



MISSIONARY SISTERS
of the SACRED HEART of JESUS
Bringing Christ's love to the world

THE UPDATE

February 10, 2022

Survey Finds Path to U.S. Citizenship for Migrants has Majority Support

~ by Rhina Guidos, Catholic News Service



A mother and daughter from Honduras wait at LaColaborative in Chelsea, MA while getting help with free clothes and food as well as advice for their upcoming immigration hearing.

(CNS photo/Brian Snyder, Reuters)

Though immigration remains a polemic topic in political circles, just 44% of Americans recently surveyed by the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) said it was a “critical issue” in the U.S.

A majority favored a path to citizenship for those who are in the country without legal permission.

By and large, Americans had a positive view of immigrants, saying they strengthen the country, with a minority seeing immigrants as a burden to the U.S. the survey found.

Those were among findings released February 3 by PRRI from a survey examining American perspectives on immigration policy.

The survey conducted in September 2021 interviewed a relative sample of 2,508 adults (ages 18 and up) living in all 50 of the United States. It focused on welcoming views about immigration to the U. S. and whether it is a critical issue at all.

The survey looked at how political affiliation, the kind of media some respondents digested, race, and sometimes age, affected the answers given. It also asked questions about whether respondents viewed immigration favorably or otherwise.

While a majority of Americans “support offering immigrants living in the U.S. illegally a way to become citizens, provided they meet certain requirements” and nearly two thirds support “allowing immigrants brought illegally to the U.S.” as children to gain legal resident status, white evangelical Protestants and Republicans resoundingly do not support those policies the survey found.

It also found that six in 10 Americans, or 62%, “support offering immigrants living in the U.S. illegally a way to become citizens, provided they meet certain requirements.”

And, “only about one in five Americans, or 22% say immigrants living in the U.S. illegally should be identified and deported.”

Nearly two-thirds, or 64% of Americans support allowing immigrants brought illegally to the U.S. as children to gain resident legal status the survey found.

“A majority of Americans (56%) say that in general, newcomers strengthen American society, compared to four in 10 (40%) who say that newcomers threaten traditional American customs and values,” the survey said.

The PRRI survey said the “majorities (61%) of all religious groups say that newcomers strengthen American society because of their hard work and talents. To read the complete article, please click [here](#)

Artist hopes New Sculpture Can Spotlight Sisters’ Work Fighting Human Trafficking

~ by Christopher White, Global Sisters Report

Pope Francis has said that human trafficking is a modern form of human slavery, and he has been critical of governments, business leaders, and those in civil society who turn a blind eye to it.

Now, [Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz](#) is hoping his new sculpture will help put a spotlight on an issue he believes too many individuals and governments would prefer to look away from. And on Sunday, February 6, the pope offered his blessing – both to the sculpture and to the religious sisters on the front lines leading the fight against human trafficking.



Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz created a 20-foot bronze sculpture depicting St. Josephine Bakhita freeing victims of human trafficking. (Timothy Schmalz photo)

The design for the sculpture is inspired, in part, by the work of the 19th- century Canossian religious sister, now Saint [Josephine Bakhita](#), who hailed from the Darfur region of Sudan and was kidnapped by traffickers at age 9. Upon becoming free, she entered religious life and committed herself to caring for the poor and destitute. She is the patron saint of

human trafficking victims and survivors.

The bronze statue design – which will eventually have permanent homes in both Rome and the United States – depicts Bakhita opening up the gates of the underworld and allowing those enslaved by trafficking to be set free. More than 50 individuals represent a range of trafficking victims – including a child bride, young beggars, an individual trafficking for their organs, both men and women enslaved in prostitution.

Schmalz told Global Sisters Report he hopes the sculpture, titled, "[Let the Oppressed Go Free](#)," will become a "weapon of awareness."

"Thank you for your courage," the pope said to the religious sisters present with a 10-foot bronze model of the statue in St. Peter's Square during his remarks after the Sunday Angelus.

To read the entire account, please click [here](#)

Pope Francis' February Prayer Intention is for Religious Sisters and Consecrated Women

~ by Soli Salgado, *Global Sisters Report*

For the month of February, Pope Francis' prayer intention is for all religious sisters and consecrated women, for "what would the church be without religious sisters and consecrated laywomen?" he said in [a video message](#) announcing his theme for the month. "The church cannot be understood without them."

The pope has focused on women religious before: His October 2020 intentions was for women's leadership in the church, and his October 2018 intention was for the "role of the religious." Now, he prays that sisters "show the beauty of God's love and compassion as catechists, theologians and spiritual guides."



Religious hold candles at a Mass to mark the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. (CNS/Paul Haring)

"I invite them to fight when, in some cases, they are treated unfairly, even within the church; when they serve so much that they are reduced to servitude – at times, by men of the church," Francis said in the video message. "Do not be discouraged. May you keep making God's goodness known through the apostolic works you do, but, above all, through your witness of consecration."

The pope encouraged all women religious to discern and choose what is best for their missions and to "find new responses to the challenges of our times."

He also asked that sisters continue making an impact on the poor and marginalized, in particular, as well as those enslaved by traffickers.

A Valentine's Day Prayer



We said a Valentine prayer for you and asked the Lord above
to fill your heart and bless your soul
with the precious gift of love.
We prayed for love from family and from every cherished friend
Then, we asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end.

Jesuit Network with Migrants (RJM)

~ An account by Sr. Sonia Margarita Osorio, MSC *



I have lived a very intense month, accompanying the caravan of Honduran migrants at the Aguas Calientes border between Honduras and Guatemala, accompanying a family in the process of [identifying] the body of their son, who was in the truck that crashed in Chiapas on December 19, 2021. The truck was carrying more than 150 migrants [as they were observing] the first anniversary of the 19 migrants killed in Tamaulipas on January 22, 2021. Of those 19, 14 were from Comitancillo San Marcos. On January 20 and 21 in San Marcos we had a Eucharist and inaugurated a mural in honor of the victims and their families, the mural represents the process of mourning and hope.

"I have seen the oppression of my people in Egypt and I have heard the cries of pain, I have seen the oppression of my people in Egypt and heard the cries of their oppressors; I know their sufferings..." Exodus 3, 7

With this text of the Exodus begins the prologue of the book "The Flight of the Hummingbird" which contains the review of each of the migrants killed and burned in Camargo Tamaulipas. It also narrates the process of accompaniment of mourning with their families made by the Network. I have had the grace of accompanying these families for some months in group processes. We have also taken the opportunity to visit each family, listen to them and encourage them. Further on, the same text says:

"I have come down to deliver you from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring you up from this land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey..."

This experience of celebrating the first anniversary of these victims of Tamaulipas, has a double reality and feeling, on the one hand, the joy that gives "the lowering of God to free his people" and the certainty that they come from the Gospel, where it is not the full and satisfied who enjoy the banquet of the Kingdom, but the strangers, those of the squares, the roads, the discarded, those who, like the Master, have nowhere to lay their heads.

The other reality is the indignation of seeing how the bodies of the victims of the "accident" in Chiapas continue to arrive, in which so many migrants, mostly Guatemalans, were traveling, and where we see that the blood of our brothers and sisters continues to cry out for justice. We are all brothers and sisters and we must eat at the same table because the earth belongs to all and produces for all.



"Hope multiplies strength a hundredfold," says Mother Cabrini and I believe that this is a reality of the RJM team extended to our families and communities where lay and religious men and women



live with joy the encounter with our brothers, Haitians, Venezuelans, Nicaraguans, Hondurans, and Guatemalans who with their courage challenge us to leave the comfort and always look for something better.

**Translated from the Spanish with www.DeepL.com/Translator*

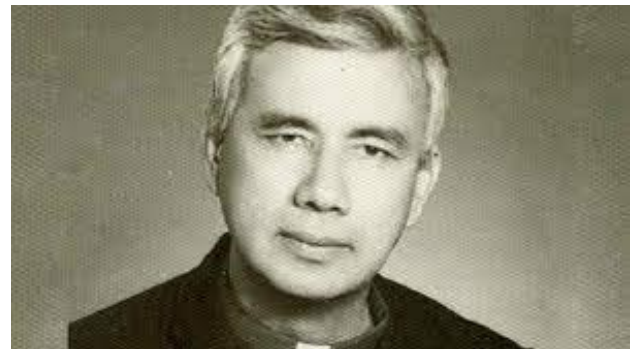
Sr. Sonnia extends her hand in greeting a new little friend during her journey.

The Beatification Of Father Rutilio Grande

*~ A Reflection by Sr. Maria Elena Plata, MSC **

On January 22, 2022, in the City Of San Salvador, El Salvador, the Eucharist was celebrated in which the Jesuit priest Rutilio Grande García (48 years old) was officially declared blessed. He was murdered along with Manuel Solórzano, 72 years old, and Nelson Rutilio Lemus, 16 years old, both members of the parish community, on March 12, 1977, in the town of Aguilaes, El Salvador. On that day, Friar Cosme Spessoto (Franciscan), considered a martyr for peace, was also beatified.

I had the opportunity to participate in that celebration as part of the delegation of the Conference of Religious of Guatemala. The Eucharist was celebrated by Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chavez, Auxiliary Bishop of San Salvador, delegate of Pope Francis.



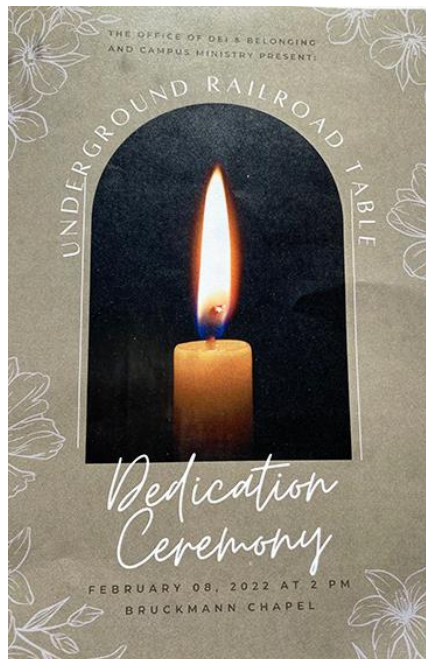
The celebration was very emotional, the "Savior of the World" square, in San Salvador, was full of representatives from all the parishes of the country, all the diocesan clergy was present, which reminded us of the "unique mass" that Monsignor Romero celebrated the day that Father Rutilio and his companions were assassinated. In the words of Cardinal Rosa Chavez: "in our assembly there are humble peasants who rejoice to see that the Church recognizes the sanctity of those who have given their lives in its service". He also pointed out, that the two lay people represent "the multitude that no one will be able to count, that is, the innumerable anonymous martyrs of the Salvadoran people."

The recognition of the martyrdom of Father Rutilio, of Fray Cosme, of Manuel and Nelson, has a profound value, since that also entails the recognition of the violence that the Salvadoran people suffered for years. There was a mixture of joy, happiness, pain, forgiveness and hope, as well as a call for attention and warning. Cardinal Rosa Chavez pointed out that we are very passive and asleep, that we are not fully aware of the treasure we possess by belonging to a martyrial church, and that the admiration we feel for them should lead us to imitate their example, and to live in coherence with the gospel, since their death, like the death of Jesus, was caused by fidelity to the gospel, and their pastoral actions were motivated by their conviction to establish the kingdom of life and justice that Jesus preached. **Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator*

Cabrini University Dedicates Underground Railroad Table

~ from Cabrini University Dedication Program

Vachel Catlin, born in 1814, traveled from the South to western Pennsylvania around 1834 through the network known as the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was a network of diverse people offering shelter and aid to escaped enslaved people from the South. Vachel's family was able to bring with them only one piece of furniture, a small wooden table. Vachel became a barber and opened up the first barbershop in West Newton, PA.



The table was passed through family members and sat near the front window of a barbershop run by George Catlin, a descendent of Vachel Catlin.

After over seventy years of being a barber, George retired and gave his family table that sat in his barbershop to a good friend and customer, John Sarnosky who kept it in his home until his death in 1980. At that time, the table was given to his grandson John Bachkay who was studying to be a priest at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, PA. Fr. John was ordained in 1983. The table traveled with him to his many church assignments. After his retirement in 2021, he donated the Catlin family table to Cabrini University.

The University community is honored and thrilled to be recipient of this significant piece of our nation's history.

Plenary Indulgence at Mother Cabrini Shrine, Golden, CO

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the canonization of St. Frances Cabrini, Most Rev. Samuel Aquila, Archbishop of Denver has announced that Pope Francis has given his papal blessing for a plenary indulgence for all who visit Mother Cabrini Shrine until November 13, 2022.

We give thanks for this great blessing.

~ submitted by JoAnn Seaman



January 11, 2022

To Pilgrims at the Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini,

On November 12th, 2021, I issued a partial indulgence, under the usual conditions, for all who make a pilgrimage to Mother Cabrini Shrine during this year, the 75th anniversary of her canonization. I am pleased to announce that Pope Francis has giving his papal blessing and that all who now make a pilgrimage to the shrine, fulfilling the usual conditions of sacramental confession and reception of the Eucharist within 8 days before or after the visit and prayers for the Holy Father's intentions, may receive a *plenary indulgence* until November 13th, 2022.

May our Lord Jesus Christ abundantly bless you all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Samuel J. Aquila, S.T.L.
Archbishop of Denver



7 Ways to Celebrate Black History Month at Cabrini

Cabrini University's Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (ODEIB) will host a series of community discussions in celebration and observance of Black History Month.

"The programs and activities that we have planned for Black History Month demonstrate the connection between the work of the Office of DEI and Belonging and the Cabrini commitment to social justice," said Lailah Dunbar, Director, ODEIB. "We trust that as we deepen our awareness of the journey of all Americans, we expand our hearts, and our faith becomes action."

Cabrini students, faculty, staff, and alumni are invited to gather in person and virtually for ODEIB's 2022 Black History Month programming:

African American Museum Tour in Washington, DC

Friday, Feb. 11, Leave from Grace Hall at 7:30am

Space is limited for a trip to the African American Museum in the nation's capital. [Sign up by Friday, Feb. 4.](#) Students will return to campus around 5:30pm.

Lounge Table Talk: Who Do You Say I Am?

Monday, Feb. 14, 12pm, ODEIB Lounge, 1st Floor Widener

Take part in a conversation with Lailah Dunbar, Director, ODEIB, and Evelyn Busby, CaPS licensed clinical social worker and BIPOC specialist, about the power of self-definition. So much of what we believe about ourselves is a result of traditional, social, and cultural conditioning. When we decide to define ourselves for ourselves, we discover an internal power that causes us to be more attractive, confident, and successful.

Community Common Hour — Black History 365: Is Black History Month Still Necessary?

Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2pm, Register via Zoom

Established in February 1926 as Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson to counter the African American contributions which were "overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them," Black History Month and its contemporary significance remains a widely debated subject. Join Dunbar and Joseph Fitzgerald, PhD, Associate Professor, History and Political Science, for this wide-ranging discussion. Preview this discussion by reading Dunbar's Black History Month [blog post](#).

This article originally appeared in VISION Vocation Guide, a publication of the National Religious Vocations Conference.

From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Promotion Team...

Latino Young People, Family and Vocation

~ by Sister Ana Cecilia Montalvo, F.Sp.S

In last week's Update we focused on two of the elements of Hispanic culture so central to the decision making of young Latina women. This week, we consider two further elements.

Living Close to Family

Hispanics share a number of family traditions. Birthdays, anniversaries, religious celebrations, the death of a family member, academic or work achievements – these moments bring us together and are a reason to celebrate or give comfort to each other.



Laura is discerning her call to consecrated life in an international community; she knows well that if God calls her, she may spend a few years away from her family circle in another country and culture. Leaving her family is her greatest fear, as she knows that she will probably not be there at her brother's wedding, nor at her grandmother's 80th birthday party.

Offspring

The cultural significance of motherhood and fatherhood is highly valued among Hispanics; therefore parents generally expect their children to marry and give them grandchildren in order to have offspring to carry on the family name and traditions.

Elizabeth is 27years-old and "still not married" (says her family with a certain frustration). She had a boyfriend for two years whom the family knew, treated as one of their own, and expected her to marry. Elizabeth ended that relationship because she is very attracted to consecrated life and wanted to give herself time to discern. The family does not understand "how Elizabeth is going to become a nun and never have children."

These situations, last week of Jose, and Laura and Elizabeth have to do with cultural and family concerns that are complicated but are normal components of many young people's discernment process. Receiving personal guidance, meeting Jesus in prayer and in reality, and listening to the testimonies of consecrated people can encourage and enlighten an individual's decision.

All for the Precious Pearl

Selling everything for the Precious Pearl does not happen overnight. The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to take each step, without sparing us the pain. Pope Francis reminds us that our vocation is a gift and that to enjoy it we must take risks. Given all that we have just considered here are some steps to consider:

- **Ask a vocation director:** Ask about organizations that help with student debt and immigration processes. **Ask your parish priest:** It might help parents and family members to hear of your priest's own vocational journey. **Involve your family:** Introduce your family to the congregation with whom you are discerning. No one loves what they do not know. Tell your family about their mission and charism. **Trust in God's faithfulness and providence** May the Holy Spirit guide you to find the Precious Pearl, for your happiness is found there.

This is the final installment of this article.

Prayer Requests

Ken

Rosemary Gehrlein, staff member at Cabrini University, asks that you please remember her friend, Ken, who has been diagnosed with a very aggressive form of cancer and has begun treatment in the hope of slowing the progress of the disease. Sadly, the prognosis is not good. Please keep Ken, and his wife and children in prayer.

Infant Della

Sr. Lisa Valentini, MSC of Reading, PA, requests prayers for Baby Della who was born last week, and seemed fine. For no apparent reason, baby Della is in terrible distress. They think she may have suffered a stroke. Please pray for her parents and for baby Della.

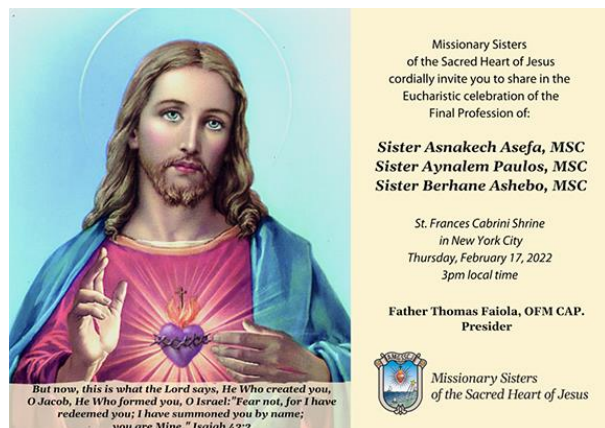


MSC Gathering

Your prayers are invited for the international MSC Gathering which will take place in New Jersey beginning this coming Sunday. Pray their meetings will be blessed and fruitful and that their travel to and from the gathering will be safe.

Prayers for Perpetual Vows

On February 17th, MSC sisters, Sr. Asnakech, Sr. Aynalem and Sr. Berhane will profess their Perpetual Vows as MSCs. Let us accompany them with our prayers as they anticipate this sacred step in serving the people of God.



Sr. Lucille Souza, MSC

Please pray for Sr. Lucille as she continues to recover from recent knee surgery. Pray that she will continue to heal and her physical therapy will progress well. She would be so grateful for our prayers.

In Loving Memory

Margaret "Margie" Crown

Sr. Terry Saetta, RSM, asks prayers for the repose of the soul of her sister, Margaret "Margie" Crown who passed away earlier this week. May she rest in eternal peace.

Rosemary (Rosie) James

On May 7, 2008, a very special lady became part of the St. Cabrini Nursing Home family. Her name was Rosemary (Rosie) James and from that very first day, she became a very

special part of the Cabrini Family. The nursing home became her home, and we became her family – a perfect fit. So, what can be said of our “Rosie” from St. Cabrini Nursing Home?

Sr. Catherine Garry and I, Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, will try our best to share with you all, for we know that many knew her much better than we did, especially the staff on 2 South and wherever that “Wheelchair lady” roamed.



Rosemary (Rosie) James
October 14, 1937 –
February 8, 2022

We are sure that all can relate to her famous greeting to all, “Hello, Babe” or was that just to the nuns? The “Rosie” smile and that hello would have won presidents over – if only they would have known her.

Truth be told, at times, she could be a force to contend with especially when something didn’t go her way. We rarely saw that side of her – thank God.

However, on the other hand, she was a gentle soul, always with a smile on her face and a big “hello” whenever you met her (in the lobby, in the café or by the elevator.) She was so appreciative for whatever you would do for her.

There is an old saying, “Rosie did what Rosie wanted to do” and she did even until the end of her life. We all knew Rosie was in charge even until her last breath.

Rosie, you have been a true blessing to the Cabrini Family. We shall surely miss you, Babe. We thank you for showing us how to live life, no matter what may come your way and you did it the Rosie Way... Go in God’s Peace, Sr. Arlene and Sr. Catherine.

Clara Fae Kennedy

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Clara Fae Kennedy, who recently went home to God. She is the mother of Mary Beth Senkewicz, a trustee at Cabrini University as well as an alumna of Cabrini University and Mother Cabrini High School, New York City. Our prayers and condolences go to Mary Beth and her family at this sad time.

Victoria Calabro Zavasnik

It is with sadness that we share that Vickey Calabro Zavasnik died Wednesday, February 8th in St. Augustine, Florida. Vickey, a former MSC, was a dear friend to many Missionary Sisters. Vickey generously created and supported a Cabrini University scholarship fund to encourage and enable non-traditional-aged students with demonstrated financial need to complete their bachelor’s or master’s degree. According to her son Erik, her wishes included contributions to the Victoria Calabro Zavasnik ‘70 Scholarship Fund in lieu of flowers. Her sons thank you for all your prayers and thoughts. May she rest in God’s eternal light.

