



October 10, 2019

Unveiling Monument to Migrants, Pope Francis Urges Compassion for Refugees

~ by Elisabetta Povoledo, *The New York Times*

Pope Francis has always urged compassion and charity toward the refugees of the world, but, during a special Mass on the 105th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, he unveiled a monument to migration in St. Peter's Square as an homage to the displaced.

The work, "Angels Unaware" by the Canadian artist Timothy P. Schmalz, depicts 140 migrants and refugees from various historical periods traveling on a boat, and includes indigenous people, the Virgin Mary and Joseph, Jews fleeing from Nazi Germany and those from war-torn countries. The sculpture was requested by the Vatican's Office of Migrants and Refugees and funded by the Rudolph P. Bratty Family Foundation.



Pope Francis said that the statue had been inspired by a passage in "Letters to the Hebrews," from the New Testament: "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

The pope said he wanted the statue in St. Peter's Square "so that all will be reminded of the evangelical challenge of hospitality."

In his message, Francis said that it was "the poorest of the poor and the most disadvantaged who pay the price" of wars, injustice, economic and social imbalances, both local and global.

Migration has become a flash point around the world in recent years, as millions of people have been displaced by wars in Syria and Afghanistan and economic deprivation in Africa, many seeking a better life in Europe.

Immigration has spurred a bitter backlash as nations seek to put up fences and walls, and it has prompted debate in the United States over how to handle asylum seekers from Central America. In Asia, the oppression and dispersion of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar has become a humanitarian crisis.

Francis has emerged as a champion of refugees and migrants. Soon after his election in 2013, he denounced the "globalization of indifference". Since the European migrant crisis of 2015, the pontiff has consistently promoted the need to welcome refugees, who he believes have been exploited by nationalists. ~ with thanks to Nancy Golen and Sr. Cathy Fedewa, CSFN, Cabrini Retreat Center

To access the complete article:

<https://ignatiansolidarity.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8e141d38e4bb12b990251e274&id=04e6a35129&e=1fac3c745e>

Run for Your Life!

Uniting Hearts & Minds with our Migrant Sisters & Brothers

Every two seconds, one person is forcibly displaced from his/her home.

This week, we continue our coverage on the “Run for Your Life” simulation that took place at the Cabrini Retreat Center in Des Plaines, IL from September 13 – 16th. A variety of adult and youth groups from across the Archdiocese of Chicago participated in the simulation.



Trying to remain calm as they take to the sea in their fragile rubber boats, the refugees struggle as each day passes without food and water.

Participants, now in their roles as a family unit, hurriedly begin their journey as it is no longer safe to stay in their home/country. They have a sense of the direction they will travel in but they're not real clear. It doesn't take long before they find they are stopped by strangers who either offer to help them on their way (for a price) or who simply take advantage of them and will not let them pass unless they part with some of their money or goods that they have brought with them.

They realize now that they must cross the sea to get away from all those seeking to harm them. They must head for the harbor and passage which other strangers have promised will take them safely across the sea (again for a fee). They finally get to the harbor and find their boats are simply rafts but they have no choice; they can't go

back. They are given one life jacket for the family, but still have some resources to pay for a few more. They enter the rafts with many others and are told they must give up some heavier possessions they brought because the crowded boat is too heavy.



As they sail along, the waves get rough and their boat is suddenly swamped by a huge wave. They survive the wave but anything they brought that could be ruined by water is now also gone. Then, a ray of hope...a ship is seen in the distance. Perhaps it can rescue them! But... it is a ship of pirates and they must give them any valuables they are carrying...or forfeit their lives.

They now have very little, if anything, left of their resources, and they continue to move across the water over days and days.....no more water, no more food, burning sun, seasickness, and sometimes death. Will they ever be able to reach land and safety across the sea???? Was this a mistake???? ~ submitted by Sr. Cathy Fedeva, CSFN

To be continued...

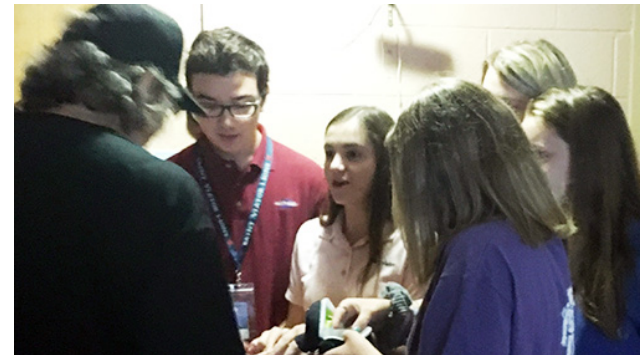


Photo above and below: It seems that at every turn someone is demanding money from the refugees. Unscrupulous people demand payment for passage and life vests. Not everyone can pay.



Cabrini Health Shares a Touching Story...

Quilting Helps Pass the Time



They say a ‘stitch in time saves nine’ but for Cabrini oncology patient Glenyce Richardson, it has saved a lot more.

The sprightly 90-year-old attributes quilt-making to keeping her sane during various bouts of illness.

Still as quick-witted as ever, Mrs. Richardson said she needed something to keep her occupied while she was in hospital and with extra time on her hands was able to rekindle her love of quilting.

“I love patchwork and it gives me something to do rather than just sitting around while I am having treatment,” she said.

After breaking her hip in 2016, Mrs. Richardson spent six months at Cabrini Palliative Care in Prahran. While she was there, she made a patchwork quilt, which she fondly refers to as her “hospital sanity quilt”.

“It kept away the boredom while I was in hospital,” she said.

“The time goes quicker when you are busy. The other patients were envious of me.”

It is one of many quilts in her collection, though her favorite is the quilt she made for her husband for their 60th wedding anniversary.

She said the secret to longevity was finding a good husband.

The couple, who have been together 74 years, said they are as much in love now as the day they met.

“Basil used to wait for me to finish work every day and then carry me home on his bicycle,” Mrs. Richardson said.

“It was actually a clock that brought us together. Basil had left a clock to be fixed at the jeweller where I worked, and kept coming in to see if it had been repaired.

“It was love at first sight. We still have the clock sitting on our mantelpiece, it is a lovely reminder of how we met.”

Mrs. Richardson said she had received amazing care at Cabrini.

“We can’t speak more highly of Cabrini, it is wonderful,” she said.

~ submitted by Samantha Robin. This story originally appeared in Cabrini Connect.



Mr. and Mrs. Richardson have been together for 74 years. Nigel Richardson is always by his wife Glenyce’s side as she undergoes treatment.



Blessings Abound on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi



Cabrini of Westchester's chapel was filled with joy on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Fr. Edwin Robinson, OFM, Director of Pastoral Care and Lorraine Campanelli, Director of Cabrini Immigration Services, joined together to put on a special program called "Heart and Soul" in honor of the Feast Day.

Volunteers took part in the service which captivated all in attendance with the inclusion of a transformative visualization exercise, poetry reading,

hand clapping and tambourine playing to the soulful piano and violin accompaniment.

At the end of the program, Father Edwin blessed the animals that were present followed by a stroll through the first floor of the nursing home to bless the birds and the fish who reside at Cabrini as well as the koi in the outside pond.



Fr. Edwin Robinson, OFM, bestows a St. Francis Feast Day blessing upon a furry friend at Cabrini of Westchester. Given St. Francis' love of creatures great and small a special blessing of animals is given on his feast day.



Closing the ceremony was a moving blessing of Cabrini's new peace pole which was recently erected near the entrance of the Home. It was a beautiful service and the joy of all in attendance was palpable. It was apparent to all on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi that the Lord had indeed made each of us "an instrument of his peace".

~ submitted by Lorraine Horgan, VP External Affairs, Cabrini of Westchester

Fr. Edwin blesses the new peace pole which has been set in place at the entrance to St. Cabrini Nursing Home, providing a warm welcome for all.

Prayer Requests

Javier Ramirez Baron

Kindly keep Javier, the Director of Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC, in your prayers. He is experiencing some medical issues at this time.

Cabrini Family

Prayers are requested for a family with very close Cabrini ties that is going through a difficult time. Pray that all may be well.

Jean Conner

Please pray for Jean Conner, who has been hospitalized for an unknown diagnosis of severe pain. Jean is a good friend of Sr. Grace Waters, MSC.



Missionary Sisters' Provincial Chapter

Next week, the Missionary Sisters of the Guadalupe Province and their lay collaborators will be gathering in North Jersey for their Provincial Chapter. This is a most important meeting – a time of prayer, deliberation and decision making. Please ask the Holy Spirit to bless and inspire all the proceedings. Please pray, too, for safe travel to and from the meeting for all Sisters and laity participants.

Sr. Benedict O'Donnell, MSC

Please pray for Sr. Benedict, who has returned to Sacred Heart Convent following a hospitalization. May she continue her recovery.

Dr. Nancy Rush

Prayers are requested for Dr. Nancy Rush, Cabrini University Faculty Emerita, who recently suffered a stroke. Please pray for her comfort and recovery.

Mary Young

Kindly keep Mary Young in your prayers. She is the sister of Sr. Tommasina Lanski, MSC. Mary has been hospitalized in Florida. May she soon return to full health.

In Loving Memory

Judith Applegate Klahn

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Judith Applegate Klahn, sister-in-law of Cherie Sprosty, Director of Liturgy at St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine in New York City. Judith died peacefully after a long struggle with early onset Alzheimer's. May she rest in God's eternal peace.

Weekly Update **Publication Notice**

Kindly note that due to the Provincial Chapter of the Missionary Sisters, The Update **will not** be published next Thursday, October 17th.
The Update will resume publication on Thursday, October 24th.