



Alleluia! Alleluia!

We can hardly grasp the joy and glory of Easter Sunday! The disciples didn't understand, but they came to believe. So can we. Easter Sunday is not only the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ, it is also an invitation to each of us to preach the Gospel and take our place in the long line of witnesses to Jesus' resurrected life. As Mother Cabrini would tell us: we are to be bearers of Christ's love in the world. This is why we are so awed at the mystery: not only that Jesus was raised from the dead but that God entrusts us with Jesus' mission and to be witness of God's mighty deed of resurrection. It appears as though God trusts us a great deal.

~ adapted from a Vincentian Reflection for Easter Sunday - Weekly Update 4.1.21

Moving from Doubt to Faith

Lord, I believe...help my unbelief.



In the Easter Gospel we hear about how the disciples found the tomb empty three days after Jesus' death. We are also told that the disciples do not yet understand the Scriptures or that Jesus had been raised from the dead. That understanding gradually unfolded for the disciples as they began to experience the risen Lord. Similarly, our understanding of Jesus' Resurrection unfolds for us throughout our lives. In the weeks ahead we will hear how the first disciples moved from confusion, doubt, and skepticism to faith. Their experience can teach us how we too might receive this gift of faith from God.

In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus – in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit. ~ *Loyola Press*

Chasing a Dream Because of a Rumor

~ by Rhina Guidos, Catholic News Service



Migrants seeking asylum in the U.S. are seen in Penitas, TX, lining up to board a Border Patrol bus after crossing the Rio Grande on March 26. (Photo credit CNS/Reuters/GoNakamura)

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (CNS) Father Hector Maldonado of El Buen Pastor Parish in Apancoyo, El Salvador, said he recently tried to convince a family of five from his parish, who told him of their plans to leave [for the U.S. border], not to undertake the dangerous journey.

They sold all their possessions, the Catholic priest said, and he told them what he had heard and read: that people were being turned away at the border. But the family seemed intent on chasing the dream of entering the United States despite the dangers, full of hope because of the rumor that U.S.

President Joe Biden had said that he would allow anyone who entered the U.S. within the first 100 days of his presidency to stay. The rumor is rampant.

The only thing that Fr. Maldonado could convince them of, in the end, he told Catholic News Service (CNS), was not to turn over the deed to their house to smugglers as a down payment. The family needed to have a place to return to if they were deported, he told them.

Scalabrinian Father Mauro Verzeletti who works with migrants in Latin America told CNS that he thinks the rumor of a border open to all began because of a mixed message sent by the Biden Administration when it announced a 100-day moratorium on most deportations.

“I think Biden sent a confusing message with the moratorium and others changed the conversation to say ‘the border is open,’” said Fr. Verzeletti.

And now it’s a message that is hard to reverse, he said.



Some smugglers have taken advantage of the rumor, offering among their services a drop-off of families and unaccompanied children and teens to border agents, telling them the agents will process them and allow them to stay in the U.S. as long as they turn themselves in.

A migrant takes refuge with others in La Joya, TX, after crossing the Rio Grande into the U.S. (CNS photo/Adrees Latif, Reuters)

At the migrant shelter he operates in Guatemala, Father Verzeletti said he has seen in recent days an increase in people fleeing as the consequences of multiple crisis that are hitting Central America.

Crop destruction from storms produced by climate change, the pandemic’s destruction of small and medium businesses, and political upheaval in parts of Central America have accelerated the movement of people from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua as they flee poverty and hunger, Father Verzeletti said.

Migrant houses run by the Scalabrinian religious order and other Catholic groups are seeing children weighing half of what they should, said Father Verzeletti. Other countries should take notice because climate change and destruction of nature in Central America, as well as political strife, will only increase the movement of people. To read the complete article click [here](#)

One Minute Meditation

On Easter we acquire a new and living hope that comes from God. It is not mere optimism. It is not a pat on the back or an empty word of encouragement. Jesus' hope is different. He plants in our hearts the conviction that God is able to make everything work unto good, because even from the grave he brings life.

Be strong, for with God nothing is lost! ~ Pope Francis

Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) Embraces the Call to Respect Diversity and Work for Inclusion and Equity for All

We are living at a moment when society is discovering the vast breadth and depth of both the richness and the challenges inherent in the diversity that exists within the human family. That diversity entails a rich mix of differences and encompasses all the dimensions that make each person unique including: ethnicity, race, age, gender and gender identity, beliefs, sexual orientation, and more.

As the world community grapples to understand diversity, we, the members of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, wholeheartedly join in this exploration. We recognize that this is a difficult journey that requires enormous capacity to transcend ideas that may have shaped our thinking over the course of decades, if not millennia. We acknowledge our need to continuously educate ourselves to understand differences – informed by science as well as theology, to patiently listen in a non-judgmental way to people who suffer because of who they are, and to commit to an unceasing reconsideration of our own ethical judgments in light of new understandings. Furthermore, we recognize that we must grow in our capacity and willingness to experience the pain and struggle of people who have been excluded or subjected to violence by others because of who they are. We know that the more we can see life from the perspective of others, the greater will be our capacity to grasp what they experience and learn from it.



As we work to understand the differences among us, we also pledge ourselves to work towards both inclusion and equity. We believe that all people need to feel valued and connected, and that they belong. All people thrive in environments where their inherent worth is respected, and where they are safe to express their authentic selves. Inclusion helps us all know that we belong to something bigger – the reign of God, in our view as religious. At the same time, we will work to guarantee a society marked by fairness, equal access and opportunity, and justice for all people.

As we continue this lifelong work of non-judgmentally walking along side persons whose ways of being may differ from our own, we anticipate that at times we will fail. We ask for forgiveness when we close our hearts, unconsciously exclude, or speak or act in ways that disrespect another. Like many in society, we know that we do not yet fully understand the diversity among us and that we have much work ahead of us. We believe, however, that the work to comprehend and appreciate what it means to be human in all our glorious diversity -- each one made in the image of God -- may be one of the most important contributions we can make at this critical moment of evolutionary change and growth for the entire global community. As women of faith, we are committed to it. ~ submitted by Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC

Contact:

Sister Annmarie Sanders, IHM -- LCWR Director of Communications
asanders@lcwr.org

UN Commission: Covid-19 has made World Worse for Women

~ by Chris Herlinger, Global Sisters Report

New York – Despite limitations imposed by the global pandemic, participants in two weeks of United Nations meetings that focused on women’s participation in public life and the need to eliminate violence against women and girls praised the event as a necessary step in advancing gender equality. Participants called the 65th session of the U.N. [Commission on the Status of Women](#) a success, but they also noted a sense of impatience with the pace of progress and said the pandemic year has set back the cause of women's equality globally.

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, the Executive Director of [UN Women](#), the global body's secretariat focused on women and girls, said the meetings served as a clear reminder that women believe "that the past and the status quo have not met their need for gender equality."

But in a March 27 statement, Mlambo-Ngcuka also praised the result of the March meetings which were based at the U.N. headquarters in New York. She said the meetings’ outcome document “recognizes the need to significantly accelerate the pace of progress to ensure women’s full participation and leadership at all levels of decision-making in executive, legislative and judicial branches of government and the public sector.”



Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
Photo credit: United Nations

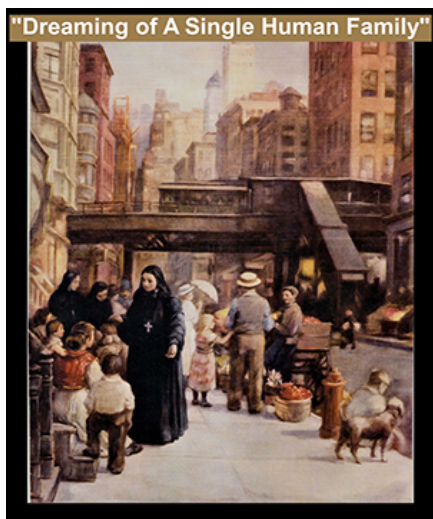
The global pandemic “is deepening pre-existing inequalities that perpetuate multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, as well as racism, stigmatization and xenophobia,” she added.

Catholic sisters who participated in numerous online forums held parallel to the formal U.N. events told GSR after the meetings that the event displayed both expected limitations but also new strengths given the change in format. Franciscan Sr. Florence Deacon, who works as justice coordinator for the Sisters of the Holy Cross agrees the global situation for women and girls has become dire this year, given how pandemic-driven lockdowns, loss of jobs and the burden of family situations have mainly fallen on women. Also deeply troubling, she said, has been the [rise of domestic violence](#) globally.

Sr. Raquel Hernandez Gonzalez, a Comboni Missionary Sister based in Mexico, and Holy Cross Sister Semerita Mbambu, based in Uganda, told of similar plights of women trying to escape environments marked by kidnappings, domestic violence and forced marriages.

Though accounts of struggle were common during the Commission on the Status of Women events, Sr. Carol DeAngelo, Director of the Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation of the Sisters of Charity, said the meetings landed on an optimistic spot. However, Sr. Carol underlined the seriousness of women’s status in the world right now because of the pandemic and long-standing inequities.

“Power is not going to be given to us,” she said, adding that it is up to women and male allies to work toward gender equality. To read the complete account please click [here](#)



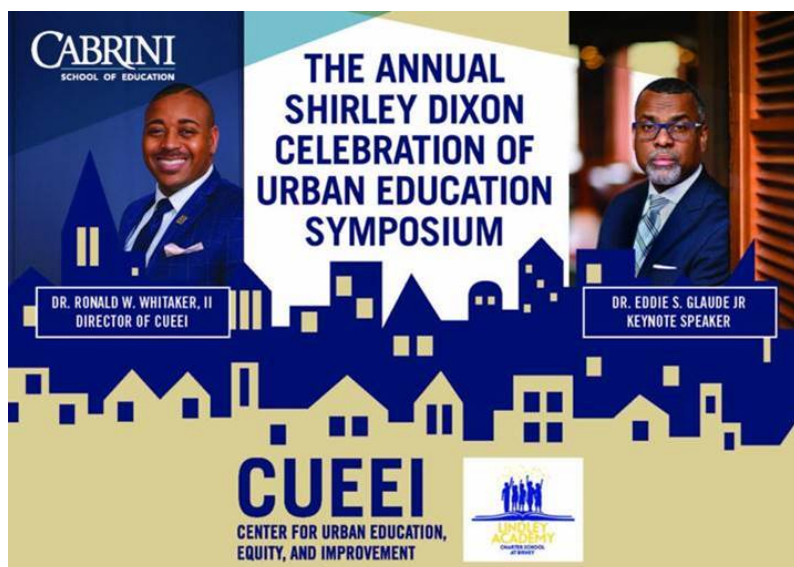
Third Webinar on Immigration *Spotlights Learning, Service, Advocacy and Calls to Action*

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.

To access the recording of the webinar please click [here](#)

The link to the webinar can also be found on the National Shrine page of the Mother Cabrini website click [here](#) and the website of the National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, click [here](#)

The Center for Urban Education, Equity, and Improvement (CUEEI) invites you to join us on Thursday, April 22, for the annual Shirley Dixon Celebration of Urban Education Symposium



*Continue the legacy of
Dr. Shirley Dixon!
View diversity, equity, and
inclusion through ethical and
practical lenses, and navigate the
complexities of race and
democracy in America.*

Keynote Address:
Dr. Eddie S. Glaude, Jr.

Progressing Past the Value Gap
and the Lie in Education Spaces

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Virtual Reception | 5:45-6pm

Virtual Keynote Address and Awards Presentation | 6-7:30pm

Register Now!

ST. FRANCES CABRINI SHRINE



"Prepare yourselves well... and humbly ask for the singular grace to learn how to meditate effectively on the Passion of Christ."

~ St. Frances Cabrini

Mother Cabrini, as usual, goes straight to the point: there is something we must do today to prepare for the week ahead. We must pray for the grace to open our hearts fully.

"Accustom yourselves to unite your prayers with those of Jesus," Mother Cabrini advised, "So that your prayers, coming in contact with his, will be purified and sanctified."

We will be praying in union with Christ and with you over the next days. May you have a rich and fruitful Holy Week.

~ Julia Attaway, Executive Director

Holy Week at the Shrine

Holy Thursday

5 pm Mass of the Last Supper

Good Friday, April 2

12 noon Good Friday Liturgy

3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

7:30 pm Candlelight Service:

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Holy Saturday, April 3

12 noon. Liturgy of the Hours: Midday Prayer

Easter Sunday, April 4

9:00 am & 11 am Mass (English)

3 pm Mass (Spanish)



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 ECC 200 Anti-Human Trafficking Class, the Cabrini Closet
Contact Karol Brewer at 610-902-1038 or cabriniformation@mothercabrini.org**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



The CLM Corner

*Each week during Lent,
one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries has given a reflection.
The reflection for **Easter Sunday** is offered by
Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director*

Easter Sunday

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! Alleluia!

After 40 days of not using the word Alleluia, isn't it a magnificent word to hear? **"Alleluia, Praise the Lord!"**

Our journey to Jerusalem is over. Everything Jesus said has come true. In John 2:19, we read, "**Jesus** answered them, *Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.*" They did destroy the temple but as promised, Jesus rose in three days and with it brought eternal life and the forgiveness of sins to all of us. Truly, this is an Alleluia moment! Jesus, crucified, is alive!

As we end our reflections let us be reminded of the final blessing for our Easter Mass,
'Go in peace, Alleluia, Alleluia. Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.'



Let us go and celebrate the Good News! Blessed Easter to all!

~ by Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director

Prayer Requests

Sr. Rita Aponik, CSSF

Kindly pray for Sr. Rita, a Felician sister and friend of Sr. Lorene Pivinski, CSSF, who is very ill. Please pray for her strength and recovery.

Mary and Jim Binsfeld

Marietta Hipskind, a longtime friend of Cabrini Retreat Center and Mother Cabrini, requests prayers for her sister-in-law, Mary Binsfeld and her brother Jim Binsfeld. Mary is in home hospice with brain cancer. Her family is providing a loving safe environment. Please pray for the peace and strength of all.

Fr. Peter Gillen, Diocese of Brooklyn, NY and his sister, Maria

Prayers are requested for Fr. Peter who will be undergoing a kidney transplant on April 8th. His sister, Maria, is giving him a kidney. Fr. Peter was newly ordained when he was assigned to Sacred Hearts St. Stephen Parish in Brooklyn, NY in the 70s. Many MSCs living and working in the Parish and School will remember him. Please pray that both he and his sister will come through their surgeries well and will recover fully.

Louise

Please pray for Louise, a good friend of Sr. Catherine Garry, MSC and Joan Baltas, who was diagnosed with Covid-19. Louise was on a ventilator for 22 days. She has been taken off the ventilator and is now in ICU. Please pray for her full recovery.

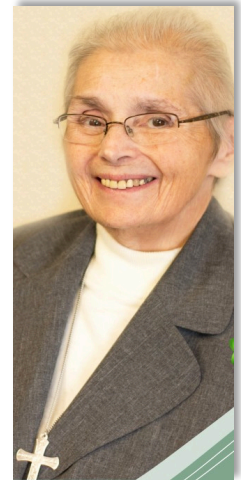
Monica

Prayers are requested for Monica, a friend of Joan Baltas, who is suffering from complications with dialysis. May she be restored to better health.

In Loving Memory

Sr. Tommasina Lanski, MSC

Let us pray for the repose of the soul of Sr. Tommasina Lanski, MSC, who went home to God on March 25th at Calvary Hospital in New York. Sr. Tommasina had been on the hospice program and was very well taken care of by the staff. Gratitude is extended also to the staff at St. Cabrini Nursing Home and the Sacred Heart Convent who had ministered to Sr. Tommasina over the years. Sr. Tommie, may you rest in God's eternal peace and light.



Sr. Tommasina

Angelo Molon

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Angelo Molon, the brother of Sr. Romualda Molon, MSC, who had been battling multiple health issues for several years. Mr. Molon went home to God this past week in Brazil.

*Christ's resurrection offers a promise of renewed life.
Go out and share the good news for Christ has risen!*

The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
extend joyous Easter wishes to our
Cabrini Lay Missionaries, lay collaborators,
board members, students, residents, benefactors
and friends.

Happy Easter! Rejoice in the Lord!

