



November 8, 2018

The Patroness of Immigrants St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

~ excerpts from *Gazing Toward the Future*, an essay by Sr. Eliane Azevedo, MSC

Being aware of the political-social-religious-economic situation of the world in which we live and of the consequences that have resulted from a capitalistic culture and a “disposable” culture of the human being, it is urgent to carry out actions aimed at promoting the development of a critical conscience, our place in the struggle for human rights, pastoral and ecological conversion and the support of life in the spaces where the Cabrinian missions are present.

The world today is experiencing a time of great transformation and changes marked by new communication platforms and new technologies, but also by individualism, consumerism and other aspects which directly and indirectly influence Cabrinian missionary life, challenging its prophetic role in the world today.

Pope Francis, in his apostolic exhortation, confirms the values which sustain Christian lives in the midst of so much uncertainty, contradictions, poverty, exclusion and ecological and human degradation. He speaks to the vowed religious and laity with the desire to awaken in all an evangelical response with realism and hope.

The Cabrinian future is taking shape with the boldness of the religious Sisters and laity who develop in the charism and leave it as an inheritance to humanity.

Looking at the mission dreamed of by Mother Cabrini and its realization, we see she was a woman of her time, contemplative, of great Christian vision, whose extensive travels still bear fruit today in the history of the human race. Mother Cabrini knew how to look to the future in search of strategies capable of generating the conditions that could bring benefits to immigrants and to all people, planning a mission beyond any boundaries, considering reality, with realistic goals and in search of the tools to achieve what had been planned. But, she was not anchored in the present. She saw the future and fought so that it might become a reality.

Everything Mother Cabrini created had consequences for the future of the Institute. Everything that we, Sisters and laity, intend to do in the present, will have consequences for our Institute, in the Church and in the world.



This way, [together], immersed in the [current] socio-cultural reality, we will walk towards the future by repeating the motto of St. Paul by which Mother Cabrini lived; “I can all things in Christ who strengthens me.” (Phil 4:13)

A Blessed Feast Day of St. Cabrini to all

November 13, 2018

The Immigrant Caravan is a Wave of Hope for America

~ by Arturo J. Bañuelas, National Catholic Reporter

When the caravan of migrants for Honduras reached the US-Mexico border, it will test the truth of our American values and the credibility of our Catholic social justice teachings. The caravan started on October 13 in the crime ridden Honduran city of San Pedro Sula, and later, migrants from El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala joined them. Approximately 2,300 of them are children. Now there are three caravans. This third caravan is of mothers in search of their children who went missing in the process of migrating to the United States. Months after a court order requiring the reunification of children with their families, hundreds of immigrant youth remain separated from their parents in US detention facilities.



A mother holds her terrified children close to her as the caravan in which they are traveling stormed a checkpoint in Ciudad Hidalgo, Mexico.

This week, border patrol agents in riot gear began exercise drills to prepare for the caravan. Dispatching the most powerful law enforcement and military force in the world to confront harmless immigrants struggling to survive is cruel, inhumane and evil. Overwhelming, these immigrants are not criminals or terrorists, but they are regarded as indistinguishable and disposable.

Immigrants are made in the image and likeness of God and deserve to be treated with respect grounded in the dignity of our shared humanity. Words against immigrants matter, and hate speech has dangerous consequences.

Immigrants are not the problem, and the caravan does not present a crisis or national emergency. Root causes for contemporary responses deserve deeper exploration. Migrants and refugees flee their homelands in search of a sustainable life for their families beyond the reach of drug cartels, poverty and the negative effects of climate change.

Economists and several studies conclude that immigrants do not take jobs away from Americans, they create jobs. They contribute more to the economy than the services they use. They are not a threat to our country, in fact they uphold treasured American values, appreciating hard work, freedom and economic opportunities. This is why the arrival of more immigrants should not be a cause for concern, but a promise of a better United States of America.

From a Catholic perspective, this caravan is a modern-day migrant human rights movement. It is a wave of hope for our neighbors in hopeless situations. These migrants are challenging our US Catholic communities to get out of our comfort and ideological zones to ask profound questions about the impact of our lifestyles in relation to their sufferings. These sisters and brothers of ours are asking us to see the world through their struggles, fears and dreams.

The bonds of solidarity we preach expect us to enter their pain, to listen deeply to their stories and embrace their dreams. Such solidarity becomes transformative in our own spiritual lives. These prophetic journeys call us to an active hope, to transform our love into political action for the common good of all, to seek just solutions to complex, transnational human struggles.

Most importantly, we need to stand in solidarity with a movement of hope in and across the Americas that is affirming the rights of the marginalized and poor to take their rightful place in our diverse society. To read the article in its entirety: <https://www.ncronline.org/news/justice/theology-en-la-plaza/immigrant-caravan-wave-hope-america>



A man protects his child as they approach the border at a checkpoint in Ciudad Hidalgo, Mexico.

Share the Journey: Meet Our Neighbor

Zozan* and her family fled on good to the Turkish border to escape the bombings in her village. Even so, a powerful explosion caused her younger sibling to fly in the air off her brother's back. In the refugee camp, the family received bread that turned out to be poisoned, thus inedible. After a long journey, Zozan and her family arrived in the United States where she attained a bachelor's degree in interior design. She now home schools her two daughters. Zozan's greatest fear is that people will not look beyond her headscarf to see a grateful woman, mother and wife.

~Share the Journey, Be Unafraid, Images of Fear and Hope.

**The image has been changed to protect her privacy.*



MSCs Open New Missions in Rome

The Missionary Sisters recently inaugurated two missions in Rome for refugee women and their children. These photographic images are from the September 30th inauguration. These new mission endeavors are in collaboration with the Scalabrini Sisters. The Scalabrini Sisters are serving as the “lead” congregation. The Missionary Sisters have donated two of our buildings for its use and we hope to have some MSC sisters missioned there. ~ submitted by Sr. Barbara Staley, MSC

This video link features Sr. Barbara Staley, MSC, General Superior speaking after the video hits the 14 minute mark. Sr. Barbara speaks for approximately three minutes. The overall video – in Italian – runs an hour.

<https://youtu.be/decx5Zys ic>



Photo above: Religious sisters from many congregations were on hand for the dedication ceremony for the new residences for refugee women and children.

Photo below: Community members and friends and benefactors of the Cabrini and Scalabrini sisters were on hand for the ceremony.



Photo left: Sr. Barbara Staley, MSC, General Superior visits with a sister a visiting congregation before the festivities.

Special Announcement from Sr. Barbara Staley, MSC, General Superior

Please spread the news! – What a great way to celebrate the Feast Day!

There is a movie on Mother Cabrini to be televised **on this Saturday Nov 10th at 8PM on EWTN**. The producers of this film worked closely with the General Council on this project for the past two years.

The link for the EWTN program schedule is:

<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/prime/ewtn cinema.asp>

You have heard the stories about migrants seeking refuge.
You have heard the disparaging language.
You have heard the fearmongering.

Now we act – not just listen – and engage in the hard work to save the soul of our nation.



The **New Sanctuary Coalition** is issuing a National Call to Action as we spend 40 days and 40 nights in the desert to help and support the Exodus of people fleeing to the US for sanctuary.

They want to live. They want their children to live.

We expect to spend some of those days during the Christmas holidays.
This is even more critical because of the hateful rhetoric we are subjected to every day.
Members of our government are calling for a military and vigilante respond to the Exodus.

Hate speech and violence have crept into our communities with the targeting of synagogues and other houses of worship and murders in their congregations. We want and need to stop this violence and we are calling you to stand with us, to put your bodies on the line.

If you are a lawyer, join our legal community. If you are a faith leader, join our clergy group. If you are a person of conscience, join our local organization in your state. Click [here](http://sanctuarycaravan.org) to tell us how you would like to become involved and we will contact you with an organizing community that matches your skills and interests. ~ Sanctuary Caravan at NSC <http://sanctuarycaravan.org>

A New Parish in Swaziland



Photo above: Sr. Diane Dalle Molle, MSC, regional superior, joins MSCs and the local bishop and several MSCs for the dedication of the new parish church in Swaziland.

Photo right: Parishioners are dressed in their Sunday finery waiting for the inaugural mass to commence. May God and Mother Cabrini bless this new church community!



Welcome to St. Frances X. Cabrini Church and Parish.



Halloween Fun at Sacred Heart Convent



Who is hiding behind those dazzling masks? Could it be (from left seated:) Sr. Joan Marie Sariti; Sr. Damien Ciminera; Standing from left: Sr. Claudia DeMarco; Sr. Maria Loretta Caeti; Sr. Consolata Demma; Sr. Benedict O'Donnell; and "coach" Sr. Lucille Souza.

The Sisters at the Sacred Heart Convent in New York City really got into the Halloween spirit and made their own masks during a craft activity with social worker Stacey DeWitt. Did the Sisters also go trick or treating? Hmm. ~ submitted by Maria Diaz, Sacred Heart Convent



From the Province Vocations Team...

Sharing Insights on the National Religious Vocations CONVOCATION 2018

by Sr. Martha Lopez, MSC, a member of the MSC Province Vocation Promotion Team



Camaraderie and joyful moments are an integral part of the NRVC Convocation experience.

From November 1 to 5, we gathered as members of the National Religious Vocations Conference, (NRVC) in the City of Light, Buffalo, NY, 307 religious from 32 states in the US, as well as Canada, Mexico and the United Kingdom, who with passion and energy are working for more vocations for Church. Our theme of

the Convocation was: **"Walk with me: Encounter, Accompaniment and Invitation"**. To develop this theme we had excellent presenters, such as Dr. Hosffman Ospino, Father Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A., Sister Xiomara Méndez Hernández, O.P., among others.

The Convocation was truly a moment of growth, a time to share our experiences as vocational ministers and to receive new "tools" for new times with new realities that await new answers. We are realizing that every vocational encounter is a whole "Lectio Divina" since it is about reading and re-reading "divine" stories. These are meetings from heart to heart with one another.

Some powerful take-aways from the Convocation:

We will have vocations when...

- We open the doors of our communities
- We accept the differences of age, of cultures, of traditions
- We accept and welcome not only our candidates, but, their family members, as well

SUGGESTIONS for vocation promotion on from those assembled:

- Go to the borders, be with the people there
- Invite our Asian brothers and sisters to discern religious life
- Place our houses of formation in the U.S. Southwest
- Learn to speak Spanish
- Work in parishes and in university campus ministry offices
- Insert ourselves with those in Hispanic, African and Asian communities to learn and understand their needs and expectations.
- Make more time within our Institutes for a focus on vocation ministry.
- Make a "radical choice for relationships" between us and youth and their families.



The NRVC Convocations are not only great events to learn and be inspired, they also provide opportunities to meet long time Cabrini friends. Here Sr. Martha Lopez, MSC takes a selfie with former Cabrini Mission Corps missionary, now, Sister Michelle Woodruff, ASC, a sister of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ.

Letting My Soul Light Shine

Recently, MSC Candidate Evalyn Ndunge participated in a Search Retreat sponsored by the Cabrini University Campus Ministry. She shares her experience with our Weekly Update readers.



Proudly displaying the banner for the SEARCH Retreat is MSC candidate Evalyn Ndunge (c.). Campus Minister Rosa Altomare (2nd r.) helps to organize the retreat along with Fr. Carl Janicki, the Director of Campus Ministry and University chaplain (back, l.)

This Search Retreat was such a special moment and something that I will remember for a long time. I believe that there was a great reason and purpose for me to be there that weekend. I had so many questions at the beginning of my Search Retreat but as time went on, I realized and learned that God surprised me, and He had something special for me. I came to discover that I was not alone, I had God, family, friends and community which always walk with me. It was such a surprise to discover how supported, loved and cared about, I am.

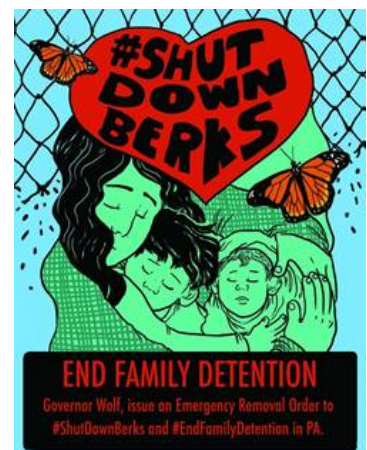
Reconnecting with my peers was something I found interesting that weekend, just getting to know them as they know me, as well. The most important part of this search was that I gained a valuable experience and learned to let the light in my soul shine. I discovered something new and great about myself.

I would like to end this brief summary by thanking all the sisters, professors and friends who made it special and fun. Thank you so much for all your love, prayers and support. I love you, too, and you will always be in my prayers, heart and thoughts. God bless you all.

~submitted by Evalyn Ndunge

The next interfaith vigil to shut down Berks County Detention Center, which detains immigrant families, will take place in **Leesport, PA**, on **Sunday, November 11**, from 3:30PM - 4:30PM. Cabrini University is assisting with coordination of the vigil in collaboration with Saint Joseph's, LaSalle, and Villanova Universities, and the Aquinas Center. A van will depart from Cabrini at **2:30PM** and return around **5:30PM**. If you would like to participate, **RSVP by the end of the day today**, to Ashley Woodruff at aw698@cabrini.edu.

END FAMILY DETENTION!



YOU Shared the Journey!

Stories of leaving home at age 2, 15, 17, treks through desert and jungle, illness and lack of funds, tearing apart from parents, grandparents, longing but unable to go back.... these are but a few of the poignant moments shared personally by immigrants during the "witness pauses" in our Pilgrimage 2018. This made the understanding of the plight of immigrants/refugees more real for the participants, leaving not just a few dry eyes. Statistics of the millions of refugees and immigrants also brought to light the enormity of the situations. Participants in the Pilgrimage in Chicagoland left in the end for their homes, knowing that so many immigrants will never be able to return home.

And we were not alone. Nine walkers chose to join us remotely, from near and far, and walked a total of 52 miles. They also had access to the many resources available through sharejourney.org so that they could join hearts and minds to this effort. ~ submitted by Sr. Catherine Fedewa, CSFN



This young man shares his story before the Share the Journey walk in Chicagoland.

VISIONARIES GALA



With Cabrini University President Dr. Donald B. Taylor watching the presentation, Dr. Michelle Filling-Brown awards the prestigious Compass Award to Cabrini (College) University alumna Becky Bradbeer for her support of so many cultural and humanitarian causes.

Not even the threat of severe thunderstorms or a tornado watch could dampen the high energy of the Visionaries Gala at Cabrini University which was held on Friday evening, November 2nd.

At the sparkling event held in the historic Woodcrest Mansion on campus, three distinguished awards were presented:

The Christopher Award for Extraordinary Leadership given to Barbara and John Jordan.

The Luminary Award presented to someone who lights the way for others awarded to Jennifer Wahl '05, recently name Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year.

and

The Compass Award bestowed upon someone who has respected the dignity of the human person given to Rebecca Bradbeer '94.



St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Feast Day Celebration

NOVEMBER 10 & 11, 2018
10 am–5 pm

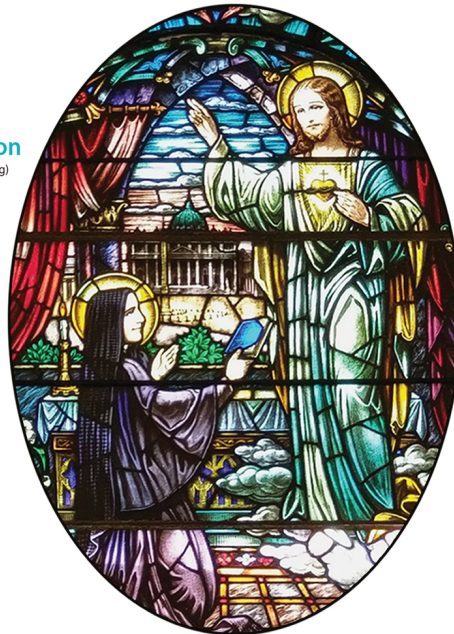
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 12:00 Italian Mass**
1:00 pm Traditional Procession
Led by Italian band. (Weather permitting)
2:00 pm French Mass

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 11:00 am English Mass**
Celebrant: Bishop Gerald Walsh
1:00 pm Filipino Mass
3:00 pm Spanish Mass

Following the Mass and the procession, free coffee and pastries will be available, and there will be prepared food available for purchase. Our Gift Shop will feature many new items, including Advent and Christmas gifts.



ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI
Patron Saint of Immigrants

SABADO, 10 DE NOVIEMBRE

- 12:00 Misa en italiano**
1:00 pm Procesión tradicional
Con una banda italiana
2:00 pm Misa en francés

DOMINGO, 11 DE NOVIEMBRE

- 11:00 am Misa en inglés**
Celebrante: Obispo Gerald Walsh
1:00 pm Misa filipina
3:00 pm Misa en español

Después de la misa y la procesión, café y pasteles gratis estarán disponibles, y otros alimentos preparados estarán disponible para la venta. Nuestra tienda de regalos contará con muchos elementos nuevos, incluyendo Adviento y regalos de Navidad.

Subway:

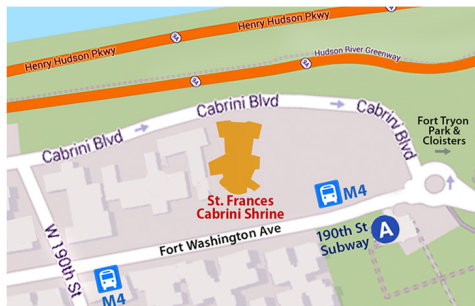
Take the A train to 190th Street and exit the station by elevator. The Shrine is across the street.

Bus:

Take the M4 bus, get off at 190th St.

By Car:

From midtown Manhattan, take the Henry Hudson Parkway northbound and Riverside Dr. to Ft. Washington Ave. Turn left onto Ft. Washington Ave.



Subway:

Tome el tren A hasta la estación 190th St. Para salir de la estación tome el elevador y suba las escaleras. La iglesia está ubicada al cruzar la calle.

Autobus:

Tome el Autobus M4 hasta la calle 190.

En Automóvil:

Desde el centro de Manhattan, Tome la dirección norte del Hudson River Parkway y Riverside Drive hacia Fort Washington Ave. Gire a la izquierda en Fort Washington Ave.

ST. FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE

701 Fort Washington Avenue New York, NY 10040
212-923-3536 cabrinishrineNYC.org



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to a child's face!

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DISTRIBUTION!

PURCHASE A GIFT FROM OUR
WISHLIST: [TGT.GIFTS/CIS-NYC](https://tgt.gifts/cis-nyc)

OR MAKE A DONATION:
[BIT.LY/DONATECIS](https://bit.ly/donatecis)



Prayer Requests

Karol Brewer

Please join us in prayer for Karol, in the Province Formation Office, who underwent back surgery today. Pray that the surgeon's hands may be guided and that Karol's procedure will be successful and that her recovery will be swift and uneventful.

Len Grabert

Your prayers are asked for Len Grabert, a member of the Cabrini High School Board of Trustees and other Cabrini committees. He is taking a break from volunteering for Cabrini as he begins treatment and devotes his energy to returning to good health.

In Loving Memory

Fran Anello Telesmanich

Please pray for Sr. Bernadette Anello's cousin, Fran Anello Telesmanich, who suffered a massive stroke and returned home to God at the end of October. Please remember her husband, daughter, grandchildren and entire family at this sad time.

A Feast Day Prayer

St. Cabrini – Woman of God, Woman of Spirit and Vision

You crossed the ocean many times to bring the love of Christ to many nations.

You offered the people you met the gift of life and love by responding to their physical, emotional and spiritual needs in practical and creative ways.

Against great odds you achieved what was thought to be impossible.

Inspired by your sense of justice, your love and compassion, I come to you now to intercede for me in my time of need.

Watch over me this day and those I love.

Strengthen me in my weakness, sustain me in my struggles – bring me deep and lasting peace and make me whole again.

And, may I always recognize Christ in the people I meet and respond to them with respect and sensitivity as you did.

Amen.

