



March 4, 2021

Yearning Eyes: The Plight of Migrants in India

~ by Sr. Lavina D'Souza, Global Sisters Report; photo credit: Arturo Madrid-unsplash



The blank look on his face... a look of hopelessness...helplessness...perplexed...it wasn't a silent face at all. The look on his wrinkled, aged face spoke aloud, as he stood passively before the vehicle that was about to leave the slum. He had remained absolutely silent all through our interactions with the people and now his look was disturbing. It yearned for something!

We had organized a food distribution for stranded migrants in one of the slums of Mumbai due to the lockdown. This slum area of migrants is not unlike other migrant living areas elsewhere in India. They live in subhuman, pathetic conditions, lacking decent housing facilities, potable water, sanitation facilities and other amenities, and are exposed to inclement weather and a hazardous atmosphere. They work for long hours, sometimes risking their health and lives, and yet, are paid less than they are entitled to. As they lack financial and health security and have little or no social support from a caste-and class-ridden society, they are unsure of what they can or cannot control in their lives. This leads to a certain passivity; resigned to their "fate".

As I looked at the yearning eyes of the aged man, it seemed to me that he gazed not at the vehicle, but at the complacency of those who were more privileged than he. Are we so mired in our complacency that we have become blind to their reality?

The recent low point of this societal complacency has been the passivity of a few privileged people in India as they watch the unending trail of desperate migrants trying to reach home to be with their loved ones. The migrants take any means – even treacherous journeys on foot, sometimes walking hundreds of miles. On such foot journeys, a few of them lost their lives before reaching home, all due to exhaustion, because they wanted to escape dying of hunger as they tried to save themselves from the coronavirus. These are India's nameless, faceless migrants who were denied time and transport to return home due to the sudden lockdown which was, ironically, to save lives.

But who cares for the lives of the poor? To read the complete article click [here](#)



Catholic Sisters Week

March 8 – 14

Celebrating Traditions, Changing the World

Fifty-two weeks a year women religious stand with the poor and immigrants, teach children, fight injustice, heal the sick, share spirituality, empower women, defend the planet, promote peace, create community, offer hope ...

But for one week, March 8-14, we shine the spotlight on women religious and encourage a wide range of campaigns and events that invite all who follow Jesus to

- expand and support their gospel witness
- grow the service networks they have seeded
- share their spirituality, charisms, and community
- encourage young women to consider a vocation to religious life
- support their pastoral, teaching and prophetic works
- and focus on the new world they call into being.



During this week we celebrate and give thanks for the lives of faith and service of our Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. May God continue to shower his blessings upon the Institute of the MSCs.

To learn more about Catholic Sisters Week click [here](#)

To watch a video about women religious by Fr. James Martin SJ, click [here](#)

Mission Driven Finance – People on the Move Impact Investing



You may recall that through our impact investing program we've invested in the Freedom 100 Fund run by Mission Driven Finance and Freedom for Immigrants that posts bond for immigrants held in detention. We've expanded that partnership with Mission Driven Finance to launch a program to provide flexible loans to organizations serving people on

the move—immigrants, refugees, asylees, low-income economic migrants, and survivors of trafficking—across the United States. You can learn more about the program [here](#).

Feel free to share this link with any organizations you may know that are in need of flexible loan funding, or to circulate it in any relevant newsletters. Mission Driven Finance put together a [communication kit](#) with some language for social media (English & Spanish) or newsletters.

As always, happy to answer any questions about the program!

Kayoko Lyons klyons@cabriniimpact.org

CABRINI WALK with Educational Stations



SAVE THE DATE!

Human Trafficking Education/Awareness

April 26, 2021 at 3:00 pm

Cabrini University – Grace Hall

Sponsored by ECG 200 Class

Voices for the Vulnerable and

Community Partner - Cabrini Action and Advocacy Coalition/Cabrini Closet

For more information:

Karol Brewer – 610-902-1038 cabriniformation@mothercabrini.org

VIRTUAL 2021 Human Trafficking Conference

March 8th & 9th, 2021

The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd (NAC) invites you to its VIRTUAL 2021 Shine the Light Human Trafficking Conference: Root Causes and Intersections on Human Trafficking.

The conference, which is free of charge, will be held over two afternoons, March 8 (12 noon to 3:00 pm EST), and March 9 (12 noon to 1:30 pm EST). We also are organizing a Call-to-Action Day on Trafficking for March 9.

Register at <http://bit.ly/2021traffickingconference>

Building on the success of our previous in-person Human Trafficking Conferences in 2018 and 2019, this year's participants will hear from survivors, service providers and other experts. An additional advocacy panel will share easy and ongoing actions that can be taken to combat trafficking.

In the spirit of bi-partisanship, we welcome our Congressional Honorary Co-chairs, Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO-02) and Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA-02).

Day 1: will feature an overview of human trafficking that speaks to the various root causes. Panel presentations on both sex and labor trafficking with domestic and international components will follow.

Day 2: will focus on advocacy campaigns and how all of us can make a difference. Additional details are available on our Conference webpage.

*Dates of Conference: Monday, March 8, 12:00 – 3:00 pm EST & Tuesday, March 9, 12:00 – 1:30 pm EST. ***Advance registration is required.** *There is no fee for the conference.

Congregation/Community:

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

Website:

<https://www.gsadvocacy.org/human-trafficking-conference.html>

Contact Information:

Patricia Kelly, Good Shepherd Volunteer: gsv@gsadvocacy.org

National Advocacy Center: 301-622-6838



Conozca sus Derechos! Know Your Rights!

A timely workshop on immigration policy under the new administration took place at the St Frances Cabrini Shrine in NY last week, presented by Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC. The event was timed to follow the Shrine's monthly immigrant Mass in Spanish.

Thanks to a grant through the Cabrini Mission Foundation, this year CIS-NYC will be offering free legal and social service consultations at the Shrine three days a month.

"We have wanted to do this for a very long time," said Javier Baron-Ramirez, Executive Director of CIS-NYC, Inc.

The collaboration between the Shrine and CIS-NYC is a natural fit, agrees Julia Attaway, Executive Director at the Shrine. "The Shrine gets a steady stream of immigrants coming to pray to Mother Cabrini," she said, "Providing the opportunity to get advice on immigration-related issues while they are here is a win-win." ~ submitted by Julia Attaway, Executive Director, St. F.X. Cabrini Shrine, NY



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT IMMIGRATION?



WHEN

- EVERY OTHER THURSDAY
- LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
- 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

WHERE

ST. FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE
701 FORT WASHINGTON AVE.
NEW YORK, NY 10040

INTAKES OFFERED IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH

Beginning on Thursday, March 11,
Cabrini Immigrant Services' Lawyers and DOJ
representatives will provide free one on one
consultations to assess your eligibility for
immigration benefits.

Please note that we do not provide legal assistance for any
employment-related cases (such as H1B, etc.)

CALL US FOR AN
APPOINTMENT

212-923-3536
212-791-4590 EXT.100



TIENES PREGUNTAS DE INMIGRACIÓN?



CUANDO

- CADA OTRO JUEVES
- EL ÚLTIMO SÁBADO DEL MES
- 10:00 AM A 5:00 PM

DONDE

ST. FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE
701 FORT WASHINGTON AVE.
NEW YORK, NY 10040

LAS CONSULTAS SERÁN EN ESPAÑOL E INGLÉS

A partir del jueves 11 de marzo,
los Abogados y Representantes Acreditados de
Cabrini Immigrant Services brindarán consultas
individuales gratuitas para evaluar los beneficios
de inmigración a los que usted podría calificar.

Tenga en cuenta que no proporcionamos asistencia legal en
casos de peticiones de empleo (como H1B, etc.)

LLÁMANOS PARA
UNA CITA

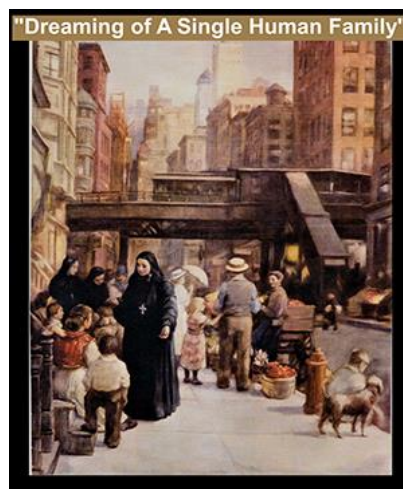
212-923-3536
212-791-4590 EXT.100

The Third and Final Webinar

in our **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
with the gracious participation
of Cabrini University faculty and staff members



WEDNESDAY, March 24, 2021

8:00 am PST/9:00 am MST/10:00 am CST/11:00 am EST/*

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/92533568427?pwd=NUxJWGdnKzB0RmcrdVNabnoxWlkdz09>

Passcode: 993541

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13017158592,,92533568427# or +13126266799,,92533568427#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248
7799 or +1 669 900 9128

Webinar ID: 925 3356 8427

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/92533568427?pwd=NUxJWGdnKzB0RmcrdVNabnoxWlkdz09>

**“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.

*If you are unable to join the webinar as it is being presented live, the presentations will be recorded and will be available on the websites of the National Shrine: www.cabrinationalshrine.org and the Missionary Sisters: www.mothercabrini.org



The CLM Corner

*Each week during Lent,
one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries will be offering a reflection.
The reflection for **The Third Sunday in Lent** is offered by
Marianne McGowan, CLM.*

The Third Sunday in Lent

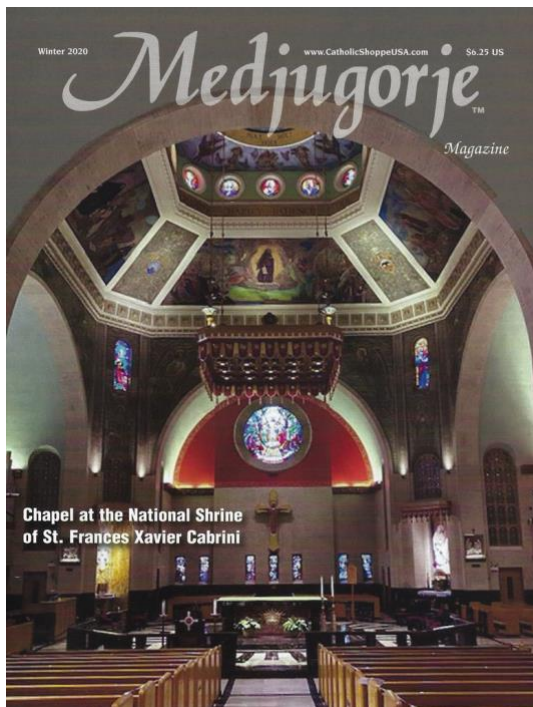
Joan Chittister, a Benedictine Sister, author and a woman of inspiration shares this Lenten reflection:

Lent is a call to weep for what we could have been and are not. Lent is the grace to grieve for what we should have done and have not. Lent is an opportunity to change what we ought to change, but have not.

Lent is not about penance. Lent is about becoming, doing and changing whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now.

Reflection: What are those things that keep us from living a fully Christian life?

Let us pray for guidance. Let us pray for the courage to make those life changes that will bring us more fully into the life of our Christian community.



The National Shrine of
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
in
Chicago, IL

was recently featured in a
multi-page spread in
Medjugorje Magazine,
a publication of
CatholicShopeUSA

For more details please visit:
www.catholicshoppeusa.com

Prayer Requests

A friend

A friend of the Cabrini community had successful surgery on Monday, March 1st. She is now recuperating and doing rehab. She sends her thanks and asks that you continue to support her with your prayers as she continues her recovery.

Kim Baxter

Prayers are asked for the recovery of Kim Baxter who underwent surgery this week. Kim is a dear friend of many Cabrini alums and friends. Please pray that her recovery will be complete.

Joe

Prayers are requested for Joe, a good friend of Pat Patterson, who is undergoing many health issues. Pray that he will be restored to full health.

Fr. Joseph Genito, OSA

Kindly remember Fr. Joe, the pastor of St. Thomas of Villanova Parish in Rosemont, PA, in your prayers as he recuperates from surgery this week. May he soon be restored to full health.

Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC

Sr. Renee Kittelson recently underwent cataract surgery and is now recuperating. Please keep Sr. Renee in your prayers that her eyes will heal swiftly and completely.

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

As we celebrate Catholic Sisters Week next week, please be mindful of our Missionary Sisters and keep them in your prayers. We give thanks for their lives dedicated to serving the people of God, especially all those on the margins of society.

Prayers for a Family

Prayers are invited for a family that is currently in crisis. They are coping with devastating issues and would be grateful for our prayers for their strength, courage and faith. Let us pray that justice and truth will prevail so that long term healing can commence.

Sr. Tommasina Lanski, MSC

Please remember Sr. Tommasina who is in need of our prayers and support as she takes her journey home to God. Please continue to pray for her comfort and serenity at this time.

Tim Woestman

Prayers are asked for Tim Woestman, the husband of Cassie Woestman, a Cabrini College alumna. Tim is being treated for some medical problems. Please pray that he will soon be feeling better.

In Loving Memory

Jandir Zanin

Please unite in prayer for the repose of the soul of Jandir Zanin, the beloved brother of Sr. Bridget Zanin, MSC. Jandir had been hospitalized with COVID. Please pray for Jandir's, wife Antonia, their five children, and grandchildren as they mourn his loss. May he rest in God's eternal light.