



President Biden Urged to Visit US-Mexico Border

~ by Kurt Jensen, *Global Sisters Report/Catholic News Service*

WASHINGTON, D.D. – The announcement that the Biden administration was raising the limit of annual refugee admissions from 15,000 to 62,500 was cause for celebration at a Georgetown University online discussion of migrant issues last week.

Sr. Norma Pimentel, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley in Brownsville, Texas, said more visibility would help the cause, so she invited President Joe Biden to visit the U.S. – Mexican border.

“Sometimes I always say the best way to understand what is happening at the border is to come and see, you know?” said the Sister of the Missionaries of Jesus, adding that it makes a difference when you “actually see the face of a child, a mother hurting and suffering for their babies.”



She said seeing this pain and the suffering up close “you then understand that your policies and your leadership will directly affect that life.”

Pimentel urged the president and other national leaders to “please come and see” with open hearts what is happening at the border.

“At some point, I will,” Biden said, when asked on March 21st if he’d visit the border, but no plans have been announced. Vice President Kamala

Harris, who met virtually with Alejandro Giammatei, the President of Guatemala, on May 3, likewise has not made a border visit.

Dylan Corbett, Executive Director of the Hope Border Institute, said he thinks there have been positive, significant changes under the Biden administration.

“You saw, for example, in the lifting of the refugee cap a real strong commitment to building or rebuilding our capacity to resettle refugees around the world,” he said.

“We’ve been talking about immigrants in really bad ways for the last four years, as people we ought to fear,” Corbett added.

“We’ve been vilifying and criminalizing and demonizing our migrant brothers and sisters for too long,” he said, noting that now the President has “changed the tone around immigration and recognized that this is an opportunity for compassion and to treat people with dignity.”

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

Welcoming Migrants, Refugees is Opportunity for Growth

~ By *Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service*

VATICAN CITY – As countries become more culturally and ethnically diverse, their Catholic communities become more “catholic” and their societies can increasingly reflect the fact that all people are brothers and sisters, Pope Francis said.

“In encountering the diversity of foreigners, migrants and refugees, and in the intercultural dialogue that emerge from this encounter, we have an opportunity to grow as church and to enrich one another,” the Pope wrote in his message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees which will be marked on September 26 in most countries.

The message called on all Catholics to build up the church by welcoming and getting to know Catholic migrants and refugees and reaching out with a witness of charity to members of other religious, and it called on all people to enrich the diversity of their countries by accepting newcomers and ensuring they are not left languishing in poverty.



Ceidy, an asylum-seeking migrant mother from Guatemala, kisses her 3-month-old baby Bridget while waiting to be escorted by the U.S. Border Patrol agents after crossing the Rio Grande into Roma, TX.

(Photo: CNS/Reuters/Go Nakamura)

The theme the Pope chose for the day is “Toward an ever wider ‘we,’” and it builds on the teaching in his encyclical, “Fratelli Tutti, on Fraternity and Social Friendship.”

In the encyclical, his message said, “I expressed a concern and a hope that remain uppermost in my thoughts: ‘Once this health crisis passes, our worst response would be to plunge even more deeply into feverish consumerism and new forms of egotistic self-preservation.’ God willing, he said, after all this, we will think no longer in terms of ‘them’ and ‘those’ but only ‘us.’”

The global movement of people, he said, means “our societies will have a ‘colorful’ future, enriched by diversity and by cultural exchanges. Consequently, we must even now learn to live together in harmony and peace.” To read the full account please click [here](#)

Leadership Conference of Women Religious Calls for Border Presence

~ by *Soli Salgado, Global Sisters Report*

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) has called upon its members to offer a ministerial presence along the border as they can. LCWR, which represents more than 80% of sisters in the U.S. wrote in newsletter, “Currently, the most urgent needs are volunteers who speak Spanish and financial aid to buy clothes for the children.” To learn more please click [here](#)

Women Religious Speak Out Against Voter Suppression

~ by Carol Zimmermann, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the National Black Sisters Conference issued a joint statement on May 5 on the importance of ensuring that all people enjoy the right to vote “regardless of their race, zip code, economic status or party affiliation.”

“As women of faith and faithful Americans, we believe that all people have the right and obligation to participate fully in our democracy,” the sisters’ statement said, adding that they “strongly oppose all attempts to restrict that participation by limiting the sacred right to vote.”



The Texas State Capitol in Austin is seen in an archived photo. The State House of Representatives passed a new voting restrictions measure by a 81-64 vote on May 7, 2021. (CNS Photo/Brian Snyder, Reuters)

The national sisters’ organizations also endorsed the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Action Day on May 8, a national event supporting voter rights.

LCWR, based in Silver Spring, Maryland, is an umbrella group of more than 1,300 members representing more than 40,000 Catholic sisters. The National Black Sisters Conference based in Washington, is a group of more than 150 Black Catholic women religious and associates.

Referring to current voting restriction measures being considered and adopted in some states, the sisters said the right to vote

is “under attack once again.” They also said the United States has a “long racist history when it comes to voting,” citing the literacy tests and grandfather clauses that were part of Jim Crow laws used to suppress voting.

“Our brothers and sisters struggled, some gave their lives, to secure the Voting Rights Act of 1965,” the women religious said, adding that: “It falls to us to continue their work.”

They said Pope Francis’ encyclical “Evangelii Gaudium” reminds them “that our vocation as Catholic sisters is inherently political” realizing that not only are they called to participate in public life but that their faith urges them to change the world.

“We cannot remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice,” the sisters said.

Outlining what they plan to do, the statement said they would “call out elected officials, at every level, who continue to introduce measures that would return us to the era of ‘Jim Crow.’” Conversely, they said, they would “support legislation that will ensure all people can exercise their precious right to vote.” To read more please click [here](#)



Cabrini High School Confers Distinguished Educator Award

Six elementary school teachers were honored on May 4, 2021, by Cabrini High School students. The **Distinguished Educator Award** is presented annually to teachers who have done an outstanding job preparing their students to succeed in high school.

Each year, Cabrini students who demonstrate outstanding character and hold a GPA of 3.5 or higher are given the opportunity to nominate an elementary school teacher who has had a positive impact on their lives. In the nomination, students are asked to share why they selected the teacher and the impact the nominee has had in their lives and preparation for high school and beyond.



These are the elementary school teachers nominated by their former grade school students who have now received the Distinguished Educator Award conferred by Cabrini High School.

Cabrini High School President, Jack Truxillo, addressed the Distinguished Educators and guests. “You have made such an impression and had such an impact on your former students that they chose to go through the nominating process. That itself speaks volumes. The influence you have daily on students is immeasurable. The terms parent, protector, counselor, nurse, referee, disciplinarian, coach, leader, expert, task master, time keeper, planner, janitor, decorator, supervisor and finally, instructor all fit in your job description. But, as we all know those are just a sampling of the jobs you do. Be assured that the work you do is valued. It is recognized.”

~ submitted by Katelyn Ehrhardt, CHS

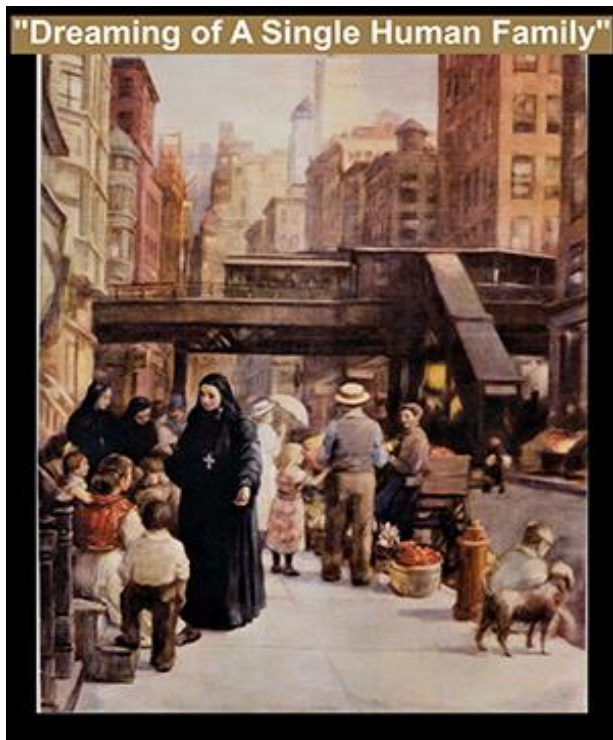
CHS Students Send Messages of Support to Seattle



The sophomore students at Cabrini High School in New Orleans sent letters to the residents at Cabrini Senior Housing in Seattle who had been especially impacted by the pandemic. The students included photos of their lovely school campus with their letters. In turn, the residents and their property manager were most grateful and showed their appreciation in a most colorful way. *~ submitted by Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC*

A Conversion of Heart:

An Immigration Conversation with the Cabrinian Community



Following the completion of the highly regarded webinar series, “Dreaming of a Single Human Family” a time of informal conversation was held on Wednesday, April 28th via Zoom for those who had presented and participated in the webinars.

The opportunity to get to better know one another as members of the Cabrinian community and hear each other’s insights was the catalyst for the follow-up Zoom gathering.

To kickstart the conversation four questions were presented for discussion:

- What are your biggest takeaways from the webinars?
- Do you have any lingering questions about immigration?
- What do you think is necessary to bring about enduring and humane immigration reform?
- What courses of action regarding immigration have you been inspired to undertake?

While these four questions provided good conversation warmers, three additional, more personal questions were posed as we are ‘Dreaming of a Single Human Family’:

- What is *your* piece of the dream?
- What skills, perspectives do you bring to that endeavor?
- With what do you need help in pursuing your dream?

People shared such hopes and dreams as:

- Cabrini University serving as an incubator on immigration and immigration reform; how to make that financially feasible
- Dream that [as a society] we have an openness, an acceptance of others
- A conversion of heart
- A world without borders
- That people take the time to actually meet the people they vilify. This would change minds and hearts.

These questions help lay the foundation and opens the doors on how we all might take action, how we can bridge the gap between what is needed and what can be done, and providing even more concrete hope.

As Mother Cabrini says “Today love must not be hidden... it must be living, active, and true.”

~ submitted by Natalia Osias, National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Chicago

A Celebration of Faithful Service to God's People



On Sunday, May 9th, Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC joined other Jubilarians of the Diocese of New Orleans in attending a special Mass with Archbishop Gregory Aymond, pictured here with Sr. Renee.

Sr. Renee celebrates 60 years since taking her first vows.

Blessings and all good wishes, Sr. Renee.

Global Marathon of Prayer to End the Pandemic

Prayer in the Garden

It has been a joy to pray the rosary in the yard at St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine in New York City as part of the Holy Father's request for a marathon prayer during May for the end of the COVID pandemic.

*~ submitted by Julia Attaway,
Executive Director, St. F.X. Cabrini
Shrine*



Filled with the Spirit



Photo left and right: Last month, family and friends of Cabrini University junior, Andrea Vito, gathered at the Bruckmann Chapel of St. Joseph as she received the sacrament of Confirmation which was conferred by Fr. David Driesch, O.Praem.



Photo credit: Emily Rowan, Cabrini University



The CLM Corner

In an occasional series, featured here are accounts of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries and their ministerial service.

CLMs Await the Feast of the Sacred Heart

It is with great excitement that we look forward to celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart on June 11th. Not only is this day special to the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart (MSCs) but it is also a day that the Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLMs) renew their commitments. This year, two of our CLMs, Adela Jarquin and Marianne McGowan, will be renewing their commitment for three more years! In addition to these renewals, we are blessed to have five people who will be making their initial commitment as a CLM!

This past year, a year of initial formation, those interested in becoming a CLM, have met monthly as a group. We had presentations about Mother Cabrini, the Institute, the different missions of the MSCs, the spirituality of the Sacred Heart and a discussion about the book, In Weakness, Strength by Segundo Galilea.

We have candidates from Pennsylvania, New York and Guatemala. It has been an exciting year as we learned about different cultures and the different ministries that everyone is involved in as well as having our meetings in English and Spanish.

Please keep all of us in your prayers as we prepare for a special celebration on June 11th.

~ submitted by: Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director



CURIA GENERALIZIA MISSIONARIE DEL SACRO CUORE DI GESÙ 00135 ROMA - Viale Cortina D'Ampezzo, 269

Dear Sisters and Lay Collaborators, CLMs,

Following the Holy Father's invitation: In this month of May, led by the shrines scattered throughout the world, we are reciting the Rosary **"to pray for the end of the pandemic, and for the resumption of social activity and work."** (General Audience, May 5, 2021), we want to invite you to share this moment of prayer and communion.

Promoted by the Dicastery for the New Evangelization, the Marian prayer involves 30 shrines across all continents. (Enter Vatican News website to find the list of places where the Rosary is prayed every day at **6:00 PM (Rome)** and the "link" to join the prayer live, as well as the **"liturgical - pastoral guide"** - Italian/English/Spanish/Portuguese).

Mary, Our Mother, will intercede before God so that this painful moment of humanity may come to an end, and, with her help, we may restore health, normality, and hope.

Let us be united in this common prayer and, as the Blessed Mother says, let us offer our own sacrifices which, certainly, will not remain unrewarded.

Warm greetings and let us meet at the feet of the Virgin,

Sr. Barbara Staley, MSC, General Superior; Sr. Stella Maris Elena, MSC, Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC, Sr. Maria Regina Canale, MSC, Assistant Generals

Save the Dates!

Coming in the Fall 2021

LOVE in ACTION

~ a new webinar series featuring

Cabrini Immigrant Services – Dobbs Ferry, NY

Wednesday, September 28th

Cabrini Immigrant Services – NYC

Wednesday, October 27th

**Sponsored by the National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini and Cabrini Retreat Center
More information will be forthcoming.**

Prayer Requests

Nicholas Baldini

You are asked to unite in prayer for Nicholas Baldini, the brother of Sr. Laura Baldini, MSC. Nicholas is seriously ill with a brain tumor. Please unite in prayer on his behalf.

Mark Carles

Prayers are requested by Rosalind Yu for Mark Carles, age 27, who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer of the liver and lungs. Please unite in prayer for this very ill young man.

Today is Ascension Thursday



O Christ God, You have ascended in Glory,
Granting joy to Your disciples by the promise of
the Holy Spirit.

Through the blessing they were assured
That You are the Son of God,
The Redeemer of the world!