



February 28, 2019

Sisters at Abuse Summit Hope Standard is Set for More Women at Vatican Meetings

~ Joshua J. McElwee, *Global Sisters Report*

The Catholic sisters who took part in Pope Francis' summit on clergy sexual abuse say they hope the presence of a dozen women at the gathering sets a standard for a growing presence of women at Vatican meetings of bishops.

"We would like to think that this is how things will be in the future," Maltese Sr. Carmen Sammut, one of the women invited to attend the Feb. 21-24 summit on child protection, said at a Feb. 25 briefing. While three women religious participated in the 2018 Synod of Bishops, 10 attended the summit.

"We hope that this is an example of what will happen in the future, that we will have more say, more places in synods and other big meetings at the Vatican," Sammut said.

Sammut, who heads both the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa and the Rome-based umbrella group International Union of Superiors General, spoke at the briefing alongside five other sisters who took part at the summit: Irish Blessed Virgin Mary Sr. Pat Murray, Nigerian Holy Child Jesus Sr. Veronica Openibo, German Holy Spirit Sr. Maria Hornamann, Mexican Mary Reparatrix Sr. Aurora Torres, and Indian Jesus and Mary Sr. Monica Joseph.

Murray, UISG's executive director, said the group represents about 1,900 religious congregations around the world that consist of more than 600,000 women.

"We had an important role to play [at the summit], representing the women religious of the world and also taking on the responsibility that we have for running so many institutions, projects and programs," Murray said.

"We saw also ourselves speaking on behalf of women in general," she said. "We didn't just see ourselves speaking for the women religious of the world, but also for women in general."



Nigerian Holy Child Jesus Sr. Veronica Openibo (2nd r.) (also on screen) spoke at the Vatican summit.

NCR Photo/Joshua J/ McElwee

Openibo, who [in a speech to the summit Feb. 23](#) addressed what she called a culture of "mediocrity, hypocrisy and complacency" that led to the abuse scandals, said she hopes in the future, more laywomen "might also be added so that the church's voice, including women, would be there."

"I hope our brothers have listened, have seen the difference, and they will make the changes," she said.

To read the complete article: <https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/equality/sisters-abuse-summit-hope-standard-set-more-women-vatican-meetings-55909>

Share the Journey: Meet Our Neighbor

On January 29, 2019, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis held a parish leadership convening on the Catholic Accompaniment and Reflection Experience (CARE) program. The CARE program is a new pilot initiative launched by the USCCB/MRS in the fall of 2018 and it is committed to connecting Catholic volunteers and men and women religious to undocumented individuals, unaccompanied children, and their families who are in need of accompaniment and support in their community.

At the convening, faith leaders from across the Archdiocese learned how their parishes could get involved in the accompaniment and support of immigrants and their families and listened to stories of individuals who have experienced accompaniment. Horacio Galvez Garcia, a parishioner at St. Philip Neri in Indianapolis, was one of those individuals who shared his experiences with accompaniment.



Horacio* has been living in the U.S. for the past 17 years with his grandmother who raised him since he was three months old. Last February, ICE agents came to his door and detained him. Horacio's grandmother had passed away one month prior to being detained and he found it difficult to remain positive and hopeful about what his future might be while in detention. Members of his local community and parish rallied around him and made sure they were present at his court hearings even though Horacio was only allowed to appear for his hearings on video from inside the detention

center. Eventually, he was released from detention and allowed to return to his Indianapolis home. Horacio said the support he received from his community and parish during those hearings and throughout his detention helped him to maintain hope that he would soon be released.

Across the country, an increasing number of undocumented individuals are becoming more afraid to engage in daily life for fear of being apprehended and separated from their family and community. The CARE program aims to foster a space of solidarity and encounter, and to help facilitate a larger accompaniment movement to ensure that individuals like Horacio never have to face their immigration proceedings alone and that each person is supported every step of the way. If you want to learn more about the CARE program and accompaniment, please see the [CARE page](#) on the JFI website.

*Photo changed to protect his privacy.

~ *Justice for Immigrants*

Archdiocese of Chicago Creating Awareness on Plight of Immigrants/Refugees



Sr. Cathy Fedewa, CSFN, (standing l.) of the Cabrini Retreat Center, joins with Immigration Parish Coordinators (IPC) as they paused for a photo with IPC Coordinator Mary Lou Mantheke and Olga Rothas, Archdiocesan Immigration Attorney (seated 2nd r. and r. respectively.)

The Archdiocese of Chicago has a rather extensive immigration ministry as part of its administrative organization. One aspect of the ministry actually focuses on **non-immigrants**, those people and parishes who are interested in helping educate others to the plight of immigrants/refugees.

The ***Immigration Parish Coordinator Committee*** educates on the Gospel message of welcoming the stranger to native-born parishes through brochures, bulletin announcements, liturgical calendars, speakers and immersion experiences. Just recently they began a series of film presentations to help non-immigrants understand some of the difficulties, dangers and risks in leaving a homeland.

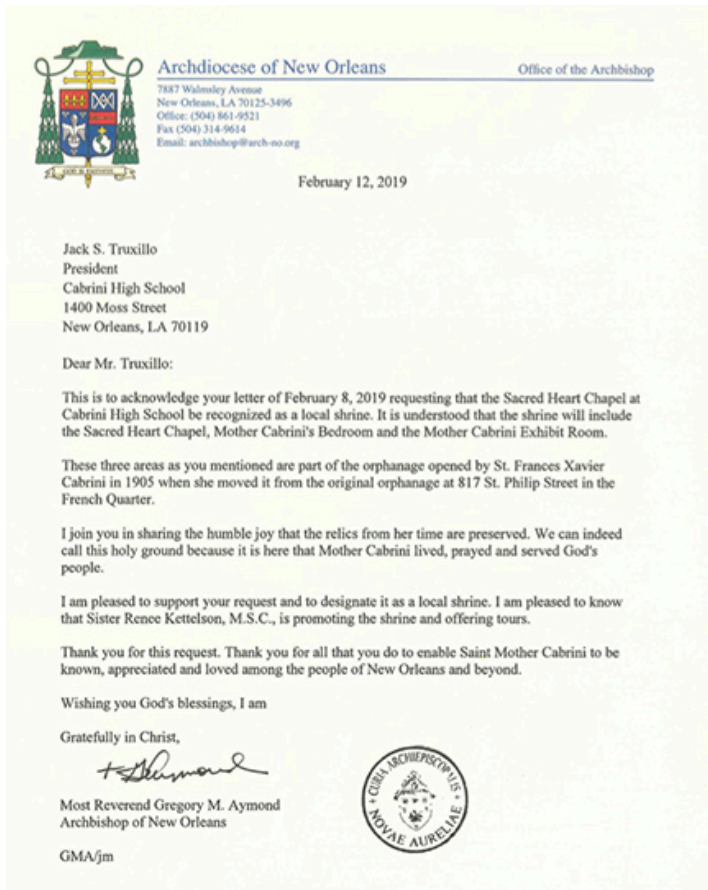
Recently, with new leadership, they have begun a series of bi-monthly forums to strategize and educate the 124 parish volunteers designated as IPC Coordinators. Sr. Cathy Fedewa recently joined this committee and will be looking into ways that Cabrini Retreat Center can assist in this ministry.

~ submitted by Sr. Cathy Fedewa, CSFN, Cabrini Retreat Center

One Minute Meditation - A Faithful Friend is Beyond Price

Friendship has suffered some spiritual inflation in the age of Facebook pages listing hundreds of friends. C.S. Lewis once wrote: "I cannot understand why anyone should wish to know more people than one can make real friends of." There is a function and value for social media, but in *The Four Loves*, Lewis celebrated friendship as a medium for deeper connections: "What draws people to be friends is that they see the same truth." We do not trust our deepest secrets to casual relations: "Let your acquaintances be many, but one in a thousand your confidant." We do not pour out our hearts on the internet, but face to face to a soul mate: "A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter and those that find one find a treasure." ~ Jerry Wellte

Exciting News from New Orleans



On Holy Ground

Mr. Jack Truxillo, the President of Cabrini High School in New Orleans, recently shared with the Missionary Sisters that the Sacred Heart Chapel at Cabrini High School as well as Mother Cabrini's bedroom and the Mother Cabrini Exhibit Room have received official recognition as a local shrine by Archbishop Gregory Aymond.

Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC serves as a tour guide for visiting groups to Cabrini High School.

Mr. Truxillo is grateful to the Missionary Sisters for their support in achieving this distinguished designation.

*~ with thanks to Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC
Provincial*



From the Province Vocation Promotion Team...



This has been a busy month for the National Religious Vocations Conference Delaware Valley member area vocation directors. The group hosted their third Gift of Mission vocation day for high school juniors, this time at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Mercy in Merion, PA on Wednesday, February 27. Young ladies from Merion Mercy Academy, Merion, PA; Mercy Vo-Tech High School, Philadelphia, PA, and Lancaster Catholic High School, Lancaster, PA, joined in the educational, spiritual, interactive and fun day.

Freedom and Love



Freedom & Love was the theme of a benefit concert sponsored by Saint Mary of the Woods Parish near Chicago on February 22. Mathieu Mieling, Producer/Director, explained that he has wanted to do something for the benefit of immigrants and Bethany House was brought to his attention. So he organized his group to offer the concert which was actually part of a series that his parish hosts throughout the year.



Mathieu Mieling (c.r.) and his band performing in the benefit concert.

Admission to the concert was a free-will donation, which was then offered as a gift to Bethany House of Hospitality, a home which offers housing and support to young immigrant women in their journey toward independence.



Two Bethany House residents post with their creations which were on sale during the concert.

Two of the BHH residents were present at the concert, selling some of the crafts which they have begun to create. This is a project which allows for some small personal income while they await their work permits.

Bethany House is also the grateful recipient of support from the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

~ submitted by Sr. Cathy Fedewa, CSFN



Happy Goings-on at Sacred Heart Convent



Recently the Missionary Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent in New York City were treated to a relaxing paraffin wax therapy that leaves their hands feeling soft and well cared for. From left are: Sr. Claudia DeMarco, Sr. Stephanie Kabacinski, Barbara Facey, Sr. Amada Liboro and Sr. Consolata Demma. Anyone who has ever experienced dry, chapped hands during winter can appreciate what a difference this treatment can make!



Sr. Mary Ann Hawes proudly displays her new library card and quickly delves into one of the books she borrowed from the library. Enjoy, Sr. Mary Ann!



New resident of Sacred Heart Convent, Sr. Mary Ann Hawes has just obtained her first-ever New York City Public Library card. Sister Mary Ann is a long-time supporter of libraries, utilizing their thoughtful staff and immense resources as a K-12 teacher and competitive speech and debate coach at St. Donato Elementary School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 1990-2009. Sister Mary Ann has also been a contributor to "Friend of the New York Public Library" since 2014. Sister Mary Ann is particularly fond of mystery and historical fiction novels and wants to share, "I hope to encourage and convince more people to utilize libraries- warm welcoming wonderful places. And it saves me from buying more books!".

~ submitted by Maria Diaz, Sacred Heart Convent

National Catholic Sisters Week

March 8 - 14



MEET A **SISTER.**
BE **INSPIRED.**

National Catholic Sisters Week (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, a branch of National Catholic Sisters Project headquartered at Alverno College in Milwaukee, Wisc., is headquartered at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minn., and is held in conjunction with Women's History Month.

This would be the perfect time to contact a Missionary Sister who has impacted your life to thank her and to keep all the Missionary Sisters in prayer.

To learn more: <http://www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org/about.php>

A Lenten Prayer and Message from Sr. Grace

Next week, we begin the Lenten season a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In preparation for Lent, Sr. Grace Waters, MSC, in collaboration with Cabrini Lay Missionary Melanie Paccillo, has recorded an audio prayer and reflection for Ash Wednesday.

To access the audio prayer segment:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=14GKM2HtbeDnCezUSzpU10_4vNPmAXIwd

We hope to bring you additional audio reflections throughout Lent.



Cabrini University is pleased to announce the
showing of



Human Trafficking Awareness Movie Event

Wednesday March 13, 2019 Movie starts at **6:00 pm**

Cabrini University Grace Hall Atrium

From Liberty to Captivity, is a documentary exploring the tragic reality of sex trafficking in Pennsylvania through the stories of victim survivors and abolitionists fighting to end this great crime against humanity. Woven into the film is a message of both justice and hope for the future. Reflecting on the powerful effect of the abolitionists in the 19th century, this film documents one state's fight for freedom from slavery.

With its proverbial lens, "From Liberty To Captivity" will zoom-in on Pennsylvania's booming and profitable sex trafficking industry, which is threatening to destroy the principle of "liberty and justice for all." This feature-length film will reveal the reality and complexities of sex trafficking crimes and this social justice issue and present the very real hope of conquering it. We will follow several individuals through their personal and professional experiences with trafficking. Our mission is to awaken people from all walks of life to the pervasive reality of sex trafficking in Pennsylvania and to plant seeds of hope, inspiring them to carry forth the legacy of the abolitionists who came before them, fighting for freedom and rewriting America's history.

The film, produced and directed by Debbie Wright, has received numerous awards, including Best Documentary by the Top Indie Film Awards Film Festival.

Free Event – Open to the Public

Click on link to register for event at: <https://tinyurl.com/y3f5x73w>

Proceeds go to the Cabrini Closet and local anti-trafficking partnerships.

We will be accepting donations of gift cards (Target, Walmart), underwear, feminine hygiene products, and travel sized bottles of shampoo and/ or soaps at this event.

Questions about event - cabriniinformation@mothercabrini.org

We will record student attendance at this event.

Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC
celebrating their
20th Anniversary

Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC, Inc. invites
you to celebrate our 20th anniversary at the

*Heart of Cabrini
Benefit Dinner*

APRIL

2

6:00 PM

MANHATTAN PENTHOUSE ON 5TH AVENUE
80 Fifth Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10011

Honoring

FRANCES LIU

Vice President of Strategy, Citi Community Development

HON. BARBARA A. LEE

Ll. B. Harvard 1962, Former CIS-NYC ESOL Teacher

JESSICA GARCIA

Assistant to the President, RWDSU

Details & Tickets:
<http://bit.ly/cisbenefit2019>



METROPOLITAN CLUB NEW YORK

ONE EAST SIXTIETH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019

CABRINI MISSION FOUNDATION GALA

HONORING

REVEREND MONSIGNOR GREGORY MUSTACIUOLO

&

SISTER LUCILLE SOUZA, MSC

The Season of Lent

Delay Not Your Conversion

Once again, the season of Lent will soon be upon us, which God offers us as a sacramental sign of our conversion. Lent summons us and enables us to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.



Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. Love can grow cold in our communities as indicated by selfishness and spiritual sloth, sterile pessimism, the temptation to self-absorption, constant warring among ourselves, and the worldly mentality that makes us concerned only for appearances and thus lessens our missionary zeal.

If, at times, the flame of love seems to die in our own hearts, know that God gives us a chance to begin loving anew. ~ Pope Francis, *Words of Grace*

Prayer Requests

Ashley Block

Please keep Ashley, a former Cabrini Mission Corps missionary, in your prayers. Ashley underwent thyroid surgery yesterday. She is now recuperating at home. Please pray that she has a swift and uncomplicated recovery.

Joachim O'Brien

Your prayers are requested for 16 year-old Joachim O'Brien who has been diagnosed with AVM - Arteriovenous Malformation of the brain. He has lost much of his ability to function. Please pray that the treatment he is receiving will restore him to health. His mother, Linda O'Brien, is a good friend of Sr. Grace Waters, MSC and her friend Penny Gonzales.

With a Grateful Heart

Joe Stimmler

Joe Stimmler, the owner of the Regina Nursing Center in Norristown, PA, for whom we have been praying after he suffered a massive heart attack has been discharged from Bryn Mawr Rehab and will continue to receive rehab on an outpatient basis. He is so grateful for all the prayers and support he has received from so many people.

In Loving Memory

Charlene Hill

The Cabrinian Community joins the University Community in extending sympathy to Dr. Martha Ritter, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, on the loss of her mother, Charlene Hill, who passed away on Tuesday, February 19th, 2019. Please remember this family in your prayers.

Nilda Lopez

The Cabrinian Community joins the Cabrini University Community in extending sympathy to Angie Martinez, Center for Student Success, on the loss of her mother, Nilda Lopez, who passed away on Friday, February 22, 2019. May she rest in God's eternal peace.

Julie Rawls

Kindly pray for the repose of the soul of Julie Rawls, the daughter of Cabrini University Trustee Emerita Barbara Rawls. Julie passed away suddenly last week. Please pray for the comfort of her mother at this very sad time.

