



May 14, 2020

Pope Francis Joins Faith Leaders in Calling for World Day of Prayer to End the Coronavirus

~ Gerard O'Connell, *America Magazine* and *Vatican News*

Pope Francis calls on believers of all religions to pray together today, May 14, to ask God to rid the world of the pandemic and asks that the vaccines be made available to all persons threatened with infection.

At the start of Mass in the Casa Santa Marta today, Pope Francis encouraged people of all faiths to pray, fast, and perform works of charity. None of us expected the coronavirus pandemic, he said. Now it is upon us, and “many people are dying, many of them alone.”

The Pope warned those who have not been touched by the pandemic not to rejoice.

“Often the thought can arise: ‘Well, at least I haven’t been affected. Thank God, I’m safe.’ But think about others. Think about the tragedy and its consequences on the economy and education. Think about what will come afterwards.” He said we unite in prayer today to overcome this selfish attitude.

He also encouraged international cooperation to respond to the crisis, and emphasized the importance that scientific efforts to find a vaccine be put together in “transparent and disinterested way” and that “the essential technologies be made universally available” so that every infected person may be able to receive the medical care needed.

The Pope’s appeal calls on “all peoples around to the world to do good deeds, observe fast, pray and make devout supplications to God Almighty to end this pandemic.” It continues that “each one from wherever they are and according to the teachings of their religion, faith, sect, should implore God to lift this pandemic off the entire world, to rescue us from this adversity, to inspire scientists to find a cure that can turn back this disease, and to save the whole world from the health, economic and human repercussions of this serious pandemic.”



Members of the High Committee for Human Fraternity

The High Committee for Human Fraternity “invites all religious leaders and peoples around the world to respond to this call for humanity and together beseech God Almighty to safeguard the entire world, to overcome this pandemic, to restore security, stability, healthiness, and prosperity, so that after this pandemic is over, our world will become a better place for humanity and fraternity than ever before.” To view a video from today’s Mass and learn more from the Vatican click [here](#):

Giving Tuesday Assists Immigrant Children with e-Learning



The **National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini** joined the **Cabrini Retreat Center** on Tuesday, May 5th for GivingTuesdayNow, a day of Global Action for giving and unity in response to COVID-19. It was the decision of Sister Bridget Zanin, MSC, Director of the National Shrine, to explore the needs of immigrants in our local community in Chicago. Nancy Golen, Director at the Cabrini Retreat Center, located in Des Plaines, IL, put [the Shrine staff] in contact with Exodus World Service, a Christian organization that empowers people to be champions for refugees.

Exodus World Service discussed with the Shrine staff the need for Chromebooks. During this pandemic, immigrant children in Chicago are falling increasingly behind in their education. They don't have access to computers for e-learning, so, we dedicated this Global Day of Giving to raise a minimum of \$1000.00 for the purchase of four Chromebooks for four immigrant families.

Mother Cabrini based her work on the "education of the heart." As a teacher, her aim was always the formation of the whole person as it instills a special concern for those in need. We asked each of our communities if they would help us "educate the hearts" of immigrant children and we were delighted in their response as we were able to provide Exodus World Service with the funds to purchase five Chromebooks for five immigrant families.



~submitted by Lori Schneider, National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini



TODAY, Thursday, May 14th the Mother Cabrini Shrine and Cabrini Retreat Center will come together again to pray the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary on Pope Francis' World Day of Prayer to End Coronavirus. All are welcome to join us on our website www.cabrinationalshrine.org or Facebook, @CabriniShrineChicago as we pray together and unite spiritually with others around the world.

The National Shrine has also launched a new website. We are excited about the new look and the new information to come!

The Update will carry further information on the new website in the near future.

Virtual - Dance Party!



Tonight! - 7-10 pm

to benefit Immigrant Families affected by COVID-19

Register to join the fun and help a most important cause.

JOIN US FOR A

VIRTUAL DANCE PARTY

**BENEFITTING CABRINI
IMMIGRANT SERVICES OF
NYC & LOS HEREDEROS'
COVID-19 RESPONSE**

WHAT?

A VIRTUAL NIGHT OF DANCING, MUSIC & COMMUNITY TO RAISE FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOOD & SUPPORT TO IMMIGRANT FAMILIES AFFECTED BY COVID-19 IN QUEENS!

FEATURING DJ SETS BY THE LOS HEREDEROS SONICYCLE, PDRITO "EL CRIOLLO" & PRINCE OF QUEENS

WHEN & WHERE?

YOUR COMPUTER, PHONE OR TABLET!
THURSDAY, MAY 14TH FROM 7PM TO 10PM
(DROP BY ANY TIME!)

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT
www.cis-nyc.org/virtual-party

TICKETS ARE PAY WHAT YOU CAN (EVEN \$1 HELPS!). WE WILL SEND YOU A LINK TO JOIN ONCE YOU REGISTER.

From the Province Vocation Promotion Team...

National Religious Vocations Conference releases 2020 Study

At the end of a decade of steady entrances to religious communities, the NRVC has released its *2020 Study of Recent Vocations to Religious Life*. This latest research provides information on those men and women who entered religious life from 2013 – 2018. We began our coverage in last week's edition. This week we explore some further topics of the study.

Intergenerational Living

While age presents challenges for communities when inviting young people to join, it has not deterred those who entered from doing so. Thirteen percent of perpetually professed are younger than 60, and the identical proportion are aged 90 or older.

In ranking their attitudes about various aspects of communal life, new members give their religious institutes the highest ratings on their care and support of the elderly members. Most newer members prefer to live in communities with members of different ages (93 percent).

It was the 80 year-old [sisters], the wisdom figures of the community [who] were always the first in the chapel and the last at the dining room table. They were always there, you could always count [on their presence].



The vitality of the MSC Institute is the diversity of cultures and intergenerational community.

Prayer and Spirituality

Personal private prayer characterizes the regular prayer life of the majority of sisters, brothers and priests in almost all responding institutes. Daily Eucharist and Liturgy of the Hours are almost as common, reported by nearly nine in ten responding institutes.

As I was growing in my prayer life, I realized that I really wanted my whole life to be that intimate communion with God. And the more that desire grew, the more I saw the way it's lived out in religious life.

Education

The majority (95 percent) of perpetually professed religious have a college degree. The majority of newer members come with considerable education as well as ministry and work experience. Seventy-one percent of new members had at least a bachelor's degree before they entered. Eight in ten were employed, usually in a full-time position, and slightly more than half were engaged in ministry, a quarter on a full-time basis and about three fifths on a volunteer basis.

Next week: Characteristics of younger members; attraction to religious life

Prayer Requests

Cabrini High School and Cabrini University graduates

Let us offer our warm congratulations and prayers for the 2020 graduating classes of Cabrini High School in New Orleans and Cabrini University in Radnor, PA.

Cabrini High School will be having their Baccalaureate Mass and diploma ceremony on Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16. Minding social distancing, some of the ceremonies will be live streamed on the CHS Facebook. A Class of 2020 celebration will be held in late July, if possible.

Cabrini University will hold virtual Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 17th. On Saturday, August 8th, if possible, a Commencement ceremony will be held on campus.

Let us pray that our newest Cabrinian graduates will continue to exemplify their “education of the heart” in all their future endeavors. May they be ever mindful of the precious gift of their education and be always attentive to serving those on the margins of society.



Coronavirus suffers

We ask all members of the Cabrinian community to join with Pope Francis in his invitation to pray today during the World Day of Prayer to End the Coronavirus. May we hold in prayer all those who have perished from the virus, all those who are ill, and now, especially, let us pray for the children of the world as a new serious inflammatory disease, possibly related to COVID-19, is emerging in various parts of the world. Our prayers continue for all medical personnel and all essential workers who continue to perform their jobs for the greater good of all.

Joe Hopko

Your prayers are requested for Joe Hopko who is scheduled to undergo surgery tomorrow, May 15th. Pray that his surgery will be successful and his recovery complete. Please pray, too, for Joe’s wife, Nancy, who, due to COVID restrictions, will not be able to be with him in the hospital.

Grayson Maldonado

Please continue your prayers for 2-year-old Grayson who last week underwent a liver transplant. He came through a long surgery and is recovering. Let us pray that his body will accept the liver and that he will go on to lead a long, full and healthy life.

In Loving Memory

Barbara Holmes

It is with great sadness that the Missionary Sisters and the Cabrini of Westchester staff mark the May 10th passing of Barbara Holmes, a certified nursing assistant at St. Cabrini Nursing Home in Dobbs Ferry, NY, who served there for 41 years and had taken care of many Missionary Sisters who were residents.

“Nothing was too big or too small for Barbara to do and she did it all with such a full heart. Barbara knew just what to say to each Sister. We thank you, Barbara. You will be missed.”



Sara Robles

Please unite in prayer for Sara Robles, the mother of Dee Campos, of the Guadalupe Province Office. Mrs. Robles passed away early yesterday morning, May 13. Let us hold Dee and her two brothers, Joshua and Marco, and their family in our hearts and prayers during this time of their loss. May Mrs. Robles rest in God’s eternal peace.

Estelle [Oristaglio] Travis

Kindly unite in prayer for the repose of the soul of Estelle Oristaglio Travis, who served for 20 years as the Director of Admissions at Cabrini College. Estelle passed away in Providence, Rhode Island on May 2nd. She leaves behind four sons and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Many Cabrini College alumni have fond memories of Estelle as a kind, caring friend and mentor. Please remember Estelle and her family in your prayers.

Frank Watters

Please pray for Frank Watters, the father-in-law of Cabrini High School Assistant Principal, Cristen Conwell Watters '03, who passed away on Tuesday, May 12th. May he rest in God’s eternal light.

Pope Francis’ Prayer to end the Pandemic

“May God put an end to this tragedy – this pandemic – and have mercy on us. And may He put an end to the other terrible pandemics of hunger, war, and uneducated children. This we ask as brothers and sisters, all together. May God bless us all and have mercy on us.”