini Closet for clothing for trafficking victims

Park area of Manhattan. More information on the location of the closet will be forthcoming in the near future.

This closet will certainly be a beautiful ministry, which will provide a much-needed service to those who are beginning a new life of freedom.

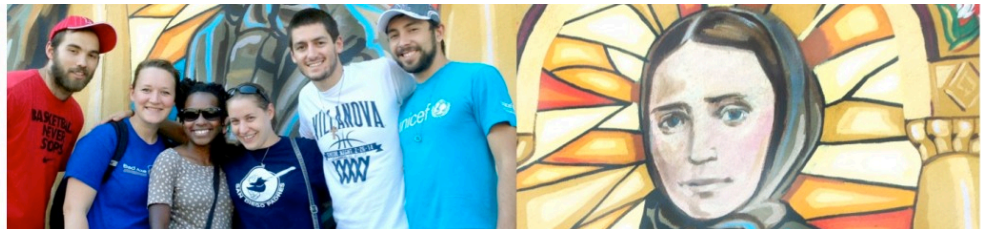
Any member of the Cabrini Community who is interested in volunteering to help at the closet is invited to contact Melanie Paccillo at CabriniAandA@aol.com or 732-322-2956 or Karol Brewer at cabriniformation@aol.com.

Information for anyone wishing to donate clothing or gift cards will follow in future Weekly Update publications. We expect to be able to accept donations by May 1.

~ submitted by CMC missionary Melanie Paccillo



Cabrini Mission Corps Fundraiser



Join us in the Cabrini College Mansion as we celebrate the Cabrini Missions Corps and our legacy of service lived through our missionary identity expressed in prayer, in community and in ministry. On Friday, April 17th, supporters of the Cabrini Mission Corps will gather with the Cabrini College community as we honor its work. Come and celebrate our 2014-2015 Missioners--Connor, Jenay CC '14, Martin, Matt, and Melanie. Please join us for heavy appetizers and wine and beer, music and celebration, and prayer and testimony in a short program as we celebrate Mother Cabrini's legacy and how it's lived today.

We hope you can join us! If not, please consider [making a donation](#) to keep the Cabrini Mission Corps serving, now and in the future.

Tickets purchased by students and members of religious congregations are not deductible.

Have questions about Cabrini Mission Corps: Love Through Service? [Contact Tom Southard](#)

To purchase tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cabrini-mission-corps-love-through-service-tickets-15521334730>

Hoping you can join us!

Prayer Requests

Sr. Maria Loretta Caeti, MSC

Please pray for Sr. Maria Loretta who will be undergoing surgery. Pray for her swift recovery.

John Kolea, Jr.

Your prayers are requested for John Kolea, Jr, who last week underwent a stem cell transplant. John is married and is the father of three young children. Please pray that the stem cell transplant will be successful and that John will be restored to full and vigorous health. Please pray for his family during this stressful time.

Elba and Fred Mordan

Sr. Antonina Avitabile, MSC asks our prayers for Elba and her husband, Fred. Elba is 5 months pregnant with kidney issues and is considered a high-risk pregnancy and a high-risk for surgery. They have 2 sons, 4 and 1 1/2. Pray that all will proceed well with Elba's pregnancy.

Jane Petty

Please unite in prayer for Jane Petty, a friend of Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC. Jane has recently been diagnosed with breast cancer. Please pray for her complete recovery.

Sr. Alberta Surico, MSC

Sr. Alberta was hospitalized this week. Please pray for her healing. We know Sr. Alberta would be grateful for our prayers.



In Loving Memory

Robert F. Kersey

The Cabrinian Community joins the Cabrini College Community in extending sympathy to Shakeyia Kersey, Career and Professional Development, on the loss of her father in law, Robert F. Kersey, who passed away on Thursday, March 19th 2015. Mass will be offered in Robert's memory on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. in the Bruckmann Memorial Chapel of St. Joseph. Please continue to hold Keyia and her family in your thoughts.

John "Jack" Tinney

The Cabrinian Community joins the Cabrini College community in extending sympathy to Camille Tinney upon the loss of her husband, Jack, who passed away on Thursday, March 26th. A Mass will be offered in Jack's memory on Wednesday, May 6th at 12:30 pm in the Bruckmann Memorial Chapel of St. Joseph on campus. Please continue to keep Camille and her family in your prayers.

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son
has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it.



May you have a blessed and joyous Easter!