



March 25, 2021

Catholic Leaders Speak Out Against Violence Towards Asian Americans

~ by Carol Zimmerman, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) – In the days following the attack that left six Asian American women dead, protests and vigils took place around the country. Women religious and Catholic bishops spoke out against the violence and renewed their call to end racism.

Two Jesuit universities, St. Louis University and Georgetown University held vigils online that included discussion on challenges faced by the Asian America/Pacific Islander community and better ways to advocate for them. Cabrini University issued a statement calling for unity and respect for all.

Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich specifically addressed “brothers and sisters in the Asian American community” telling them that they should know the entire church stands with them “in this moment of grief and horror.”

“We pray for all who suffer racist violence and hate speech,” Cardinal Cupich said. “There can be no place for either in our society and it is incumbent upon all of us to resist language, culture and acts that denigrate Asian Americans and all people of color – because they have deadly consequences.”



A young woman holds a flower at a vigil in Atlanta, Georgia. Photo credit: CNS/Shannon Stapleton, Reuters

The General Council of the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Michigan, also called for an end to the violence against Asian Americans and people from the Pacific Islands and urged Congress to enact strong legislation against hate crimes.

Days after the Atlanta shootings, President Joe Biden urged Congress to pass the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act. He said the measure would expedite the federal government’s response to hate crimes that have risen during the pandemic.

While the Adrian Dominicans stressed the need for strong hate-crime legislation, they also said they were praying “for a profound conversion of heart among us all that we may root out the racism that continues to cause such injury to our sisters and brothers of color and to erode the moral fabric of our nation.” To learn more click [here](#)



Third Webinar on Immigration *Spotlights Learning, Service, Advocacy and Calls to Action*

Dr. Ray Ward conducted our third and final webinar of the “Dreaming of a Single Human Family” series which took place yesterday, Wednesday, March 24th.

Dr. Ward focused upon the ways that the Wolfington Center at Cabrini University puts our Cabrinian commitment to solidarity with migrants into practice. From education to service, the Wolfington Center provides many opportunities for students, faculty, staff to participate and engage with immigrant communities.

Dr. Ward shared that over the past ten years, the student body at Cabrini University has become increasingly diverse. Among the wonderful things that this diversity has provided for are *opportunities for dialogue*.

Dr. Ward spoke of the University’s Justice Matters curriculum and the ECG – Engagements with the Common Good – courses. Through curricular offerings and experiences that build throughout the four years of study, students “learn, serve and change the world” as Dr. Carrie Nielson describes the ECG. Students learn to think beyond themselves, have opportunities to engage with lawmakers, and advocate for social justice.

Some of the initiatives that the Wolfington Center offers include a middle school mentoring program; immigration simulations presented by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Ambassadors, and a grant-funded faculty cohort focused on migration.

One of the educational programs that was particularly striking were the immersion experiences. The immersion experiences are not just stand-alone collaborative experiences; they are collaborative long-term projects that strive, foster and maintain *mutual* partnerships that aim to benefit all. This is not service tourism. More than ever, Dr. Ward commented, our Cabrini students have first-hand experiences of the communities in which we have partnerships and the countries that are visited. In engaging these students the University is lifting up the voices of those who are present among us.

The solidarity efforts of service include mentoring, tutoring, and outreach. Some of these programs in particular involve Norristown Latinx mentoring, Puentes – Norristown Latino outreach, and NASD GearUp Tutoring.

Dr. Ward expressed hope for cultivating meaningful, enduring partnerships among the University and Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC and Dobbs Ferry, as well as, the MSCs and their ministries in Central America. ~ submitted by Natalia Osias, National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Chicago

Sr. Bridget Zanin, MSC, Executive Director of the National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, is so grateful for the collaboration of the Cabrini Retreat Center, Ms. Michelle Sherman; Nick Rademacher, PhD; Abel Rodriguez, JD; Ray Ward, PhD; Cabrini University; and the Province Communications Office for their time and talent in making this webinar series possible.

For those who were unable to attend yesterday’s webinar, a link to the recording will be posted in next week’s Update and will also be posted on the website of the National Shrine and the Mother Cabrini website next week.

Interfaith Dialogue @ Cabrini U.

You are invited to join us **TODAY, Thursday, March 25th at 2 pm** to learn how the theme of "We are Each Other's" intersect with fasting. We will be hearing from a Christian, Jewish and Muslim perspective.

Our panelists will be answering the following questions, but feel free to bring your own questions!

1. What is the purpose of fasting (spiritual or health related)?
2. How long does a person fast for spiritual reasons?
3. Is it safe to fast for health reasons?
4. Can you consume water during a spiritual fasting?
5. What happens when we fast? What is so special about fasting?
6. Why does the months of fasting culminate in feasting?

This event will be held virtually and below is the link to join:-

<https://zoom.us/j/94985531617?pwd=bWw5d3l2L2dVT0N4Z1hLSGR0L044dz09>.

We are looking forward to seeing you virtually and answering some of your questions!

~ submitted by Evarhyné Ndeti, MSC Candidate

**INTERFAITH DIALOGUE:
WE ARE EACH OTHER'S**


Dr. Beverly Bryde
Dean of the School of
Education


Loyal Srour ('22)
Digital Communications and
Social Media Major

Prof. David Madway
Mathematics Professor

Join us for an open dialogue as we explore how
the topic of fasting could be used to bridge and
unite people of faith in a common purpose!!

Thursday, March 25 2-3 p.m Zoom

NETWORK names Mary Novak

Mary Novak, a lawyer, chaplain and activist, will succeed Social Justice Sr. Simone Campbell as head of [Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice](#), the organization announced March 22.

Campbell, who has attracted national attention for the organization's Nuns on the Bus movement, [announced her retirement](#) in October after 16 years as the head of Network. Novak will take over as executive director April 1.

Although not a religious sister herself, Novak has worked with and among religious sisters for several decades as the founding board chair of [Catholic Mobilizing Network](#), which is part of the Congregation of St. Joseph Mission Network. Novak is also an associate of the [congregation](#).



Mary Novak

Photo credit: Georgetown University

"I step into this work acutely aware of the intense polarization plaguing our society, our culture, and our politics, and following a very painful year of collective trauma we are only just beginning to name," Novak's statement continued. "I believe the Catholic Social Teaching that undergirds all of NETWORK's engagement can be a unifying and universal source of inspiration for the moral imagination we need to promote justice, healing, and the common good."

To learn more click [here](#)

From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Team...

Vocation Directors say Online Ministry Fills the Gap, but, is Just Not the Same

~ by Carol Zimmerman, Catholic News Service



WASHINGTON – Before the pandemic, Felician Sr. Desire Findlay’s calendar was completely full.

But when the vocation minister came home from a retreat last March, all the scheduled conferences, college visits and other events she was planning to attend were canceled because of COVID.

At first, she thought she would love the unexpected free time, but then she wondered not only what she would do, but how she would connect with the young

women who might have a calling to religious life.

This sister, found an outlet on social media. She was surprised by the following that gave her.

Encouraged by one of the young women she had been talking to about vocations discernment, Findlay started regular Zoom calls for the group where they could learn about what the sisters do, meet one another, pray and get resources to help think about what it would mean to be a woman religious.

Sr. June Fitzgerald, a vocation director for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, said that in the past six months there have been about 30 different women attending Zoom programs run by the sisters for those interested in a vocation. The group runs the gamut of those slightly curious to those who definitely feel they are called. Her congregation had already been using Zoom sessions for several years so once the pandemic hit, “by happy fault, we had that in place,” she said.

By being online, she noted you lose a sense of community because it’s not the same as when you are getting a cup of coffee with someone, or sharing a meal.

Sr. Emmanuela Le, National Director of Vocations for the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, found her very full schedule come to a grinding halt a year ago. She also took her ministry online and is very ready to get back to meeting people in person and having women and their families visit the sisters.



After the pandemic started, she took out her lists of the young women she had been in touch with who were considering a vocation and invited them to join the sisters by social media for Holy Hour prayer each day. With the pandemic, she said, “there was a pause because of the uncertainty,” and although there was never a pause in dialogue with the women interested in a vocation, “the need of being connected is even greater.” To learn more click [here](#)

WALK A MILE
WALK TO LEARN ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS
AND HOW WE CAN HELP

WHY WE WALK

It's time we open our eyes and see the victims of the sex trade, domestic servitude, and forced labor who've been in the shadows for far too long.

The purpose of the event is to shine a spotlight on the 27 million men, women, and children who are still trapped in slavery today.

It's happening right here in our community. Come out and learn more about the signs and how to help end trafficking in your zip code.

JOIN US

Register Here

Monday April 26, 2021

**Walk starts at 3:00 P.M. in front of Grace Hall
Please remember to wear a mask**



Donations of hotel size toiletries: soap, shampoo, toothpaste etc. We will also be accepting donations of gift cards to support the Cabrini Closet

**This walk is sponsored by ECG 200 Anti-Human Trafficking Class , the Cabrini Closet
Contact Karol Brewer at 610-902-1038 or cabrininformation@mothercabrini.org**

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The CLM Corner

*Each week during Lent,
one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries will be offering a reflection.
The reflection for **Palm Sunday** is offered by
Patricia Stancato-Purkey, CLM*

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is an example of worshipping Jesus as Savior, Messiah, King, and Lord. He is the son of God. To see Jesus as he truly is and worship him accordingly; also, to worship him in right -order. Jesus is the great healer. Jesus loves us so much; we are so blessed.

On Palm Sunday we need to worship God with our Hearts, Soul, and in our Lives. We need to act like citizens of heaven with a daily call to live as God has called us to live. At every Mass we are worshipping Jesus Christ as King and Lord in the Eucharist. We should worship him publicly at Mass and in our homes and also wherever we are.

People are connected on Palm Sunday with the Majestic King. We have the privilege of multiple options to attend Mass and Adoration daily. Every opportunity we take to attend Mass is a delight in Jesus's eyes.

One of the fruits of worshipping the Lord is to be caught up in the Heavens with Jesus. The Lord desires us to worship him with our Heart. He inhabits the praises of His people no matter if we are feeling sad, worried or afraid. It is wonderful to have Jesus Christ as our Savior. The Lord loves us so much; that he willingly died to save us, the least we can do is to continue to seek him in all we do.



~ written by Patricia Stancato-Purkey, CLM

Prayer

Loving God, St. Francis Cabrini crossed oceans and borders to share your love with many nations.

By her example, teach us concern for the stranger.

By her prayers, help us to find Christ in our immigrant sisters and brothers and all who welcome them

By your guidance, and Mother Cabrini's inspiration, may we love boldly and work tirelessly to correct the injustice of our nation's broken immigration system.

We pray for just and compassionate immigration laws that recognize the dignity of all people and the sanctity of the family.

May our nation and our hearts be places of welcome.

Amen



This prayer was offered by
Dr. Ray Ward
at the conclusion
of the
“Dreaming of One Human
Family”
webinar.

Prayer Requests

Patti Larkins

Prayers are requested for Patti, sister-in-law of Cabrini University alums Robin Larkins and Debbie Larkins Damiano. Patti was diagnosed with breast cancer and had surgery yesterday. Praying for a positive outcome, a speedy recovery, comfort and complete healing.

Charles Opara and Family

Please pray for Charles Opara and his family. They are longtime friends of the Missionary Sisters. Charles asks our prayers as he seeks steady employment.

Bernie and Gina Valente

Your continuing prayers are invited for Bernie Valente and his wife, Gina, both of whom are ill with COVID-19. Bernie and Gina are the brother and sister-in-law of Cabrini (College) University alumna Maria Valente Breeser '73. Please pray that their symptoms will soon subside and they will be restored to full energy and vitality.

With Grateful Hearts

Harriet and Prisca Opara

The MSCs longtime friend in Africa, Charles Opara, recently shared the news that, “their newly ordained Bishop of the diocese paid a pastoral visit to our parish on the Feast of St. Joseph. My two daughters, Harriet and Prisca are among those received the sacrament of Confirmation.”

We are grateful for this good news and we will keep Harriet and Prisca in our prayers as they are newly confirmed.



May your Holy Week be blessed.

