



October 15, 2020

Mother Cabrini Statue is Unveiled in Manhattan

~ excerpts from Catholic News Agency and the New York Times



With Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC, Provincial (r.) and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (l.) doing the honors, the long awaited statue of Mother Cabrini accompanied by immigrant children begins to emerge.

a new city-funded statue series intended to raise the profile of women and minorities.

The monument stands against a backdrop of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, depicting Mother Cabrini on a paper boat. The artists said the two children aboard are sailing to the New World from Europe. The girl holds onto the boat, symbolizing her steadfastness while the boy grips his luggage, ready to face the future. A mosaic beneath the sculpture was created, with help from the Cabrini Museum in Italy, with riverbed stones from Mother Cabrini's birthplace.

The statue was designed by Jill Burkee-Biagi and Giancarlo Biagi, sculptors based in New York City.

A new statue of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini now overlooks Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and other New York City landmarks associated with immigrants.

"We hope that people who visit this memorial will recognize that history should be repeated, that there was a care for the outcast and marginalized which Mother Cabrini understood, and we need that same care today," Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn said Oct. 12.

"This is not just history, we want to make history with a new understanding of how we take care of people."

DiMarzio had co-chaired the Mother Cabrini Memorial Commission, founded after a New York City program drew strong criticism last year for not accepting the most popular nominee, Mother Cabrini, as a subject for



~ photo credit Jeenah Moon, NY Times



With Mother Cabrini looking over their shoulders, sculptors Jill Burkee-Biagi and Giancarlo Biagi stand proudly by their work of art.
~ photo, Jeena Moon, NY Times

“Our goal was to create a statue that would represent the perseverance spirit of an extraordinary woman in realizing her childhood dream, the dream of helping people in need around the world,” said Burkee-Biagi, NBC New York reports.

“I am so happy that there were so many people who supported this effort and I am happy with the unique design which shows Mother Cabrini in motion and taking care of children,” Bishop DiMarzio said. “I know for the artists it was a work of passion, and this statue does her justice.”

Gov. Cuomo, who spoke at the unveiling ceremony, linked Cabrini’s life to contemporary troubles.

“Today the lesson of Mother Cabrini is even more vital because of the difficulties we are facing,” he said

at the unveiling. “We all know these are challenging times, but as we also know in the book of life it is not what one does when the sun is shining that tests...but it is what one does in the fury of the storm.”

“Mother Cabrini only had two assets, but they were powerful assets,” he said. “She had her culture and she had her faith.”



At the base of the statue are scenes from Mother Cabrini’s ministerial works in New York City.

- To access the NY Times coverage click [here](#)
- To access the Catholic News Agency coverage click [here](#)
- To access AM-NY coverage click [here](#)
- To access a video of the unveiling ceremony click [here](#)

Lenfest Institute Taps Cabrini U. Alumna for Journalists of Color Initiative

The Lenfest Institute for Journalism has selected Cabrini University alumna Yvette Ousley ('88), a Deputy News Editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, as a Fellow in its Constellation News Leadership Initiative inaugural class. This seven-month management development program provides career coaching and executive leadership resources to Philadelphia-area media professionals of color pursuing senior roles in local news media enterprises.



One of six Fellows from *The Inquirer*, Ousley is part of Lenfest's effort to increase the number of people of color in leadership positions in newsrooms and endow them with formal training that they haven't traditionally received.

Ousley was the only African American content editor in *The Inquirer* newsroom in November 2019, when she received the Impact Award from the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists (PABJ). Since then, *The Inquirer* has hired more editors of color, and with the country's nationwide racial turmoil, she says Black editors are "very much in demand."

Ousley is a part of the team overseeing committees charged with removing bias and racism from *The Inquirer's* coverage.

John Martin, Assistant Managing Editor, News, at *The Inquirer*, sees Ousley as an excellent addition to the Constellation Initiative and the newsroom, noting that her desire and commitment to grow as an editor and a leader has impressed him.



Dr. Jerry Zurek surprises Yvette Ousley at the PABJ award ceremony this past November.

"She's not just a good editor," he said, "she's been a mentor and a sounding board for journalists across our newsroom, and strives to make sure our coverage reflects the voices and perspectives of the community at large."

Ousley's reporter instincts date back to her sophomore year at Cabrini, when Jerry Zurek, PhD, Professor of Communication, urged her to interview for a copyediting internship at *The Inquirer*.

"Money could not buy the time, attention, and direction I got at Cabrini," said Ousley, a former *Loquitur* editor. ~ submitted by Matt Nestor

To learn more click [here](#)

October 18th is World Mission Sunday



In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. That day is celebrated in all the local Churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world.

The following are excerpts from Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday 2020:

In this year marked by the suffering and challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord's question: "Whom shall I send?" (ibid.).

This invitation from God's merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis. "Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying 'We are perishing' (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this" (*Meditation in Saint Peter's Square*, 27 March 2020).

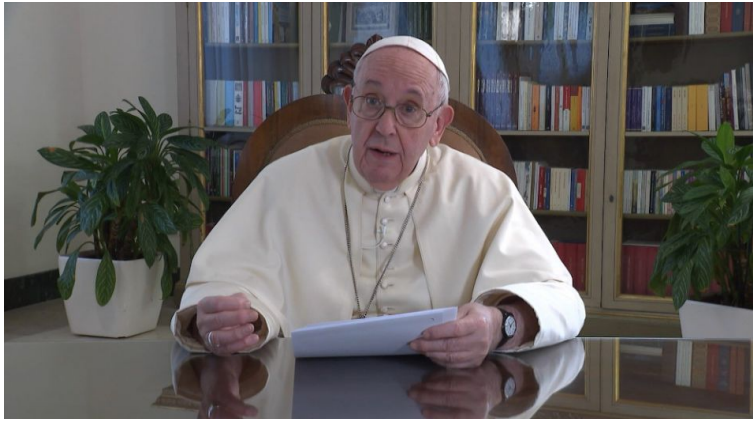
We are indeed frightened, disoriented and afraid. Pain and death make us experience our human frailty, but at the same time remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbor presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us from fear and introspection to a renewed realization that we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others.



To read the complete message of Pope Francis click [here](#)

Pope Francis: Time is running out to fix economy, protect the Earth, help the poor

~ by Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service



Earlier this week, Pope Francis delivered a TEDx talk on climate change. To access the talk click on the link in the text below.

The predominant global economic system is "unsustainable," particularly in its impact on the environment, Pope Francis said.

"We are faced with the moral imperative — and the practical urgency — to rethink many things" about the economy: "how we produce, how we consume, our culture of waste, its short-term vision, the exploitation of the poor, indifference toward them, the increase of inequality and its dependence on harmful energy

sources," [the pope said Oct. 10](#) as part of the global TEDx Countdown on climate change.

"As the term 'countdown' suggests, we must act urgently," Francis said. "Each one of us can play a valuable role if we all set out today — not tomorrow, today."

"Science tells us, every day more precisely, that we need to act urgently — I am not exaggerating — this is what science tells us, if we are to have any hope of avoiding radical and catastrophic climate change," he said. "This is a scientific fact."

While science insists on the need to change to protect the planet, he said, "our conscience tells us that we cannot be indifferent to the suffering of the poorest, to growing economic inequalities and social injustices." To read the complete article click [here](#)

New Curriculum Teaches Catholic Faith Through Lives of Women Religious

~ by Dan Stockman, Global Sisters Report

Catholic educators and catechists have a new resource for teaching about the Catholic faith using a curriculum based on the lives of women religious.

[Called and Consecrated](#) was announced in 2017 when it began as a pilot program in 10 dioceses. Now, the free curriculum is complete in both English and Spanish and ready for a national rollout.

The curriculum features eight units of study for both middle and high school religious classes, plus professional development for teachers and catechists. While the series teaches the faith based on the lives of sisters, it is not a vocation curriculum.

"The themes are broad enough to encompass all of Christian life," said IHM Sister Ann Oestreich. "It showcases sisters as one group of people who have made this their life's work."

To learn more click [here](#)

From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Team...

The Vocation Team shares the following message which appears in the VISION e-Vocation Newsletter:

Exercise Your Sacred Right to Vote



"In a secular society, voting is the closest thing we have to a sacrament. We must protect this sacrament," said Dominican Sister Quincy Howard, OP, in an essay written earlier this year. She was expressing a concern we all share: that our electoral process remains free and fair and protected from outside influences. As U.S. citizens go to the polls to elect their next president and other officials. It is important that voters are able to place their trust in their leaders. But first, they have to be able to place their confidence in the system through which those leaders are elected.

For most people, voting is a sacred obligation and also a privilege. With this simple, brief act, citizens express their values and priorities for government and society. Exercise the sacrament of the vote, like every sacrament, as an act of worship. ~ *Alice Camille*

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Prayer Requests

Peggy Becker

Prayers are requested by Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC for her dear friend, Peggy Becker, who suffered a stroke and was hospitalized and will soon be going to rehab. Please pray that Peggy will soon regain her health and strength.

Sr. Tommasina Lanski, MSC

Please pray for Sr. Tommasina who had major surgery on Tuesday, October 13th. Pray that her surgery was successful and that she will have a swift and uneventful recovery during her stay at St. Cabrini Nursing Home.

Marianne McGowan

Please pray for Marianne McGowan, a Cabrini Lay Missionary, who will be undergoing medical tests on Friday, October 16th. Marianne would be grateful for our prayerful accompaniment.

Sr. Veronica Piccone, MSC

Kindly unite in prayer for Sr. Veronica who was recently hospitalized and who will be going to St. Cabrini Nursing Home post hospitalization to recuperate.

Rita Ratzlaff's Family

Rita Ratzlaff, a good friend of Sr. Grace Waters, MSC, asks our prayers for her brother, Joe McGee and her sister-in-law Rose Ann who are both experiencing health issues. Please keep her family members in your prayers that they will be returned to full health.

Request for prayers

A member of the Cabrinian community has requested prayers for the good outcome of medical tests and procedures.

Bernadette "Bernie" Waters

Prayers are requested for Bernie, Sr. Grace Waters' nephew's wife, who recently underwent major oral surgery. Pray that she will experience a quick and complete recovery. She asks for the prayers of the Missionary Sisters and the Cabrinian community.



"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

- L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables