



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

THE UPDATE

July 21, 2016

The Call of Cabrini – St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine, NYC



Pilgrims from many different nations have visited the St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine in New York City during this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

What has brought a hundred people from Costa Rica, sixty people from Peru, seventy-five more from nations in West Africa, and five hundred fifty local residents to venture to West 190th Street in NYC?

They have all come to visit a church built in honor of a Catholic Sister from Italy as part of a

pilgrimage during the “Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy” or the “Year of Mercy.”

Announced in March 2015 by Pope Francis, the occasion is a period of prayer celebrated by Roman Catholics that began in December 2015 and will last until November 2016.

The focus is on God’s forgiveness and mercy, and Church leaders observe a time of universal pardon and remission of sins.

Devout observers travel to sites around the world to gather, sing, meditate, and pray.

One of those destinations is the unique mid-century modern chapel on Fort Washington Avenue in Washington Heights. The Saint Frances Cabrini Shrine is just outside the entrance of Fort Tryon Park. It is named for the formidable Saint Frances Cabrini, Patron Saint of Immigrants.

She is also commonly referred to as the “Little Sister.”

The shrine is one of only three specially designated pilgrim sites in New York City where the devout may visit to receive special grace and inspiration.

Many arriving pilgrims are drawn by the presence of the Holy Doors, which were blessed last November by Bishop Gerald Walsh, who serves as vicar general of Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York. The visitors pause outside the doors to gather their thoughts.

Some enter the chapel on their knees, some holding hands with loved ones, some singing; but most walk through the doors in mindful quiet.

It was in 1899 the Mother Cabrini discovered the property where the Shrine now stands. At that time, the neighborhood was a remote northwest edge of New York City. The only buildings in this very rural area of Manhattan were the villas of the wealthy. She purchased the property at 190th Street and Fort Washington Avenue, and opened Sacred Heart Villa to create a “residential school for young ladies.”

The Shrine will be celebrating Mother Cabrini’s birthday on July 23 with a family friendly day of special Masses, food and refreshments, and outdoor activities. ~ *submitted by Cherie Sprosty*



St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine entrance

Help Fight Human Trafficking with a Smartphone

Human traffickers often advertise children for sex by posting explicit photos usually taken in hotel rooms. Law enforcement can easily find these photos on the Internet, but the challenge is finding out where these photos were taken— that’s where **you** can help. Sometimes it takes a village to save a child— the [Trafficcam app](#) is creating a virtual network intended to save children from sex trafficking. The TraffickCam app, which is available for iOS and Android, isn't going to solve the problem, but it's one more tool that could help. The concept is simple. A hotel guest takes photos of the room from as many as four different angles and uploads them through an app. The photos, tagged with their specific location, are then added to a massive database of rooms that law enforcement can compare against photos they find on the internet of children, often bought and sold in hotel rooms from high-end to budget motels.



Developed by researchers at Washington University in conjunction with the Exchange Initiative, a nonprofit working on solutions for ending sex trafficking, the TraffickCam app aims to help police narrow down a list of possible locations where the trafficker took the photo of a child being sold for sex. Then, the police can upload that photo to the app and compare it against the photos uploaded by the traveling public.

The app launched June 20 and already has been downloaded more than 56,000 times. They estimate it's getting around 1,700 new photos a day from hotel-goers.

~ *submitted by Karol Brewer, Chairperson, Cabrini Action and Advocacy Coalition (CAAC)*

Mother Cabrini Shrine Gala 2016



With spectacular views of the Rocky Mountains and the city of Denver, the 15th Annual Mother Cabrini Shrine Gala took place at the Pinnacle Club at the Grand Hyatt in downtown Denver.

The near sold out crowd, dressed in their finest summer fun attire enjoyed a wonderful

evening that included a silent and live auction, raffle and dinner all in support of Mother Cabrini Shrine. Jeff Lewis, Shrine administrator, introduced the Missionary Sisters in attendance and showed the new MSC video that was recently created to showcase the mission and work of the Missionary Sisters and their collaborators. Jeff also gave a short presentation of the Shrine's mission statement and ministry and explained that the purpose of the gala was to further support these efforts.



Enjoying the fun and festivity of the Gala are front left: Missionary Sisters Alice Zanon; Bernadette Casciano; Isalia Carvalho; Antonia Plata; Angelina Randazzo and Regina Palamara.

The Company for Cabrini Award was given to Valente's Deli owned by father and son, Larry & Dino Valente. The Valente Family has been so generous to the Shrine providing food and catering for special events as well as memorials in memory of their wife and mother, Elaine.

Two Spirit of Cabrini Awards were given this year; one to mark the years of service Kathy Stortroen has given to the Shrine and the second to honor the thirty years of service of Fr. John Lager, O.F.M., Cap. Both Kathy and Fr. John have given their time and talents to help spread the mission of Mother Cabrini and make the Shrine a better place.



Dedicated volunteer Kathy Stortroen (r.) receives the Spirit of Cabrini Award from Shrine Director of Development JoAnn Seaman (l) and Shrine Administrator Jeff Lewis.



The Company for Cabrini Award was given to Valente's Deli owned by Larry (r.) and Dino Valente a father and son team.

The Shrine also revealed a new video that gives a glimpse of the ministry and mission of the Shrine before a successful paddle raiser for road repairs and other maintenance projects concluded the live auction. To view the new Shrine video click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbdOWHmh5bQ>

The money raised at the gala is used for the operations, maintenance and special projects of the Shrine and it helps us continue our ministry and the

great legacy of St. Frances Cabrini. We are so grateful to everyone has supported this event over the years. Additional gala photos can be seen at:

~ submitted by JoAnn Seaman

https://www.facebook.com/CabriniGoldenColorado/photos/?tab=album&album_id=101543



Photo above: Fr. John Lager, OFM, Cap. receives the Spirit of Cabrini Award as the Gala patrons salute him with appreciative applause and hearty congratulations.

Photo above left: from left: Missionary Sisters Isalia Carvalho; Antonia Plata; Bernadette Casciano; Regina Palamara join JoAnn Seaman and Jeff Lewis and Cabrini Spirit Award winner Fr John Lager OFM, Cap in a photo op.

Photo left: from left: Missionary Sisters Eileen Currie; Angelina Randazzo; Alice Zanon and Roselle Santivasi join Jeff Lewis (back r.) in feting Larry and Dino Valente, (c.) the Company for Cabrini Award winners.



Mother Cabrini Shrine Summer Feast & Bazaar 2016



From left: Sisters Roselle Santivasi, Isalia Carvalho and Antonia Plata are ready for the Summer Feast!

The Mother Cabrini Shrine Summer Feast and Bazaar took place July 9 & 10 and was a celebration in honor of the birth of St. Frances Cabrini and her canonization. It was a faith and fun-filled weekend with Masses, rosary processions, Spanish dancers, food booths, games, bingo and handmade craft items. Mexican food, including tamales, tacos, smothered burritos and nachos, prepared by our Spanish Mass community, was a delicious addition to our food court this year. In addition to the usual Spanish Procession, several groups of Spanish dancers entertained us with their dancing and beautiful costumes. The hot summer weather provided the perfect backdrop for a weekend of celebration. ~ submitted by JoAnn Seaman

MORE Big News from Mother Cabrini Shrine

A Teddy Bear Found!



Anthony Burke with his well travelled and much loved Teddy.

Dianne Burke is a dear friend of Sr. Regina Palamara, MSC and was a vital member of the committee that organized Sr. Regina's Jubilee celebration in St. Finbar Parish in Burbank, CA, last year. Dianne writes to tell us about a recent visit to the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, CO.

Last week on our way home from Mt Rushmore we stopped at the Cabrini Shrine in Golden, CO to say hello to Sister Roselle [Santivasi, MSC.] We had a lovely coffee and snacks with her. We hiked up the hill and purchased a few items in the gift shop. Then we headed for Utah. Two hours later, we realized we left [my son] Anthony's precious teddy bear at the Shrine. We immediately called the Shrine and spoke to the kitchen staff where we thought we had left it. No Teddy. We left a message for Sister Roselle and said a prayer.

Anthony said he was confident the Sisters and staff would find Teddy. He wasn't the least bit worried. He missed him and knew Teddy was going to be okay. Two days later, Sister Roselle called to tell us that Teddy had been found outside the gift shop on the patio. Anthony clasped his hands together, looked to heaven and said thank you.

We got home a few days later and Teddy was delivered in a box with a note. The note let Anthony know that Teddy had enjoyed a 4th of July with the Cabrini Staff. Anthony hugged Teddy for over an hour.

Thank you, Sister Roselle and the Cabrini Shrine Staff!

~ submitted by Dianne Burke



Selfies with Mother Cabrini

It didn't take long for the new tradition of taking a selfie with Mother Cabrini to catch on at Cabrini University. The newly configured garden on campus, which is dedicated to Cabrini Mission Corps, now allows people on campus to get up close to visit with Mother Cabrini. Here the incoming Class of 2020 take selfies as a part of their freshman BBQ and scavenger hunt.

SMILE!



National Shrine in Chicago Hosts Cabrini Birthday Benefit



Photo right: A celebratory Mass was held at the National Shrine of St. Frances Cabrini in honor of her birthday. Fr. Ted Ploplis (r.) was the lead celebrant.

Photo right: Shrine Director Sr. Bridget Zanin, MSC (c.) enjoys sharing the evening with Birthday Benefit Co-Chairs Kevin and Mary Ellen Connellan.



Photo above: National Shrine Rector, Fr. Ted Ploplis, (r.) gave the blessing over the Benefit meal. Nearly 200 people were in attendance. **Photo below:** Mother Cabrini's spirit was upon the event. There was a storm in the area as the Benefit began, but a rainbow appeared over the event venue as the storms subsided.



The 2016 Cabrini Birthday Benefit took place in Chicago on July 13th. Nearly 200 people gathered to celebrate St. Cabrini. They gave thanks to God for her time on earth and the miracles she continues to work. Though the benefit dinner, which was held at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, took place in the middle of a rainstorm, a beautiful rainbow appeared as the weather lightened. Many felt it was a sign from our dear Saint that she was present, ever vigilantly watching over her Shrine and ensuring the benefit's success.

We are immensely grateful to our event's Co-Chairs, Kevin and Mary Ellen Connellan, our benefit committee members, sponsors, staff and volunteers who helped to honor St. Cabrini. Their generous contributions and continued support help keep the Shrine a dynamic spiritual center in a city still so much in need of St. Cabrini's mission and vision. We thank everyone in attendance for their presence and look forward to the 2017 celebration. ~submitted by Mary Kroeck
For more images, please visit facebook.com/CabriniShrineChicago

More Birthday Celebrations!



A birthday celebration in honor of Mother Cabrini was held for the campus community at Cabrini University. Organized by the Mission Advisory Committee of the University, the festivities included readings from *Cecchina's Dream*, a book written by Sr. Mary Lou Andes, MSC and the late Sr. Victoria Dority, MSC; a video presentation on the MSC Institute commissioned by the National Shrine in Chicago; and the sharing of stories of the miracles attributed to Mother Cabrini. Getting ready to cut the cake are: Dr. Beverly Bryde; Sr. Grace Waters, MSC; Maria Small; Anne Schwelm and Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC.

An Update from Francesca's Garden...



Again, this year, thanks to the hot and sunny summer, the heirloom tomatoes donated by former Cabrini University trustee Elizabeth Riley Bell and her husband, Ray, are thriving and are beginning to ripen on the vine at The Cabrini Cottage. Cabrini University Grounds Manager Gus Feudale (r.) carefully tends to the plants, which are looking more like trees! Soon the bountiful harvest will be making its way to Dawn's Place and area soup kitchens and food pantries.



PLEASE JOIN US! – Save the Date*

In the spirit of the Jubilee Year of Mercy



Where?

St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine
701 Fort Washington Ave. New York, NY 10040

When?

Saturday, September 17, 2016 9:30 am – Gathering and Coffee
10:00 am – 4 pm - Program Noon - Liturgy

What?

A Day of Prayer, Reflection and Restoration focused on the Jubilee Year of Mercy. \$30 includes program, materials, continental breakfast, lunch, & refreshments. Mindfulness meditation, spiritual movement, quiet reflection, and insights on mercy and a walk through the Holy Doors will highlight the day.

Who?

All are welcome! Missionary Sisters, Cabrini Lay Missionaries, Cabrini Companions, former Cabrini Mission Corps missionaries and all Cabrini friends.

Presenters: Fr. Edwin Robinson, OFM, Director of Pastoral Care, Cabrini of Westchester
Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC and Cherie Sprosty of the St. F. X. Cabrini Shrine, NYC

How?

*** Registration open now.** To register or for more information, please email: cabriniformation@mothercabrini.org or call 610-902-1038. Space is limited. (The first ten registrants will receive a special Cabrinian gift.) Checks should be made payable to: Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and mailed to: Cabrini Formation Office, 610 King of Prussia Rd. The Cottage, Radnor, PA 19087

From the Province Vocation Promotion Team...

This week, we bring you the concluding excerpts of “Vocations on the Precipice” by Sr. Amy Hereford, CSJ which appeared in the HORIZON Journal of the NRVC.

New members as co-creators

In vocation ministry today, we are not inviting men and women who look like us and think like us to become like us in community. Instead we are reaching out to men and women who are significantly different from us in age, ethnicity, culture, experience, and education. We are inviting them to a space to nurture their vocations and to become co-creators of the next phase of our common story.

Yes, we can and should share our experience of charism, community, spirituality, and mission. But we also have to afford them the space to integrate this experience, and to re-imagine it in terms of their own 21st century sensibilities.



Keep the faith

Vocation ministry today can be a lonely road. We look at our communities and ask if we can realistically invite women and men to join us. If we have someone interested, we may have a very short list of persons and communities to introduce them to as they get to know the community.

Our brothers and sisters, or even we ourselves, may value our ministry in terms of how many have entered, or how many have stayed. We expend our time, our energy, our hopes and our dreams, without the results we might have hoped for. It is important to seek out the support we need in this moment and to keep our hope alive in this challenging ministry.

Form a critical mass

It has become common to say that everyone in the community is a promoter of vocations. The old saying though, may ring true: if it is everyone's job, it is no one's job. It is important to have a critical mass of individuals who have the time, energy, focus and resources to dedicate to this ministry. In my own community, we recently held a series of discernment days for those interested in vocation and formation ministry. Most of the youngest sisters in the province stepped forward for this ministry, and the community entrusted it to us. This experience has already born fruit in affording us the opportunity to work together and to build cohesion in our group. Our team has given us its blessing and has affirmed our efforts.

We are committed to working together to live our lives authentically, to share our joy and hope with interested women, and to open our homes and our hearts to those who wish to join us.

Our team is surrounded by a support team of our elder sisters who have committed to be with us in this ministry, to share their time, their passion for religious life and their experience. Leadership and the wider community has given us its blessing and affirmed our efforts. We pray that this may bear fruit as we do vocation work on the precipice and with the Spirit ~ Sr. Amy

Hereford, CSJ, Vocation on the Precipice, HORIZON Journal of the NRVC

Andrea Baumann, a long time tutor at Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY passed away a week or so ago. Marianne McGowan, a Cabrini Lay Missionary and a Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS) colleague was asked to speak at her memorial. Marianne thought that Update readers might like to read her tribute as an appreciation of the wonderful volunteers we have working with us at CIS.

Memorial for Andrea Baumann

If I wrote a history of Cabrini Immigrant Services since its inception in the Village of Dobbs Ferry about 17 years ago, the story of Andrea Baumann would be in the first chapter with the headline: "New Tutor Volunteers at Cabrini, with a Touch of Class". This was Andrea. This is how it all happened.

On a windy March day about 10 years ago Andrea entered Cabrini's office, then on Cedar Street, looking for some volunteer work to do. She was quite clear about her intent. The work had to be meaningful and she wanted to work with younger adults. Andrea had no intention of simply sitting around. She was no couch potato! Tutoring immigrants in English had an appeal for her and so her tutoring career began. Through the years Andrea



worked with students from various countries, but one student stands out in my mind, Julia.

Julia was from China, married with one little girl. They lived on Cedar Street right across from the office and in an apartment above what is now Fiamore. Julia and Andrea working together was a match made in heaven. Together, they worked each week. Julia always on time for the lesson, Andrea ready to teach, elegantly coiffed...a touch of class. Verbs and pronouns were not the only lessons taught by Andrea. She loved to talk about the importance of good manners, dressing appropriately and our good old American customs and traditions.

Andrea loved good literature! Author Vladimir Nabukov was no stranger to Andrea's lessons. Neither were children's authors like Japanese American Allen Say and the American favorite E.B. White. Sometimes I looked in as these lessons were going on. Andrea and Julia would take turns reading aloud to one another, talking about vocabulary and engaging in follow-up dialogue. It was like watching a well-choreographed dance. Andrea loved talking politics too. Can you just imagine her now?

Whatever happened to Julia? Where does the story end? She learned English well and eventually got a degree in mathematics from a prestigious New York university. She's become a citizen and bought a house in New Jersey. Hers is a true success story. For more than 10 years Cabrini was graced by Andrea's presence, her European old world charm, intelligence, with and wisdom...her generosity. She was a member of our Cabrini family at fundraisers, picnics in Waterfront Park, Christmas parties and citizenship celebrations. Andrea did it all with class.



We thank Andrea. She will forever be remembered in our minds and hearts.

~ submitted by Marianne McGowan



Please Make a Note

Sr. Antonina Avitabile, MSC has a new email address:

aavitabi@gmail.com

Thank you.

Prayer Requests

Fernanda Cabrini

Fernanda, of Brazil, is a member of the Cabrini Family. Her father's uncle is the oldest living relative of Mother Cabrini. Fernanda is requesting prayers for herself and family. Please keep their special intentions in your prayers.

Nancy Marzo Costantino (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1949)

is thankful for our prayers as she recovers from cancer surgery and a broken ankle. Please continue your prayers for her recovery.

Peter Diewald

Please pray for Peter, the husband of Kathy McClintock Diewald (Villa Cabrini Class of 1965), who is undergoing chemotherapy.

Mary Kittelberger Lirhus (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1960)

Mary will soon begin cancer treatment and would appreciate the prayers of the Missionary Sisters and the Cabrinan Community.

Sally Graper Maness (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1968)

is recovering from recent back surgery and during this time your prayers would be gratefully received.

Emmalyn Maumas

In recent weeks, we have been praying for 5 year-old Emmalyn "Emms" Maumas who has been undergoing medical tests at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Please continue your prayers. A Mass of Healing was held today at Cabrini College. Emms' mother is a Cabrini College alumna and her grandmother is a Cabrini College staff member. We are confident that Mother Cabrini is watching over Emms.



Gale Groves-Price (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1958)
is recovering from injuries she received from a fall. Please keep her in your prayers.

Gisela Von Huene Slonneger (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1963)
is grateful for prayers as she prepares for treatment for breast cancer.

In Loving Memory

Mary Pfarr Hartman

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary, the mother of Natalie Pfarr Scott (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1960), who passed away in April 2016.

Margrit Morin

The Villa Cabrini Alumnae and Friends (VCAAF) have just learned that Margrit Morin (Class of 1971) passed away in 2011. Pray for her and her family.

Peter Newman

Your prayers are asked for Peter, the husband of Kae Hammond (Villa Cabrini Academy Class of 1968), who passed away in June 2016. Please pray for Kae and her family at this sad time.



The Update is on vacation in August.

No Update next week. We will be back on Thursday, September 8th.

Prayer Requests may be sent to cabrininews@mothercabrini.org and will be published on Thursdays as they are received.

Please check www.mothercabrini.org for news & the daily meditation. Check our Facebook page, too!