



March 8, 2018

Being Called to Counteract 'Refusal to Welcome' Migrants

by Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

The Catholic Church and Catholic agencies that work with migrants and refugees around the world are called to educate, advocate and seek alternative host countries in the face of a growing “refusal to welcome” newcomers, as the Vatican secretary of state defined the situation.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Pope Francis’ top collaborator, decried how “the most economically advanced” nations, especially those who “undeniably owe a great deal of their development to migrants,” are now trying to close their borders.

At a time when migrants and refugees are fleeing increasingly “terrible experiences” and encountering violence and abuse of their journeys, Catholics feel a particular responsibility to welcome the stranger, he said.

Pope Francis, he said, encourages Catholics to move away from “attitudes of defensiveness and fear, indifference and marginalization – all typical of a throwaway culture – towards attitudes based on a culture of encounter, the only culture capable of building a better, more just and fraternal world.”

Anna Rowlands, professor of Catholic social thought and practice at Durham University in England, told the International Catholic Migration Commission on March 6th, that in promoting a conversation about migration, particularly in countries where there is increasing hostility toward migrants and refugees, she said, one needs to talk not only about the needs of the people arriving, but also about the disorientation currently experienced by citizens of countries that traditionally welcomed migrants.

In the teaching of Pope Francis, Rowlands said, responsibility for the failure to welcome migrants and refugees does not lie with political leaders alone, but with civil society and all its members who have lost the sense of responsibility for each other that makes a society truly civil.

Michele Klein Solomon, director for the Global Compact for Migration of the U.N., said the “single greatest challenge” facing those who assist migrants is “the demonization of migrants and refugees, and this discourse that is so damaging: blaming individuals, labeling individuals as criminals, as threats, as terrorists, as coming to a society to try to take its social services, to take jobs.”



The truth is, she said, that some 258 million people are living outside their homelands, which is just 3.4 percent of the global population; most of them are not in need of special assistance or protection and they overwhelmingly migrated through safe and legal channels.

To read the complete article: <https://www.ncronline.org/news/world/catholics-must-counteract-refusal-welcome-migrants-speakers-say>

Share the Journey: **Meet Our Neighbor**

Kelzang* shares her story: My family was forced out of our home country of Bhutan for having a different religion, language, and being different. My family fled the country for safety leaving behind our home and life. We found ourselves refugees in Nepal, and my older brother, myself and my young sister were all born there. After eleven and a half years in the camp, we were in the process of being resettled. We didn't know where we would be going, but, we knew that we had something to look forward to and it had to be better than the life we were living.



During the process, the small hut we had burned to ashes with thousands of others, so we lived under a plastic tent with the water rushing around us and monsoon rains and wind pulling us. In hopes to have a life, our family set our foot forward blindly to the U.S., the country of hopes and dreams, to the land of freedom, and a land that promised a future that we never saw before. We were resettled in the state of Georgia and so our life finally began.

Before coming here, I wish I knew more of the culture, what I am expected to do, and how things flowed here in the U.S., especially with school and work. The hardest thing has been finding ways to be myself again. It has been difficult adjusting from the language to the simple motion of walking out of the house. But as hard as it is, it is even harder to express who you are as an individual, your ideas, your thoughts, and your love of the ones around.

The friends and organizations that were loving and interested and did not seem to notice the differences have been the biggest help. Everyone around me is the best thing that has happened to me and made me feel like I belong. They have made my experience, as well as my family's, feel easier and gave me hope that I can be safe and can have a life here.

*Not her real name. Her photo identity has been changed for privacy reasons.

~ Justice for Immigrants

This is National Catholic Sisters Week

March 8 – 14, 2018

NCSW is an annual celebration that takes place from March 8-14. Created to honor women religious, it is a series of events that instruct, enlighten and bring greater focus to the lives of these incredible women. It's our chance to recognize all they have done for us. It's also our hope that as more young women learn about women religious, more will choose to follow their example.



National Catholic Sisters Week is held in conjunction with Women's History Month. American Catholic Sisters are such integral parts of our communities and our Church – working joyfully and often without fanfare. They are our friends and relatives, generously serving, leading and praying in communities and ministries across the globe. They make the world a better place, bringing God's love and mercy wherever they serve.

This year's focus is aimed at getting laypeople, especially young women who might consider a vocation to religious life, to engage with sisters.

“A lot of people have never met a sister,” Kjerstin Quinn, NCSW program assistant, said. Most millennials have never met a Catholic sister. It's a way to invite people who have never interacted with religious life before.” ~ by Dan Stockman, *Global Sisters Report* and nationalcatholicsistersweek.org

Cabrini Scholar Visits Radnor Campus

Maria P. Williams, an alumna of St. Francesca Cabrini School sponsored by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in London, England, was the guest speaker at Cabrini University as an integral part of the five part series *The Good That Must Be Done: The Life and Legacy of Mother Cabrini*, sponsored by the University's Wolfington Center.

Maria's presentation explored Mother Cabrini's twelve years of teaching prior to establishing the Missionary Sisters. Maria unpacked the 1880 Rule, calling for her sisters to form hearts in 'the love of religion and the practice of virtue'.

Maria is currently completing her doctoral research at University College London Institute of Education (IoE). Her research explores the educational practice of Mother Cabrini and the MSCs. In her research, Maria has used unexplored sources in Italian in the archive at the MSC Curia in Rome as well as those in the Cabriniana Room at Cabrini University. She is a principal investigator on the 'Pedagogy of Peace: The Theory and Practice of Catholic Teaching Sisters in Educating Migrants' project.

~promotional flyer from Cabrini University Wolfington Center



Maria Patricia Williams

U.S. Bishops Back Assault Weapons Ban; Are Leery of Arming Teachers

The U.S. Bishops' Conference (USCCB) entered its voice Monday into the nation's latest gun reform debate, renewing past support for gun control measures like an assault weapons ban and universal background checks with expressing concern with the idea of arming teachers as a deterrent of future shootings.

"Once again, we are confronted with grave evil, the murder of our children and those who teach them," said Bishop Frank Dewane and Bishop George Murry, chairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development and Catholic Education, following the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

"This moment calls for an honest and practical dialogue around a series of concrete proposals – no partisanship and overheated rhetoric," said Bishops Dewane and Murry.

In that vein, they reasserted the Catholic bishops' long-held support for a federal ban on assault weapons and limiting access to certain handguns and to high-capacity weapons and ammunition magazines.

The bishops also pushed against the idea of placing armed, trained teachers or other professional into schools as a means to deter a shooter – a concept that President Trump has repeatedly advocated in the aftermath of the Stoneman Douglas massacre.

"The idea of arming teachers seems to raise more concerns than it addresses," the bishops said.

"We must explore ways to curb violent images and experiences with which we inundate our youth, and ensure that law enforcement has the necessary tools and incentives to identify troubled individuals and get them help," the bishops said.

"The advocacy by survivors of the Parkland shooting – and young people throughout our nation – is a stark reminder that guns pose an enormous danger to the innocent when they fall into the wrong hands. The voices of these advocates should ring in our ears as they describe the peaceful future to which they aspire." ~ *National Catholic Reporter*



One Minute Meditation

Beyond Loneliness

Every life deals with loneliness at some point. Our partner dies; sickness sets in that makes the old social calendar impossible; we find ourselves in a new job, a new town, a new country, a new world. But, loneliness is about more than simply figuring out how to use time while we try to forget the pain that comes when we're at loose ends. It's also a call to make other people's needs our own. We learn in loneliness that everybody needs someone. Most of all, loneliness is not a call for other people to take care of us, but the call to ourselves to do something to alleviate the loneliness and need of others.

Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB, *Between the Dark and the Daylight*



Cabrini Apartments eases the Senior Housing Crisis in NYC

When Cabrini Apartments opened its doors in 2005, more than 700 applications were on file for the 70 one-bedroom federally subsidized apartments on 19th Street in Manhattan. In late 2017, twelve years later, that file was at long last depleted. Over the years every applicant had either been offered a vacant apartment and moved in, or had otherwise gone off the waiting list for a variety of reasons determined through an annual contact with each of them.

Cabrini Housing Development Fund Corporation Inc., familiarly known as Cabrini Apartments, is one of many low income housing projects funded through the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) throughout the United States. Strict rules apply to every aspect of the operation of the apartments, the annual budget, as well as the tenants who are accepted to reside in an apartment: age – over 62, income – less than \$33,400 for an individual and \$38,200 for a couple annually. For those who qualify, only one third of their income is assessed for rent.

When the waiting list was near depletion, HUD approved a marketing plan, and new applications were once again accepted. On January 11th the required lottery was held to select and log-in the 706 applications resulting from the announcement that Cabrini Apartments was accepting them. Four of Cabrini's staff participated in drawing from the stack of envelopes, numbering, date stamping, and logging them into a permanent file. The next step would be to review every application for adherence to the HUD requirements.

Those who applied were the following: Asian – 517; Hispanic – 9; Black, Non-Hispanic – 23; White, Non-Hispanic – 87 and other – 1. Of the total, 52 were rejected upon review due to age, income, family size (no more than 2 permitted) and/or lack of a social security number.

A recent study reported that almost 102,000 people over the age of 62 wait an average of 7 years to access a rent regulated apartment in one of the 119 buildings in New York City. In addition the true estimated number of those waiting is probably closer to 200,000 when the poor response rate to the survey is taken into consideration. Nearly 20% of all New Yorkers are over 60 years of age, and 20% of those live below the poverty level. Both numbers are growing. The federal HUD program that Cabrini Apartments' tenants enjoy is no longer funding new apartments so it is incumbent on the cities to provide for their elders in need.

We at Cabrini Apartments are moved by the many difficult stories told by the applicants and tenants of their former living arrangements. From living on a roof-top to being trapped in a 5th floor walkup apartment for years, to residing in a shelter, each one bears its own struggles and sorrows. Would that we had more buildings to house them safely, comfortably and affordably. For now, we welcome each new tenant as if they were the only one and offer them the opportunity to enjoy their later years in dignity.

~submitted by Pat Krasnauskay, President and CEO, Cabrini Eldercare



From left: Phillip Deans, Cabrini Apartments Housing Manager; David Arditti, CFO, Cabrini of Westchester; and Leah Alerta, case worker, sort through the many applications for housing.

Cabrini Health Announces Capital Campaign

On 24th March 2018 Cabrini Health in Melbourne, Australia will be launching a major capital campaign to raise money for their State of the Art new hospital building, named the Gandel Wing after their major donors and Joint Patrons, Pauline and John Gandel AC.



Cabrini's Gandel Wing is a continuation of our commitment to world-class, integrated medical care, with the patient-centric approach that has been central to our ethos. This is the most significant building project in Cabrini's history and one that will prove a transformational endeavor for the hospital, its staff and its patients.

Cabrini will be looking to their supporters, patients and the local community to raise the funds that are needed for this redevelopment.

Director of the Cabrini Foundation, Sue Parkes, said, "This is a very exciting time in the history of Cabrini here in Melbourne. The Gandel Wing provides the opportunity for the community to come together and show their appreciation for the care that they have been receiving since the Sisters arrived in Melbourne in 1948."

The construction of Cabrini's new Gandel Wing is a 'once in a generation' project. At a cost of AUD120M, it is a major investment into the wellbeing of the local community and the working environment for staff and doctors. The capital campaign to raise the money needed for this extraordinary project is by far the largest and most significant fundraising project in Cabrini's history.

~ submitted by Sue Parkes, Cabrini Health, with thanks to Melanie Paccillo, Cabrini Mission Foundation

Capital Campaign Launch

GALA DINNER 2018

Investing in the future of Cabrini



When
Saturday 24 March

Where
Great Hall,
National Gallery of Victoria
St Kilda Road, Melbourne

Time
7.15pm - 12am

Dress Code
Black Tie

Bookings
www.cabrini.com.au/gala



A Gala celebration will be held to launch the Capital Campaign for Cabrini Health.

Today - March 8th - is International Women's Day



This year, International Women's Day has arrived with a sense of urgency. For many women, there is a keen awareness that there has been a major shift in the firmament when it comes to gender parity, the treatment of women in the workplace and the resultant dynamics.

But others – scratching out lives in developing countries in Africa, toiling away at jobs with little pay in Latin America or scrambling to raise children without help in the Middle East – probably had little time left over to reflect on the one day of the year designated to celebrate “the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women,” as the International Women's Day website says.

What is International Women's Day?

International Women's Day falls on March 8th every year. The theme of this year's Women's Day is #PressforProgress. The original aim of International Women's Day – held in 1909 - was to achieve gender equality for women. This has not yet been realized.

Why do we continue to celebrate International Women's Day?

It has been shown that the gender gap for pay equity will take 100 years to close which represents a decline. In 2016, it was estimated to be 83 years to close the gap.

Last year also saw the rise of the #metoo movement where women from all over the world came forward to share their story of harassment. The women who broke their silence on assault and harassment were named Time's Person of the Year – the Silence Breakers.

It is because every year, 12 million girls are married, losing their education and suffering ill-health and violence. It is because 63 million girls still need to go to school. It is because women only earn between 60-75% of men's wages – for the same work. It is because 1 in 3 women have experienced physical or sexual violence in their life.

For these reasons, we continue to celebrate International Women's Day.

~ compiled from The New York Times; and International Women's Day website

Please make a note:

Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC has a new email address:

sisterreneemsc@gmail.com



We would like to invite the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to be our guests at this event. Please RSVP to Susan Herceg at (914) 693-6800 ext. 502 or sherceg@cabrini-eldercare.org if you plan on attending.



Prayer Requests

Michael Wetula

Please pray for Michael Wetula, a friend of Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC, who will be undergoing surgery in April.

In Loving Memory

Joseph Salvatore Santoro

The Wetula family, friends of Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, request our prayers for Joseph Salvatore Santoro who passed away in February. Let us also pray for his family at this sad time.