



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

THE UPDATE

May 4, 2017

Cabrini University Launches Center on Immigration

On Thursday, April 27, President Donald Taylor and Provost Jeffrey Gingerich welcomed approximately 150 guests to the Cabrini University Mansion to celebrate the creation of the Center on Immigration. Inspired by the legacy of Mother Cabrini, the Patroness of Immigrants, and led by



Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC (c.) explains the symbolism of the seal (or stemma) of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters as she makes the presentation to Mark Kiselica, Ph.D. (l.) Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Abel Rodriguez, Director of the Center on Immigration and Assistant Professor of Religion, Law and Social Justice.

Center on Immigration

Consistent with the mission of Cabrini University and the legacy of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Patroness of Immigrant, the Center engages students and scholars in the pursuit of social justice to advance the human rights and human dignity of people in migration. It does so by engaging nationally and globally in three interrelated areas of focus: Education and Advocacy; Research and Scholarship; and Culture and History.

Abel Rodríguez, Center Director and Assistant Professor of Religion, Law and Social Justice, the Center will be a global leader promoting immigrant rights through advocacy, scholarship, and advancement of cultural expression.

The celebration opened with an invocation to Mother Cabrini given by Sister Christine Marie Baltas, MSC, and a reflection by Fabrine De Oliveira, a Cabrini student and a native of Brazil who shared her own immigrant experience.

Luz Colón, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs, presented a proclamation in which PA Governor Tom Wolf acknowledged the Center's planned contributions to the immigrant community.

A panel discussion took place featuring Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC, Family Program Coordinator at Cabrini Immigrant Services - NYC; Hernán Guaracao, Publisher & CEO of AL DÍA News Media and Cabrini University Trustee; Erika Almirón, Executive Director of Juntos; John Grogan, Esq., Founding Partner at Langer, Grogan and Diver PC; and Steven Larín, Esq. Senior Director of Legal Services & Immigration policy at Nationalities Service Center.



The panel featured distinguished experts in the field of immigration and immigrant rights. From left: Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC; Hernán Guaracao; Erika Almirón; John Grogan, Esq. and Steve Larín, Esq.

Mr. Rodríguez shared his vision for the Center, and the panel members addressed the needs and concerns of immigrants and their families and critiqued current immigration policies, which have expanded the detention and deportation of immigrants and created extensive fear and distress in immigrant communities.

Mark Kiselica, Ph.D. Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, paid tribute to the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the employees and volunteers of Cabrini Immigrant Services for their heroic work on behalf of immigrants and their families.

The celebration concluded with a special presentation by Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, who gave Mr. Rodríguez a framed Seal of the Institute of the MSCs on behalf of Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, Provincial, and all MSCs as an expression of the Sisters' support for the future work of the Center.

~ submitted by Mark Kiselica, Ph.D. and Abel Rodriguez, JD

To learn more:

http://www.telemundo62.com/videos/destacados/Estudiantes-preparan-para-el-Dia-Sin-Inmigrantes_TLMD---Philadelphia-420732063.html http://www.philly.com/philly/blogs/campus_inq/Cabrini-launches-new-Center-on-Immigrants.html cabrini.edu/immigration



Abel Rodriguez, JD

Center Director

Abel Rodriguez, JD is an authority and frequent speaker on issues of immigration law and policy, the intersection of criminal and immigration law, and undocumented students in higher education. He is a first generation college graduate and the son of immigrant parents from Cuba.

Prior to joining the faculty at Cabrini University, he provided legal representation to low-income clients fighting deportation and seeking citizenship.

Rodriguez is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he was a Toll Public Interest Scholar; Harvard University; Stanford University; and Cabrini University, Class of 2001.

Mother Cabrini and Horizons of Hope – A Cabrini Pilgrimage Experience

~ A Narrative by Karol Brewer



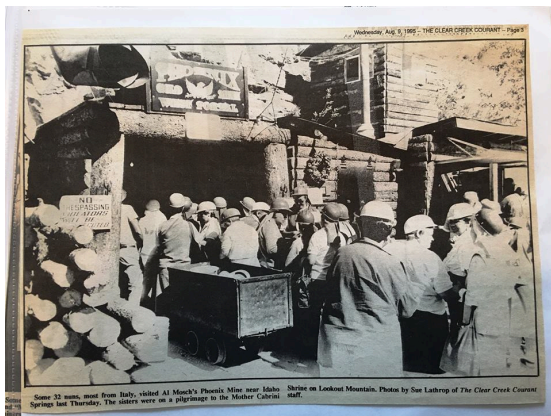
The Stone House

The Pilgrimage began on Saturday, April 22 at the beautiful Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, CO. We began by discussing the notion of pilgrimage - the style and content of this formative experience with its different aspects of reflection, conversation, journaling and prayer led by Mark Davis (Mark is an experienced consultant, facilitator and trainer. Central to his work is the creation of interpersonal environments where graceful conversation may take place.)

Each day, we attended Mass, shared morning and evening prayer, readings, reflections and grace-filled conversations.

A different theme started each of our days with topics of: Beginnings, Good Christians and Good Citizens, Extravagant Dreams, Primacy of Love in the Cabrini story, the Italian Diaspora within Colorado & the miners and their families, Education as Liberation, the Experience of Immigrants Today and the Continued Relevance of Traditio .

Our Conversations were around topics –*Learning to Love, Hearing Distant Voices, Extravagant Dreams, Life Long Becoming and Courage at the Crossroads.* We had Input Sessions where Sr. Bernadette Casciano, MSC spoke on local history and the importance of mining She told us how the Sisters visited the miners who were scattered in camps throughout the state and went deep into the mines to minister to the needs of those working there. Following that session, we had an ‘experience of place’ and toured the local Phoenix Mines. The owner of the mine, Al Mosch, led our group through his mine and he was so excited we were there, because he led a similar tour 22 years ago for Missionary Sisters who were visiting the U.S. from Italy! **The pictures and captions below were in the Clear Creek Courant newspaper dated August 9, 1995:**



32 nuns from Italy visited the Phoenix Gold Mines. They also visited the Mother Cabrini Shrine.



Sr. Ambrogina Morselli, MSC, pans for gold outside the Phoenix Gold Mine with Sr. Antonia Maria Madonia, MSC.



Pilgrimage 2017 – Some members of this year's pilgrimage try their hands at mining for gold.

Jeannie Salonya, is a volunteer at the Shrine and was raised by the MSCs at the Queen of Heaven Orphanage, which Mother Cabrini founded in Denver, Colorado. Mother Cabrini brought the Shrine property and built the 'Stone House' at the Shrine, which was used as a summer camp for the girls from the orphanage. Jeannie shared her experiences of being raised by the MSCs, her love for them and for the Shrine. We then had a guided tour of the Stone House, led by Tommy Francis, whose father drove the carts filled with the orphans up to the Shrine in the summer months while Tommy was a 5 year old boy living on the site. What amazing, incredibly moving stories, of which we will never forget!



From left: Sr. Martha Lopez Prada; Jack Truxillo, President of Cabrini High School; and Sr. Regina Palamara, MSC at the Notary House.

Sr. Bernadette gave a wonderful, informative presentation on the history of the Sisters in Denver relating how Mother Cabrini received two urgent appeals from Bishop Matz and Father Mariano Lepore, pastor of the Italian parish of Mount Carmel to minister to the Italian immigrants who were employed in the backbreaking and dangerous work of the mining and railroad industries. Since the parish had no school, in 1902 Cabrini rented a two-story house from Michael Notary (a wealthy merchant in the area) and started a school. On the first day of opening, two hundred children hurried to enroll. As another "experience of place", we had the privilege of having a private tour of the Mount Carmel parish and visited the Michael Notary House.

We learned of the Women's Gold Tapestry, which is a hand-stitched, 9 x 12 foot long beautiful piece of art that took 4,500 hours and two years of intensive effort to complete. It pays homage to the courage, perseverance, and sacrifices women made to help settle and civilize Colorado. One of the women on the tapestry is Mother Cabrini (of course)! We took a trip to the state capitol building, where the tapestry is housed. While there, a large tour was taking place. They found out who we were and the tour guide asked Sr. Bernadette to speak about the history of Mother Cabrini in Denver and the Shrine. It was amazing and everyone was in awe of Sr. Bernadette!

[During the Pilgrimage] we also shared beautiful readings from Mother Cabrini, the MSC Constitutions, Sr. Maria Barbagallo, MSC, Sr. Mary Lou Sullivan, MSC and others such as Albert Schweitzer, Margaret Wheatley, Henri Nouwen, John O'Donohue, Jean Vanier, all accompanied with beautiful images.

What a blessed experience this event turned out to be! Our next Pilgrimage is being planned to take place in 2018 in Chicago. I pray you have the opportunity to join us! ~ submitted by Karol Brewer



Photo right: In front of the Women's Gold Tapestry, Sr. Bernadette Casciano, MSC (r.) provides a history of Mother Cabrini in the Denver area. **Photo left:** An enlarged image of Mother Cabrini from the upper right of the quilt.

St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine, NYC

participating in

Sacred Sites Open House

This year marks the Landmarks Conservancy's seventh annual *Sacred Sites* Open House on **May 20th and 21st**.



This year's theme, *Stained Glass: Windows on this World and the Next* focuses on the significance and conservation of stained glass and windows in religious sites and highlights work of American stained glass masters including John LaFarge, Henry Sharp, and Louis Comfort Tiffany as well as prominent European artists and studios including Henry Holiday and Mayer of Munich among others.

Over 130 churches, synagogues, and meetinghouses throughout the city and state will be open for you to explore their wonderful religious architecture.

The St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine will be open both Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a gift shop and both guided and self-guided tours.

Stained glass in the chapel depicts the life of Jesus and a 3-story image of Mother Cabrini. They have painted realistic detail and dynamic shape. They were designed by Fabian Zaccone in New York and fabricated by G. Pollini in Florence, Italy, installed in 1959.

The pictorial mosaic that surrounds the altar, depicting Mother Cabrini's life and work, is outstanding in its artisanship and message. This mosaic, recently restored by Stephen Miotto of Miotto Mosaic Art Studios, is priceless and irreplaceable. It is 123 feet long and 24 feet high, and is a unique undertaking for its time, or any time. It is an architectural and spiritual treasure.

The Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini was designed by architects De Sina & Pellegrino. Frances Xavier Cabrini, the first American citizen to be made a saint, was the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, was sent to New York in 1880 to assist Italian immigrants. She established schools, hospitals, and orphanages around the country. With a commitment to immigrants of all kinds, her ministry extended across the country and into South America. Mother Cabrini died in Chicago in 1917. Her remains were returned to Washington Heights, site of the Mother Cabrini High School, and enshrined. She was canonized in 1946.



Click on the [Open House Sites](#) tab to begin planning your trip.

Rallying for Immigrant Rights

On May 1st Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC staff and Justice for Immigrants members joined immigrant rights, labor, faith and allied organizations for a May Day action in support of immigrants and workers. Thousands came together in New York City to stand up against anti-immigrant and anti-worker policies and to demand that President Trump end his attacks on immigrant, refugees and Muslim communities. Activists, community leaders, City Council Members and even the Mayor were present to show their support for our immigrant brothers and sisters. To stay up to date on how CIS-NYC continues to stand up for immigrants every day follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) or check out our [website](#)!

~ submitted by Ella Nimmo



Cabrini Immigrant Services NYC staff and Justice for Immigrant Services members rallied in New York City on May 1st.



Cabrini University students carry banners as they rally in Washington D.C. for the rights of immigrants.

slogans such as “No Human Is Illegal,” and “Fight Ignorance, Not Immigrants,” and these signs were hung on a barricade constructed on the University Commons for a Border Solidarity Mass celebrated on April 19 to commemorate Pope Francis’s visit to the US-Mexico border the year prior.

Cabrini University Marches in D. C. for Immigrants

On Monday, May 1, Cabrini students and staff took time away from preparing for finals to make their way to the nation’s capital for a march and rally in solidarity with workers and immigrants. Earlier in the semester students had made protest signs with



Cabrini students took those signs and joined thousands of other protesters in DuPont Circle to protest anti-immigrant sentiments and policies, representing the namesake of the Patron Saint of Immigrants. Chants worked their way through the crowds, alternating between English and Spanish: “No hate, no fear, immigrants are welcome here!” “¡El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!” We arrived at Lafayette Square, named for an immigrant hero of the Revolution - America’s favorite fighting Frenchman - and cheered facing the White House for the hope that we can be better together.

Walking back to the van we passed through the MLK Memorial, with tired legs and hoarse voices, reading his words: “Out of a mountain of despair, a stone of hope.” And “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” ~ *submitted by Tom Southard, JD and Dr. Ray Ward, Cabrini Wolfington Center*

National “Take your Sons and Daughters to Work” Day



Cabrini University hosted the sons and daughters of University faculty and staff members last Thursday, April 27th. The youngsters did science experiments, visited the offices of the Missionary Sisters, had lunch with their parents in CAVS Corner followed by observing their parents in their work roles. In this photo, the children had fun in the University television studio acting as TV anchors, directors and camera operators. The day was capped off with a swim in the University’s Dixon Center pool.

From the big smiles on the children’s faces it was apparent that a good time was had by all.

Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, PhD receives the Ivy Young Willis & Martha Dale Award



Dr. Darryl Mace (I.) and Dr. Donald B. Taylor, Cabrini University President, present the award to Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, PhD.

Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, PhD a noted expert in the fields of community development, migration of women, diversity management, organizational leadership, and public policy, is the 2017 recipient of the Ivy Young Willis & Martha Dale Award. The Award is given to honor the late wife of William G. Willis, bestowing the award at Cabrini to a woman who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of public affairs. Ivy Young Willis was a teacher reading consultant whose work at WQED led the way for the teaching of reading on public television. Dr. Santiago is the founder of LEAP Academy in Camden, NJ in partnership with Rutgers Center for Strategic Urban Community.

From the Province Vocation Promotion Team...



This Sunday, May 7th, is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

The World Day of Prayer will be observed on Sunday, May 7th, also known as “Good Shepherd Sunday.” The purpose of this day is to publically fulfil the Lord’s instruction to, “Pray to the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers into his harvest” (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2) . As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrated its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate) to the Religious life in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic). To societies of apostolic life, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life, in the particular sense of mission “ad gentes”.

Please pray that young men and women will hear and respond generously to the Lord’s call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

~ from the USCCB website

Prayer Requests

Cabrini University prayer requests

- The mother of a Cabrini University student asks for prayers as she is suffering from rheumatoid arthritis.
- A faculty emerita from Cabrini University asks for prayers for her many health problems.

CAMEX meetings

Your prayers are asked for the meetings that the Missionary Sisters from the Stella Maris Province, Central America and Mexico are having currently. Pray that this will be a grace-filled and fruitful time and that the Holy Spirit will inspire and guide their discussions.

Nancy Coyle Clark

Peggy Becker, a former employee at Cabrini University, asks for prayers for her friend Nancy Coyle Clark who is recovering from cancer surgery and whose husband died suddenly.

Tommy Deegan

Prayers are requested for Tommy Deegan who will be undergoing medical tests and is in need of our prayerful support.

Theresa DeLawrence

Your prayers are asked for Theresa, the sister of Sr. Grace Waters, MSC, who underwent surgery today. She is now in recovery and all seems to have gone well. Please pray that Theresa will recover quickly.

Donna

Donna requests our prayers for a special intention.

In recovery

Prayers are asked for a young man who is in recovery and is looking for a job and housing.

Hugh Waters

Hugh, the twin brother of Sr. Grace Waters, MSC, is about to begin chemotherapy. Please pray that he tolerates the treatment well.

In Loving Memory

Kathleen Sheils

Please pray for Kathleen who was called home to God on Monday, May 1st. Kathleen is the sister of Mary Shrader, a staff member at Cabrini University. Please keep Kathleen, Mary, their parents and their family in your prayers at this sad time.

