



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

THE UPDATE

June 22, 2017

The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Friday, June 23, 2017

Dear Sisters, CLMs and Collaborators,

Greetings on this most special day for us as Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As I reflect on this Heart of Christ, I often ask myself these questions:

Where is my heart directed in today's world?

How do I express Christ's love and mercy in what I do?

We are all called to be "bearers of Christ's love in the world" no matter where we are or what our circumstances might be. Amidst the "busyness" of each one, our challenge is to strive to put God's love into action.

In all we face as a nation, a country, a community, we must continue to ask ourselves: What is my heart set on; where is it directed; what is the treasure that it seeks? For as Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Mt. 6:21).

Let us continue to seek the Heart of Jesus in our own reality and be open to where this Heart of Christ will lead us.

Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC



Oh my God,
teach me to be generous
to serve you
as you deserve to be served,
to give without counting the
cost,
to fight without fear of being
wounded,
to work without seeking rest,
and to spend myself without
expecting any reward but the
knowledge that I am doing your
holy will.
Amen.

St. Ignatius Loyola

World Refugee Day - June 20, 2017

In a world where violence forces thousands of families to flee for their lives each day, the time is now to show that the global public stands with refugees.



After three days on the road, South Sudanese refugees arrive at the newly constructed Gure Shembola Camp in Ethiopia. Photo: UNHCR/Diana Diaz

We are in the midst of the **WORLD'S WORST** refugee crisis in history. A crisis that brings with it overwhelming numbers, huge challenges for countries and communities affected, untold misery -- and hope.

More than 65 million people are now counted as forcibly displaced by the United Nations. That's like the entire population of the UK or France, or about as many as everyone in New York State, Texas and Florida -- all forced from their

homes. Just over one-third are refugees, people forced to flee their countries because of persecution, war, or violence. More than half of refugees are under 18 and more people are displaced every day - you could fill about 630 school buses with people forced from their homes every day! War is a major factor. More than half of refugees come from three war-torn countries -- Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia, the UN says, while others flee famine or prosecution. Starvation is stalking millions in Africa in 2017. And in Myanmar, there are about 1 million Rohingyas -- a persecuted ethnic and religious minority, who say they are being increasingly targeted and attacked.



Some take refuge in the first safe place they find. Others journey on, risking all, in the hopes of finding a better new life.

Right now, as you read this, traffickers are selling migrant men, women and children in make shift 'slave markets' all over the world. I've read that they are placed under a sign that reads "for sale". First hand witnesses report them being sold for between \$200 and \$500 each.

Many times they are then held for ransom in mass prisons and detention centers often run by militias; or used as forced labor and for sexual exploitation. Survivors have spoken of their slave masters extracting ransoms from relatives, including beating and torturing their captives while on the phone to their families so they would hear them scream while being tortured. "People were tied up like goats, beaten with broom handles and pipes every day, to get money," reported by the International Office on Migration. ~ *submitted by Karol Brewer*

Our Refugee Brothers and Sisters

What WE Can Do

**YOU can support refugees in your everyday life —
in ways both big and small.**

1. Pray

That asylum seekers may find hope and restoration from the despair and persecution from which they have fled; that Christians can celebrate unity in Christ while celebrating our differences in cultures and nationalities; that unaccompanied refugee children may be protected from all harm and reunited with loving families; for migrant workers, that they may work in safe and just conditions, and that we who benefit from their labor may be truly grateful for what they provide; for an end to the violence and poverty that displace so many of our sisters and brothers from their homes and homelands; for our political leaders, that they may implement policies that allow for safe migration and just migrant working conditions, and put an end to the detention of asylum seekers, while protecting our national safety.

2. If you've got five minutes, call your representatives.

Currently, the United States Congress has proposed budget cuts that would reduce refugee assistance to the region by 20 percent and humanitarian relief by 15 percent. It's critical to call your legislator - and this is especially true if your representative is against helping refugees *and* if she or he is already in support of refugees.

If she or he doesn't support refugees, your call could help sway their opinion. And if she or he does support refugees, those calls bolster stances!

It's really powerful for a senator or representative to be able to say, 'I got 10,000 calls from constituents who are saying they want us to welcome refugees in this country.'

3. If you've got a few hours a week, volunteer.

There are refugees already all around the United States trying to settle in to this country. Three million refugees have been resettled in America since the Refugee Act of 1980 was signed, according to Pew Research. About 85,000 people were admitted during the last fiscal year under President Barack Obama.

Resettlement agencies are always looking for volunteers. This ranges from everything from language training to handling logistics to just being some company. Find a local agency and see if there's anything you can do. If you need help finding an agency near you, try [checking here](#) for the Office of Refugee Resettlement.

4. If you've got no time but some extra cash, donate. DONATE TO CABRINI IMMIGRANT SERVICES WHO ARE WORKING WITH IMMIGRANTS EVERY DAY! Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC: <http://www.cis-nyc.org> AND Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY: <http://www.cabrini-eldercare.org/donate/donate> :- please specify your donation for CIS-Dobbs Ferry on the donor form.



5. If you've got friends and neighbors, change their opinions.



All you have to do is talk to people you know and explain to them why you think refugees are people who deserve a chance at a peaceful life. When people hear that attitude from people they're familiar with, that's really powerful. Those conversations can change minds better than news stories and essays.

This is vital if you live in a community where refugees are being settled. You can help to make sure they are fully welcome. Meanwhile, it can lead to an even bigger change. These conversations can be difficult, and you may not be able to change everybody's minds. Be respectful in these talks — and knowing the stats and information always helps. But that doesn't mean you should stop speaking up and spreading awareness. Change often happens slowly. Have patience with it.

6. If you've got no time, no money, but a lot of passion, then pay attention to the news.

Know what's going on! It was people's awareness of the news that led to the inspiring protests at airports around the country after Trump signed his (now-blocked) executive order against refugees. Awareness leads to mobilization, which can lead to change.

7. Sign the Pledge: The U.N. Refugee Agency is circulating a #WithRefugees petition, which asks that governments around the world ensure that every refugee child can get an education, that every refugee family has a place to live, and that every refugee can work or train for new skills. The petition will be delivered to the U.N. headquarters in New York in time for the U.N. General Assembly on September 19.

~ compiled by Karol Brewer



One-Minute Meditation

On the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

"Oh, Jesus, what are you like? If only all would know you.

If you would reveal your secrets, how everyone would fly to you in a flash!

How much I owe to your goodness!

My Jesus, I entrust myself to you, to your wondrous love and goodness."

St. Frances X. Cabrini, Journal of a Trusting Heart, September 1897

Cabrini Mission Foundation Presents "Latte" Donations for Cabrini High School Student

The "Not a lot, Just a latte" Lenten campaign is a fun, yearly fundraiser where friends of Cabrini can donate \$7, the cost of a latte, to a specific cause being championed by Cabrini Mission Foundation (CMF). This year, following the devastating tornadoes that hit New Orleans in February, the CMF Board of Trustees decided to make impacted students the fundraising priority.

With help from Yvonne Hrapmann, Principal of Cabrini High School, CMF was informed the greatest need among the students was with Fallon (sophomore, 15 years old) and her parents Wellington and Collette. Approximately 70% of



their roof was lost as well as a significant amount of furniture and personal belongings.

As a result of the generosity of our friends, \$4,000.00 was raised for this family. Sister Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC, President and Chair of the Cabrini Mission Foundation Board of Trustees presented these funds to Yvonne Hrapmann, Principal, and Jack Truxillo, President, of Cabrini High School at the recent Cabrini Leadership Conference.

On behalf of the Cabrini Mission Foundation Board of Trustees, we pray this money will help Fallon, Wellington, & Collette rebuild their lives and move forward from this tragedy. ~ submitted by Melanie Paccillo, CMF



Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC, Provincial, presents a check for Cabrini High School student Fallon and her family, to Cabrini High School President Jack Truxillo and Principal Yvonne Hrapmann.

Summer is Here!

Summer arrived yesterday in the northern hemisphere and that means The Update is approaching its summer schedule. The Update will publish on June 29th, July 6th and July 20th. The Update will be on vacation in August. Prayer requests are always welcome and will be published on Thursdays as they are received. Thank you.



All one body; Forming Intercultural Communities



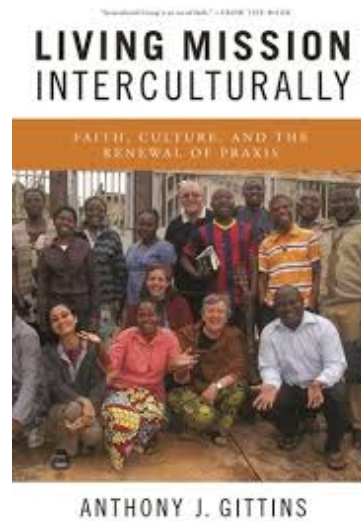
Fr. Anthony Gittins, C.S.Sp.

In the Spring 2017 issue of HORIZON, the journal of the National Religious Vocation Conference, Fr. Anthony J. Gittins, C.S.Sp., a professional social culture anthropologist, offers insights about what time and effort must be expended to have religious communities become truly intercultural. Fr. Gittins' theories have implications for other types of groups and communities, as well. This is the fifth and final installment of Fr. Gittins' article.

Practical Concerns

What is the effect of the imperative of intercultural living on vocation ministry? Clearly, this is a question of utmost importance. First the current membership and its leadership must be apprised of the call and the challenge, and must embrace it at the widest community level. In principle, this means at the general and provincial council levels. Next, the community – especially the formation personnel – needs to undertake some formal training in intercultural living. Then a policy of “quality control” of candidates would need to be formulated, consistent with the charism and ministry of the community. All of this represents a revolution in international religious living.

How might a community welcome new members from various cultures? Again, for such a profoundly important question, simple answers are inadequate. The assumption is of course, that communities do really welcome new members, which is much easier said than done. It is not simply a question of welcoming (assimilating) “the other” but of both learning (about) other cultures (the anthropological component) and being willing to change, not only personally but mutually (the theological component). The outcome will be to change the present culture of religious life; this requires a change from a dominant (Western) cultural model to an evolving (non-dominant-Western) model of religious living. This is true, too, for communities that are not international in outreach, but are multicultural in composition. The specific results cannot be known in advance: this is a work of the Holy Spirit. Are there practical tips for interested individuals and communities? Yes, many, but “practical” should not be understood to mean rapidly or painlessly absorbed. *In Living Mission Interculturally*, several chapters are devoted to the learning of cultural competence, the call to marginal living, acquisition of skills and virtues, and psychological responses to cultural living, among other serious topics.



“The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there,” said L.P. Hartley. Most of today’s religious communities were founded in a time and place vastly different from today. We used to refer to the “world church,” but today we speak of a “global church.” The

difference is one of scale; the speed of social change, a revolution in communication, and the accessibility of travel. In a global world, people are connected in ways very different from before. In a global church we need to learn new ways of living and communicating with others and witnessing the Gospel, “ever old, ever new” (Rev. 21:5).

This installment concludes the article by Fr. Gittens.

Francesca's Garden is Thriving Again this Year!



Long-time readers of The Update will remember that for the past three summers, due to the generosity of former Cabrini University trustee Elizabeth Riley Bell and her husband, Ray, we were gifted with heirloom tomatoes that were planted and nurtured by Gus Feudale, the Cabrini University Grounds Manager, and his crew on the grounds of The Cabrini Cottage. The garden is named in honor of Mother Francesca Cabrini, whose parents were farmers.



The tomatoes are harvested each year and brought to area homeless shelters and homes for rescued victims of human trafficking. This year, Elizabeth and Ray have relocated and so, Gus Feudale and his crew have taken up the mission of the vegetable garden, once again, planting tomatoes, and introducing sweet peppers, mini-eggplant, butternut squash, zucchini and watermelon. Just yesterday morning, the Cottage ladies discovered the first pepper to sprout. Given the combination of the rainy spring and the sun-drenched property where the garden resides, the garden is off to a great start.



The top photo was taken on June 14th, the bottom photo on June 21st, and as you can see, in one week, many of the plants have doubled in size!



The dedicated Cabrini University grounds crew provides TLC for Francesca's Garden. From left: Gavin Eberly, Eduardo Rodriguez, Sean Kelly, Felix Ortega and grounds manager, Gus Feudale, stop by the garden to check the veggies.

Prayer Requests

Emmalyn Maumus

In the past we have prayed for six year-old Emmalyn as she was being treated - successfully - for cancer. Emmalyn has been doing very well and just graduated from kindergarten. Your prayers are asked, once again, for Emmalyn as she undergoes a follow-up MRI on Monday, June 27th. May Mother Cabrini continue to watch over her and may all continue to be well.

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Cabrini Lay Missionaries

On this Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we ask your prayers for the Missionary Sisters throughout the world as they renewed their sacred vows and Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLMs) renew their commitment. Zeal inspires an MSC to action so that others may come to know and dwell in God's love. May Jesus continue to bless our MSCs and CLMs for their zeal and faithfulness to the Church and to all those on the margins of society. Blessings, all!

Gulf Coast Residents

As Tropical Storm Cindy moves through the Gulf Coast, we pray that the flooding and wind damage will be light that all will be spared great heartache and loss. We pray especially for those in the Cabrini High School community. May they and their families and homes be safe. May Mother Cabrini watch over all her students, faculty, staff and administration. May the holy ground of Cabrini High School be protected.

