



December 3, 2020

Pope Francis: Social Justice Must Be Founded on Care for Others

~ by Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service/ National Catholic Reporter

VATICAN CITY - Guaranteeing justice for all men and women is not possible while a few people control most of the world's wealth and everyone else's right to a dignified life is disregarded, Pope Francis said.

In a November 30 video message the pope encouraged judges from North and South America and Africa not to lose sight of "the distressing situation in which a small part of humanity lives in opulence, while an increasing number of people are denied dignity and their most elementary rights are ignored or violated."

"We cannot be disconnected from reality," he said. "This is a reality you must keep in mind."



Iraqi boys collect recyclable trash at a dump in Najaf, Iraq. *CNS photo/Alaa Marjani*

The judges were taking part in a virtual meeting on "Building the New Social Justice." The meeting was sponsored by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Committee of Pan-American Judges for Social Rights and Franciscan Doctrine.

At "such a critical time for all of humanity," the Pope said, the virtual meeting to discuss the work of building "a new social justice is, without doubt, excellent news."

Offering a reflection for their discussions, the Pope said that building social justice is a "collective work" that must be achieved on a daily basis "because imbalance is a temptation at every minute."

Working toward true social justice must also be done with an “attitude of commitment” that follows “along the path of the good Samaritan” and that is mindful of not falling “into a culture of indifference,” he said.

People “must recognize the all-too-frequent temptation to disregard others, especially the weakest,” the Pope explained. “We have to assume that we have become accustomed to turning a blind eye, to ignoring situations until they hit us directly.”

Pope Francis insisted that true social justice is impossible if the human person is not at the center of concern.

“God asks us believers to be God’s people, not ‘God’s elite.’

Lastly, Pope Francis said that solidarity is essential in the fight against poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Solidarity means “fighting against that culture that can lead to using others, to enslaving others and ends up taking away the dignity of others. Do not forget that solidarity, understood in its deepest sense, is a way of making history,” said Pope Francis. To read the complete article click [here](#)

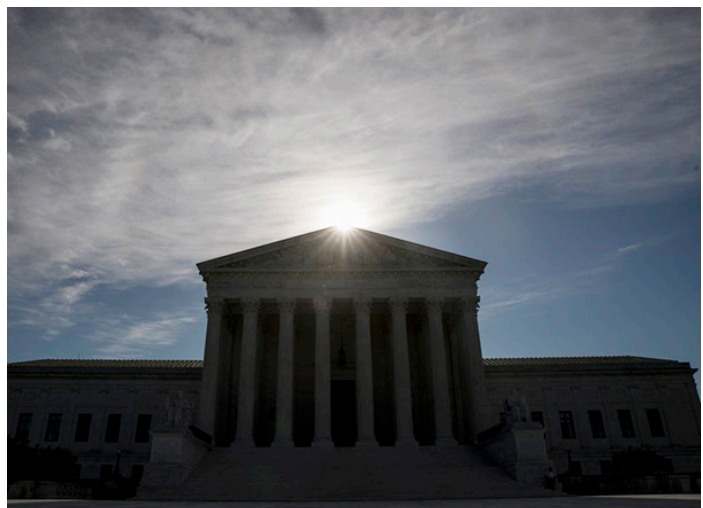
Supreme Court Unsure of Administration’s Plan to Exclude Unauthorized Immigrants in Census

~ by Carol Zimmermann, *Catholic News Service*

Washington – In oral arguments on November 30, the Supreme Court weighed in on President Donald Trump’s order to exclude immigrants living in the country illegally from the 2020 census for purposes of redrawing congressional districts.

The justices, who heard arguments in *Trump v. New York* by teleconference, questioned the scope of those who would be excluded and also the length of time it would take to undergo this “monumental task,” as Justice Samuel Alito described it.

During the 90-minute arguments, Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville of Washington, who is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Migration, issued a statement: “Denying the undocumented and the states in which they reside their rightful representation in Congress is counter to the Constitution and makes people feel invisible and not valued as human beings.”



On Monday, the Supreme Court heard arguments in a case involving the Trump administration’s desire to exclude undocumented immigrants from a key census count.

Andrew Harnik/AP

“The church’s teaching is clear: Human dignity is most sacred, regardless of legal status,” he said. “For that reason, we once again affirm the need to count all persons in the census, as well as in the apportionment of congressional representatives.”

“Unspoken was what appeared to be on the mind of all the justices. Because of the pandemic, Census Bureau officials have indicated they likely won’t finish the population count in the states until the end of January, at the earliest. And, by then, Trump won’t be president.”

~ NPR News
By Nina Totenburg and
Hansi Lo Wang

The USCCB, along with other Catholic organizations, also filed a friend-of-the-court brief in this case, arguing that excluding those without legal documentation from the apportionment base of the census sends a message that these individuals are not equal members of the human family, which contradicts the dignity of all people and violates the U.S. Constitution and the Census Act.

Since the census started in 1790, its practice has been to count all people living in the U.S.

The point of counting everyone was raised by Justice Amy Coney Barrett, who told Acting Solicitor General Jeff Wall, who was representing the Trump administration: “A lot of the historical evidence and long-standing practice really cuts against your position.”

After President Trump issued his order on excluding unauthorized immigrants, the chairmen of two USCCB committees

described the action as “simply wrong and divisive.” They urged him to rescind it and make “efforts to protect and heal our nation and all who are living in our country.”

Catholic groups advocating for immigrant communities similarly expressed displeasure.

“This is nothing but an unconstitutional and xenophobic attempt to weaponize the census to silence and scare immigrants. The immigrant community will not be silenced,” tweeted Cabrini Immigrant Services of New York City back in July.

The Hope Border Institute tweeted: “The Constitution says the Census must count everyone, no exceptions.”

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“After finding “processing anomalies” in this year’s census results, the bureau’s career staff determined it needed to run more quality checks until at least January 26, almost a week after the end of Trump’s term. That timing would mean the process for reapportioning House seats and Electoral College votes among the states would take place under the watch of newly inaugurated President Joe Biden, who has said that ‘in America, everyone counts.’”

~ NPR News
By Nina Totenburg and
Hansi Lo Wang

To read the complete article click [here](#)

Spontaneous Saints for a Greater Cause



Photos above and below: The Cabrini High School community, including students, faculty and staff, sported their black and gold New Orleans Saints gear to raise money for the victims of Nicaragua who have been devastated by multiple hurricanes this year.



Cabrini High School hosted a “Spontaneous Saints Spirit Day” on Friday, November 20. Members of the student body, faculty and staff donated \$2 to wear jeans with black, gold, and Saints attire to support the NFL New Orleans Saints’ seven game winning streak, but also for a greater cause. All donations were being donated to the missions in Nicaragua that were recently hit by Hurricanes Eta and Iota.

Nicaragua, you are in Cabrini High School's prayers!

~ submitted by Katelyn Ehrhardt, Cabrini High School

Mexican Consulate of Philadelphia Provides Scholarships for Cabrini University Students

Cabrini University renewed its partnership with the Mexican Consulate of Philadelphia, securing \$20,000 in scholarship funding for students during a recent signing ceremony on campus. Ten Cabrini students of Mexican origin will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, part of the IME-Becas Scholarship program created by the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME).

“The IME-Becas Scholarships from the Mexican Consulate are important to our first-generation Mexican students as they progress toward obtaining their goals,” said José Rodriguez, Chief Diversity Officer. “These recipients are very active in leadership roles within our Cabrini community and the scholarships enable them to expand their involvement on campus. ~ *Cabrini U. website*

To learn more click [here](#)



Christmas & Children will triumph over COVID-19

Sadly, Cabrini Immigrant Services-NYC cannot host our Annual Holiday Celebration this December. Undaunted, we have decided on a scaled-back and socially distanced gift distribution for our immigrant families.

This year the distribution is planned to be on Saturday, December 19th. Sr. Yolanda has set-up a gift registry for the children on Target's website which can be accessed at this link: tgt.gifts/cabrinichristmas

Toys will be sent directly to CIS so there is no need to visit the post office! **The deadline for ordering from Target is Saturday, December 10th.**

We are also grateful for gifts of cash to cover the incidental expenses of the distribution day. Monetary donations can be made at: bit.ly/donatecis

Thank you for helping CIS-NYC care for the immigrant children in our community!

~ submitted by Julia Mucci and Ella Nimmo



Help us bring a smile to a child's face!



Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC is currently accepting monetary donations, gift cards & new toys for our annual Christmas gift distribution!



Donate: bit.ly/donatecis
Purchase a gift:
tgt.gifts/cabrinichristmas

Save the Dates
for a Compelling Webinar Series on
Immigration:
“Dreaming of a
Single Human Family”

Sponsored by:
The National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Chicago, IL
in collaboration with
The Cabrini Retreat Center, Des Plaines, IL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021
9:00 am MST/10:00 am CST/11:00 am EST



“Themes from the Life and Spirituality of Mother Cabrini, Patroness of Immigrants”

In this talk, Nicholas Rademacher and Michelle Sherman will discuss the integration of faith and justice in Mother Cabrini’s Gospel-inspired commitment to serve immigrant communities in the United States and Latin America. Set within the context of major turning points in her life, their talk will explore Mother Cabrini’s missionary vocation, her devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and her spirit of *disponibilita’*, that is, her flexibility and openness to God’s call.



Presenters:

Nicholas Rademacher, PhD

Dr. Rademacher is professor and chair of Religious Studies at Cabrini University. His teaching and scholarship focus on historical and contemporary expressions of Catholicism in the United States. Dr. Rademacher earned his PhD at the Catholic University of America. A published author of journals and books, he serves as Vice President of the American Catholic Historical Society and recently completed service on the historical commission for cause for canonization of Fr. William Atkinson, OSA. Dr. Rademacher can be reached via nr725@cabrini.edu



Michelle Sherman, MA

Michelle Sherman is the Campus Minister for Retreats at Villanova University. A former Cabrini Mission Corps missionary at Mother Cabrini H.S. in NYC, she is honored to contribute to this important Cabrini series. She holds a BA in Humanistic Studies from St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, IN; a MA in Theology and Certification in Lay Ministry from Villanova University; and Certification in Spiritual Direction from the Cranleith Spiritual Center. Ms. Sherman can be reached at michelle.sherman@villanova.edu

“Dreaming of a Single Human Family”

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

9:00 am MST/10:00 am CST/11:00 am EST

The Center on Immigration:

Challenges in Migration and a Cabrinian Response

As global politics further restrict migration, push factors such as global inequality, unyielding violence, and irreversible climate change persist and intensify. This virtual webinar will provide a concise overview of challenges facing immigrant communities at a local, national, and international level. It will also address how The Center on Immigration at Cabrini University is responding to these challenges and provide suggestions for people seeking to work for justice with people in migration.



Presenter:

Abel Rodriguez, JD ('01)

Abel Rodriguez is Director of the Center on Immigration and Assistant Professor of Religion, Law and Social Justice at Cabrini University. His scholarship, teaching and advocacy focus on migrant justice. He is an expert and frequent presenter on immigration policy and the intersection of criminal and immigration law. Rodriguez earned a Juris Doctor at U. of Penn, a Masters of Theological Studies at Harvard, and a Master of Arts in Latin American Studies at Stanford, and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish at Cabrini College.

Mr. Rodriguez can be reached at: ar3269@cabrini.edu

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021

9:00 am MST/10:00 am CST/11:00 am EST

“Immigration from the Perspective of the Cabrinian Charism, on a local, national and international level.

Highlighting the focus of Cabrini University Wolfington Center”

We will discuss some of the ways that the Wolfington Center at Cabrini University puts our commitment to solidarity with migrants into practice and look for ways that participants in the session can find new opportunities for engagement in their own communities. Initiatives include a middle school mentoring program with newly arrived immigrants in Norristown, PA; immigration simulations through our CRS Ambassadors chapter; and a grant-funded faculty cohort focused on migration.



Presenter:

Raymond Ward, PhD

Dr. Ray Ward is the Director of the Wolfington Center at Cabrini University. He earned a PhD in Christian Ethics from Boston College, writing on the concept of collective moral agency and responsibility in the Christian tradition. He serves as an advisor to several student-run organizations and also teaches the Faith, Service and Advocacy and College Success Seminar.

Dr. Ward can be reached at: rew68@cabrini.edu

Advent

Each week during the season of Advent, one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries will be offering a reflection.



First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

Opening Song: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord - Godspell

Reflection: The song, 'Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord,' was sung by John the Baptist in the play, Godspell. He was telling the people to prepare the way for one greater than he who was to come. How appropriate those words are to also announce the coming of the one who is greater than us. It is a call to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child.

The year 2020 has certainly been a hard year. COVID-19, the elections in the US, wildfires, landslides, mudslides, earthquakes, etc. etc. have all made this such a difficult time for everyone. It has been so hard to silence our minds and hearts. And yet, despite all of this, we are assured of the coming of Jesus. Despite all the despair and the chaos, we are assured that the Christ child will be born on Christmas Day.

In the Gospel for the first Sunday of Advent (Mark 13:33-37), we are told three times to be watchful. We have been listening for hours and hours to reports and updates about COVID-19, the elections, the different storms, etc. I find myself sometimes becoming numb to all with which I am being bombarded.

How can I silence my heart, my soul and my mind to prepare the way of the Lord this Advent? What can I do to assure myself that despite all that is happening in this world, I will have Jesus born in my heart? What do I need to be watchful of in order to obtain the peace and love in my heart? I know that it can be very frustrating when the words of some songs stay in my head. Perhaps, this Advent, it would be good to keep the words of 'Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord' in your head. Let it be a reminder that we are starting a very sacred and powerful journey to Bethlehem.

~ Reflection by Lorraine Campanelli, CLM

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020



Second Sunday of Advent

COVID-19 DURING ADVENT

In light of this once in a lifetime pandemic the humankind is sadly experiencing,

We ponder and wonder what message it wants to bring.

Would it be an absolute sting? Would it be an extreme suffering? Would it be completely devastating?

Or

Would it be a future full of hope?

Would it be our longing to responsibly cope?

Would it be a unified response at this gigantic scope?

Your answer is as good as mine

As seen from all the front-liners who put themselves

fearlessly on the line.

Let this Advent Season be our journey full of hope and healing.

- Reflection by Vicky Lucio, CLM

One Minute Meditation

As long as there are strangers, hungry, naked, and sick people; prisoners, refugees and slaves; people who are handicapped physically, mentally, or emotionally; people without work, a home or a piece of land, there will be that haunting question from the throne of judgment:

“What have you done for the least of mine?”

The question makes the coming of Christ an ever-present event.

Jesus, open my eyes to notice your presence all around me.

~ Fr. Henri Nouwen, Advent Expectation

Prayer Requests

Adrian Daly

Cath Garner of Cabrini Health shares that Emma Daly, one of the Cabrini Health nurses, has asked for prayers. Emma's husband, Adrian, had a serious bike riding accident recently, resulting in a spinal cord injury and weakness on his right side. They have a young family and are facing a long road ahead. Let us unite in prayer for Adrian's recovery and for the strength and support of his family.

Alisa DiGiacomo

Please pray for Alisa DiGiacomo, a woman who was very instrumental in bringing about the Colorado Cabrini Day holiday and observances. Alisa is having some health challenges and would be most grateful for the prayers of the Missionary Sisters and the Cabrinian community.

Joanne Huey

Continued prayers are requested for Joanne Huey, the mother of Lechia Taylor, the wife of Dr. Donald B. Taylor, President of Cabrini University. Mrs. Huey suffered a stroke last month. Please continue your prayers for her successful recovery.

Vicky Lucio

Prayers are requested for Cabrini Lay Missionary (CLM) Vicky Lucio who underwent surgery for appendicitis two weeks ago. Please join with the CLMs in praying for her swift and uneventful recovery.

Leonard Norman Primiano, PhD

Kindly continue your prayers for Dr. Primiano, Professor of Religious Studies at Cabrini University. Dr. Primiano is having some health issues and would be grateful for our continuing prayerful accompaniment.

Marie Takes

Please unite in prayer for Mrs. Marie Takes, the mother of Deb Takes, former Board Chair and interim President of Cabrini University. Mrs. Takes has contracted COVID-19 and is being moved into critical care in hopes of controlling her blood pressure. Please pray, too, for strength for Deb who has been such a caring daughter for her mother for so many years.

In Loving Memory

Sr. Agnes Alongi, MSC

This week we received word from the MSC Generalate that Sr. Agnese Alongi, MSC suddenly returned home to the Father in heaven. Sr. Agnese was of the Sacred Heart Community in Codogno. We entrust the soul of this dear sister to the Lord

Sr. Stephanie Kabacinski, MSC

Sr. Stephanie was called home to the Good Lord on Saturday, November 21, 2020. We give thanks for her long life in service to the people of God. May she rest in God's eternal light.