



March 10, 2022

‘Rivers of blood and tears are flowing in Ukraine.’

~ Gerard O’Connell, *AMERICA Magazine*

“Rivers of blood and of tears are flowing in Ukraine,” Pope Francis said on March 6 as he made a passionate and robust appeal for an end to the war in Ukraine that has now entered its 14th day. He called for a stop to the armed attacks in the country, and for negotiations and good sense to prevail. He appealed for a return to the respect of international law, which has been broken by the invasion of the country by Russian forces.

“Above all else, I implore that the armed attacks stop, that negotiations prevail, and that good sense also prevails, and that there be a return to respect of the international law,” he said in a heartfelt and emotion-packed appeal that drew strong applause from the thousands gathered in St. Peter’s Square this Sunday, March 6th.

He appealed too for “the true securing” and guaranteeing of “humanitarian corridors” and for making vital aid available to the populations of the cities and towns under siege by the Russian forces that, as reports show, lack food, water, and electricity, and who are living in fear.

Significantly, he added that in Ukraine today “one is not dealing with a military operation only, but with war that sows death, destruction and misery.” By stating this categorically, the Pope has called out the big lie being propagated by President Vladimir Putin and the Kremlin authorities who continue to insist that what is happening in the Ukraine is “a military operation” not an invasion of a sovereign state and a war. Journalists or people who state otherwise in Russia now risk heavy penalties following legislation passed in the Duma, the Russian parliament, last Friday.

“The victims are ever more numerous, as are the people in flight, especially mothers and children,” Francis stated, referring to the thousands being killed and wounded, and the more than 1.5 million people who, according to the United Nations, have already fled the war in the country and become refugees in neighboring European states.

“In that martyred country there grows hour by hour the necessity of humanitarian assistance, the Pope said.

Aware that these [people are living] mostly in bomb-shelters and to a large extent lack food, water and medical supplies, Pope Francis asked that “there be guaranteed and facilitated the access to aid for the besieged people so as to offer vital help to our brothers and sisters who are oppressed by the bombs and fear.” To read the entire article please click [here](#)

Sisters in Ukraine Navigate ‘a time full of terror’

~ by Dan Stockman and Chris Herlinger, Global Sisters Report

Catholic sisters in western Ukraine are safe, wrote Sr. Anna Andrusiv of the [Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great](#) though life in the border city of Lviv is rapidly changing because of the mass exodus of people from Ukraine.

“All the sisters are fine here in the monastery” in Lviv, the congregation’s main convent in Ukraine that is home to nearly 30 sisters.

Two other sisters remain safely in the city of Zaporizhia in the east, near Crimea, which has been the scene of years of fighting between Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian separatist rebels.

Prayer for an end to the hostilities continue both day and night, Andrusiv wrote.

“Our soldiers say that our prayers help them,” wrote Andrusiv, adding that Ukrainians believe that ultimately, victory will be theirs.

“We will never give up, we will win!” she wrote. “I’m more than sure about it. God is with us. With His people.”

Leaders of a congregation with a long history in Ukraine, which asked not to be identified because of fear of retaliation from the Russians, have been sending updates to the [International Union of Superiors General](#) [12] that the organization has [posted to its website](#)



People in Lviv, Ukraine, take shelter in the basement of a school amid Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

(CNS/Reuters/ Kai Pfaffengach)

Sisters in Croatia, Poland and Romania are ready to take in sisters from this community in Ukraine if they are forced to leave.

“Sisters in Kyiv live in rather dangerous circumstances, but they have written that they are well,” the update said.

Mother Marcela Runcan, General Superior of the Basilian Sisters, wrote in [a March 1 letter](#) to the congregation’s sisters in Ukraine that the entire order is praying for them.

“War, hatred and murder are obvious and bold-faced expressions of evil. Evil is a devastating force that destroys life, relationships and the soul,” Runcan wrote. “Dear Sisters, let us continue our prayers for peace. This is a time full of terror, blood, tears and cruelty but it is already clear how courage, love, mercy, truth, mutual aid and kindness are manifested as bright lights in the darkness...Spiritual giants are born in the greatest of trials. Even at this time, the night of Gethsemane, and perhaps, Golgotha, the Lord leads us to the resurrection.”

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

Nuns in Ukraine Rescue, Escort, Stranded Foreign Students

~ Thomas Scaria, *Global Sisters Report*

An Indian Catholic nun and her associates are working round-the-clock to help stranded students and others fleeing war-torn Ukraine.

“God is using me to save people from death in Ukraine,” said Sr. Ligi Payyappilly, the 48-year-old superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Saint-Marc in Mukachevo, Ukraine.

Payyappilly, and 17 sisters of her congregation are giving shelter and food to the distressed students besides helping them cross the Ukrainian border to escape to countries including Hungary, Romania and Slovakia.

“Being in Ukraine for over 20 years, I have a lot of contacts and networks that helped me carry out this mission so far,”

Payyappilly told *Global Sisters Report*, just before her scheduled two-hour sleep. Her convent in Mukachevo in western Ukraine is some 480 miles southwest of the national capital of Kiev.



Sr. Ligi Payyappilly stands with rescued students at her convent in Mukachevo in western Ukraine. *Photo courtesy of Ligi Payyappilly*

People helped by Payyappilly’s team profusely thanked the nuns.

“We never thought we would be alive now,” said Vignesh Suresh, a third-year student of medicine who hails Payyappilly as “God’s angel who came to help us when we were totally lost.”

Suresh said he and 45 other Indian students were stranded at the Polish border for 15 hours when Payyappilly and Sr. Christine Tymurzhina, a Ukrainian, came to help them.

“The sisters took us to their convent in their vehicles, hugged each of us with their love and warmth, gave us food, a warm hall to sleep in and escorted us in the morning to cross the Romania border,” Suresh said as his friends slept on the train.

Payyappilly said Suresh was among about 1,000 foreign students her convent has helped so far.

She said most students reached them in a desperate state. “They had not bathed for many days or eaten food. They were mentally shocked and physically weak. So our first priority was to give them a comfortable stay before taking them to the border,” Payyappilly said.



Payyappilly said the sisters are flooded with phone calls from panicked parents after a Catholic website in Kerala published information about their services.

Payyappilly said once the people cross the border safely, they consider the mission accomplished and look for other lost ones in Ukraine.

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

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Saint-Marc a Mukachevo, Ukraine, serve food to rescued foreign students before helping them to cross the border. *Photo courtesy of Ligi Payyappilly*

To read a related account by a Sister of the Order of St. Basil the Great, please click [here](#)

Cabrini Mission Foundation - Help Those in Ukraine



We've changed our plans to answer the most URGENT needs in Ukraine!

Today we reach out to you to [join us](#) in our mission to come to the aid of children and families in Ukraine. Please help us help the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great assist orphans, refugees, injured and displaced persons in Ukraine and Poland (where many people have fled since Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24). Help is desperately needed to provide food, shelter, clothing and other forms of assistance to those who need it most.

Let this be a Lenten offering – give rather than give up. **As of today we have received \$6,040.**

[Please Consider Donating!](#)

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Cabrini Mission Foundation Mission Statement "Cabrini Mission Foundation responds with boldness, urgency and courage to the unmet needs of the most vulnerable and those on the margins of society. We support charitable works of healing, teaching and caring that reflect the charism of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, founded by St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. With every response we foster hope as bearers of the love of Christ in the world."

7th Annual Catholic Sisters Week Celebrates the Contemporary Work of Women Religious



The theme for this year's Catholic Sisters Week is "Caring for Earth, Caring for You." Many events are incorporating an environmental focus or aspects of Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical "[*Laudato Si'* on Care for Our Common Home](#)."

Catholic Sisters Week also brings the final episode of "Exploring Intersections:

Catholic Sisters on Racism, Migration and Climate" a project of LCWR's Region 10. For a year, the [monthly program](#) has explored the issues of racism, migration and climate and how they are intertwined. The March 9 episode, "[Navigating the Road Ahead](#)," will focus on takeaways from the series and suggestions for continuing the conversation.

"One of the things Catholic Sisters Week embraces this year is the concept of being engaged in the work," said Ginny Hizer, Executive Director of Communicators for Women Religious. "It's taking the flavor and the mission of the sisters and actually living it out."

While lay people are increasingly involved in the work of sisters through sponsored ministries and associate programs, Catholic Sisters Week opens those opportunities to a much broader audience, Hizer said.

"Sisters are better than anybody at finding the hope and holding the hope and recognizing the abundance that surrounds our lives. If you want to experience a bit of that abundance, look to Catholic Sisters Week," said Stacy Spitler, Chair of the Communicators for Women Religious. To learn more, please click [here](#)

***Javier Ramirez-Baron, Director of Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC,
to be honored...***

Save the Date!

Please join The Ignatian Volunteer Corps of
New York, Long Island and Northern New Jersey in
presenting the
**2022
Madonna della Strada Award**
at
**An Evening
of Celebration**
Wednesday, May 4, 2022 5:30 - 8:00 pm
Wines and Delicious Hors d'oeuvres
Jesuit Conference Center Garden
53 East 83 Street (between Park & Madison Avenues)
New York, NY 10028
\$100 Tickets Invitation to follow
Reception benefits the work of
IVC NY/LI/Northern New Jersey



Honoring the Recipients:
Cabrini Immigrant Services of New York
Javier Ramirez-Baron
Executive Director
Ignatian Volunteer
Julia Mucci
*In recognition of outstanding service
to the community*

More Information:
Maureen Fullam
NY/Metro Director
mfullam@ivcusa.org
917-859-0928



Cabrini of Westchester Celebrates New Dialysis Den



Seen cutting the ribbon to officially open Cabrini's Dialysis Den are (from left) Sandi Schreier, Cabrini of Westchester's Director of Social Services; Joseph Horowitz, Regional Director of Business Operations, Dialyze Direct; Sr. Veronica Piccone, MSC, Cabrini of Westchester resident; Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins; Patricia Krasnausky, Cabrini of Westchester's President and CEO; and Sr. Damien Ciminera, MSC, Cabrini of Westchester resident. *Photo credit: Margaret Fox Photography*

On Wednesday, February 23, 2022, Cabrini of Westchester celebrated the opening of a new Dialysis Program with a Blessing and Ribbon Cutting ceremony. The ceremony was attended by our sponsors, The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, several contractors that

helped to implement the program, board members, staff, residents and special guest, Senator Andrea-Stewart-Cousins.

Expected to begin servicing patients by the end of March 2022, the Dialysis Program will allow residents of the nursing home to receive dialysis on site and eliminate the need for transportation to other locations. In conjunction with Dialyze Direct, the program will serve only residents and short-term patients of Cabrini of Westchester with a goal of improving the quality of life for those who need this service.

The dialysis suite will accommodate a total of 8 patients daily under the supervision of a registered nurse with special training. Treatments will be given five days a week for an average of 2 ½ hours and will be worked around meal times, rehabilitation appointments and activities so that recipients' daily schedules will not be interrupted.

"We are pleased to add this vital service to Cabrini's programs and services which will vastly improve the lives of those residents in need of dialysis treatment," said Patricia Krasnausky, President and CEO of Cabrini of Westchester. "By not having to travel for treatment, residents will experience reduced recovery time allowing them to maintain regular schedules that include meal times, daily activities and rehabilitation. We are excited to implement the program and look forward to working with Dialyze Direct to ensure the best outcomes for the elders that we are so privileged to serve."

~ submitted by Susan Herveg, Director of Development and Public Relations, Cabrini of Westchester



Cabrini of Westchester Trustees, Donald Amoruso and Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, MSC are pictured at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

International Women's Day isn't just about serving women – it's about women serving.

~ by [Joan Rosenbauer](#), *National Catholic Reporter*

March 8 is International Women's Day, an important and necessary recognition of the needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls. Having served for many years in leadership roles for Catholic organizations, I am especially aware of how the Catholic Church is called to engage women in all that we do. We need to serve women, but we also need women to serve. Women bring unique and important qualities to the work that the church does around the world. They are determined and resourceful, they put their communities first and they lead and serve with care and concern.



Women in Poland serving food to Ukrainian refugees.

When I first began working in international development, one of the things I quickly learned was that investing in women and women's leadership ripples far beyond the direct beneficiary. Research by [the U.S. Agency for International Development](#) has found that when 10% or more of adolescent girls go to school, a country's gross domestic product increases by an average of 3%. This is because women and girls invest in their families and communities and often take what they are given to serve others.



This is the image that accompanied the article in the *National Catholic Reporter* with the caption, "St. Frances X. Cabrini, Patron of Immigrants, is depicted in a stained-glass window at the saint's shrine chapel in New York City. Mother Cabrini and her sisters worked with immigrants, school children and the poor. (CNS/A. Shemitz)"

The role of women throughout the history of the church also deserves attention on this day devoted to the contributions of women. I think about some of the notable women, like St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, whose leadership and service have been so important to the church's mission. Devoted, powerful and sometimes brazen in her determination, she led important work for the church in the United States and directed missions to offer care and welcome for those seeking a better life in a new land. The inspiration I find in Mother Cabrini isn't just in her patronage of immigrants — a cause that is dear to my heart and the essence of the mission of my organization. She inspires me because of the unique leadership she brought to her work. Her leadership was steeped in prayer and directed and informed by those most in need, not those in power.

As we recognize International Women's Day around the world this year, it is more important than ever that we recognize the important qualities women bring, and the essential contributions we make, in society as a whole, and especially for the church's mission around the world.

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

From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Promotion Team...

The Gift of Mission Program presented at Villa Joseph Marie



Sr. Mindy Welding, IHM, (r.) welcomes the students to the Gift of Mission Day, while Mrs. Stephanie McCarthy (c.), Villa Joseph Marie H.S. campus minister, listens to the agenda for the day.

As an integral part of their vocation promotion outreach, the Missionary Sisters are members of the National Religious Vocations Conference (NRVC). The NRVC has established member-areas throughout the United States and

internationally toward the accomplishment of their vision “to set the world ablaze with the fire of God’s love through the prophetic, joyful witness of religious sisters, brothers and priests as radical disciples of Jesus.”

The Delaware Valley Chapter of the NRVC, which is comprised of many women’s and men’s religious congregations, meets regularly. Part of their vocation outreach is to present The Gift of Mission, an interactive vocation awareness program, to high school students. This has been the practice since 2010. The pandemic, unfortunately, suspended such programs for two years. However, with Covid subsiding in many parts of the area, the Delaware Valley Chapter members responded positively to an invitation from NRVC Board Chair Sr. Mindy Welding, IHM, to present The Gift of Mission at Villa Joseph Marie High School in Southampton, PA on Thursday, March 3rd.

The Director of Campus Ministry there, Mrs. Stephanie McCarthy, shared this feedback on the students’ reaction to the day:

*“I wanted to **thank you** again for making your way to Villa yesterday. The girls truly LOVED the day. One turned to me and said, “Mrs. McCarthy can we do this EVERYDAY?!” The schedule you facilitated certainly encouraged them to want more. We celebrated Mass today for our feast of St. Casimir and Father spoke about answering God’s call. I was almost moved to tears by this connection to Gift of Mission and I imagine the hearts of these 18 young women were stirred as well.*

The movements of the Holy Spirit were palpable. Several of the girls found me yesterday afternoon or today to share more excitement about the retreat day. I will do a follow-up with them soon. (cont’d next page)



The Villa Joseph Marie students and vocation directors of the NRVC Delaware Valley member area at the Gift of Mission Day.

Thank you for your vocational ministry. If you ever feel discouraged please look back at yesterday's retreat as consolation that God is most certainly working through you. I cannot thank you enough for your vocational YES and for your invitational YES to be with us yesterday. You are always welcome at Villa. If you ever want to connect with our students please just reach out to me."

The vocation directors were uplifted by, and most grateful for, Stephanie McCarthy's hope-filled and positive comments. The hope, as a member area, is that more Gift of Mission programs can be scheduled for the upcoming academic year. ~ submitted by Nancy Costello, MSC Vocation Promotion Office

A Postscript: Stephanie McCarthy is a former Campus Minister at Cabrini University.

The Church needs – more - women saints, Pope tells conference

~ Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY – The Catholic Church needs women, especially women saints, who have shown throughout history an unwavering dedication to God and to caring for their brothers and sisters, Pope Francis said.

The women honored as doctors of the church and co-patrons of Europe, he said, are examples of “the courage to face difficulties; the capacity for being practical; a natural desire to promote what is most beautiful and human according to God’s plan; and a far-sighted, prophetic vision of the world and of history, that made them sowers of hope and builders of the future.”



From left: Saints Edith Stein, Teresa of Avila, Thérèse of Lisieux and Catherine of Siena are represented in stained glass at St. Thérèse of Lisieux Church in Montauk, NY. (CNS photo, G. A. Shemitz, Long Island Catholic)

Pope Francis made his comments in a message March 8 to a conference at Rome's Pontifical Urbanian

University on “Women Doctors of the Church and Co-Patronesses of Europe.”

The academic conference, held on International Women's Day, focused on Sts. Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, Thérèse of Lisieux and Hildegard of Bingen, who are doctors of the church, and on Sts. Bridget of Sweden, Edith Stein and Catherine of Siena who are co-patrons of Europe.

The teaching and example of the seven women, he said, “can offer light and hope to our fragmented and fractious world.”

While they lived at different times, in different countries and had “very different missions,” the Pope said, they each offered an example of a holy life. Sometimes they “felt incapable and limited, ‘little women,’ as Teresa of Avila would say, faced with an undertaking that surpassed them,” he said, but they drew strength from the love of God and followed their vocations on “a path accessible to all: that of holiness in daily life.”

While the world today demands that “the dignity and intrinsic worth with which the Creator endowed them be restored to all women,” the church also recognizes that it needs their gifts and full involvement, he said.



Each week, as we journey through Lent, one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLM) will offer a reflection. For the Second Sunday in Lent, the reflection is given by Susan Pierson, CLM.

Second Sunday in Lent

I have always loved the season of Lent because here in Pennsylvania, as I prepare my heart and spirit for Easter, there are signs of spring all around me.

This year I have been reading more about the life and spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola who reminds me to: See God in all things/ Be aware of the beauty around me/ Notice God's actions in my life

I truly believe God speaks to each of us every day and during the Lenten season it is especially important to be still and listen. In this way we can see and feel the many manifestations of His love and discern the ways in which we can do His will.

I have seen God this week in the return of the song birds, chickadees, titmice, cardinals, red winged black birds and finches that feast at feeders on my deck. I host pairs of woodpeckers at the suet blocks and wild geese have returned to nest in our meadow.



Spring flowers, tulips, hyacinths and daffodils are beginning to pop up. I marveled at this yearly renewal when I was a child and continue to marvel today. During the darkest days and nights of winter it was impossible to see the bulbs that lay waiting beneath the earth, yet they were there.

For me, the singing of birds, the growth and greening I see all around me are constant reminders of the love of God. I make it a habit to pray outside each day where I thank God for the seasons of my life, the promise of rebirth and the gift of his Son, our Lord and Savior.

Although we are experiencing the beauty of spring here in Pennsylvania, we are also grieving the suffering of our brothers and sisters around the world, especially in Ukraine. I have been using this prayer as part of my morning devotions during Lent as a tool for discernment.

How can I be an instrument of love and peace, how can I best serve God? Perhaps you will find it helpful too.

Take Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all that I have and possess. Thou hast given all to me. To Thee, O Lord, I return it. All is Thine, dispose of it wholly according to Thy will. Give me Thy love and thy grace, for this is sufficient for me. ~ Ignatius Loyola

Prayer Requests

A friend

Prayers are requested for a former employee of a Cabrinian institution who is experiencing some health challenges at this time. Please keep this person in your prayers.

Sr. Mary Lou Andes, MSC

Kindly remember Sr. Mary Lou in your prayers. She sustained a fall yesterday, however, fortunately, she is okay. She is at home recuperating and would be very grateful for our prayers.

Sr. Margaret Mary Hernandez, MSC

Please pray for Sr. Margaret Mary, who fell this last week and post hospitalization is now at St. Cabrini Nursing Home for rehabilitation. Pray that her recovery will be swift.

Joan Johnson

Your prayers are requested for the healing of Joan Johnson, mother of Julia Attaway, the Executive Director of St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in New York City. Please also keep Julia's dad in your prayers at this time.

Mark Powell

Kindly pray for Mark Powell, the son-in-law of Cabrini University alumna and trustee, Dr. Anne Marie Borneman. Mr. Powell is experiencing some health issues. Anne Marie and her husband, Jay, would be grateful for our prayers.

Mr. Rademacher

Your prayers are requested for Mr. Rademacher, the father of Dr. Nick Rademacher, former member of the faculty at Cabrini University. Mr. Rademacher has not been well. Dr. Rademacher and his wife Michelle Sherman would welcome our prayers for his return to full health.

Mary Tambasco

Kindly pray for the continued healing of Mary Tambasco, mother of Michael Tambasco, Director of Facilities and Properties for Province. Mrs. Tambasco hopes to return home this Wednesday.

With Grateful Hearts

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

During this Catholic Sisters Week, we give thanks for our Missionary Sisters and for all Catholic vowed religious sisters who give so selflessly of themselves to be of support for all vulnerable persons and those who find themselves on the margins of society. May God give them strength, courage and hope to continue their ministries in service of others.

Catholic Cardinals

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has sent two Cardinals to the Ukraine. We give thanks for their courage to go in such turbulent times.

In Loving Memory

James “Jim” Costello

Please pray for the repose of Jim Costello, the first cousin of Tom Costello, Jr., and family member of Nancy Costello in the Province Communications Office. Jim passed away unexpectedly during surgery last week. Please pray for the consolation of Jim’s wife, Nancy, and their son Tim. A funeral Mass will take place on Saturday on Long Island.

Dan Eury

It is with great sadness that the Cabrini University community shares the passing of Mr. Dan Eury, father of Brian Eury, Chief-of-Staff and Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives. On Friday, February 25, 2022, Dan Eury, loving husband, father, and grandfather passed away peacefully at home. We send our deepest condolences to Brian and his family. We will continue to keep them in our prayers. A memorial Mass in the Bruckmann Memorial Chapel of Saint Joseph will be offered on Wednesday, March 16 at 12:30 pm.

Gaetana Lipani

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Gaetana Lipani, the mother of Madeline Lipani Suer, alumna of Cabrini High School , New Orleans. May she rest in God’s eternal peace.

Jean DiDonato Poplawski

It is with sadness that we share that Jean DiDonato Poplawski, Cabrini (College) University Class of 1971, died on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, following a nearly two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Jean was an education major at Cabrini. We pray for her husband Joel and her family at this sad time. May she rest in God’s eternal light.

Mary Jane Sullivan, PhD

Mary Jane Sullivan, Cabrini (College) University Class of 1972, passed away unexpectedly on February 7, 2022 following a series of ongoing health issues. She was a beloved sister and known by her many nieces and nephews as “Cool Aunt MJ.” In addition to her large family, Mary Jane was a dear friend to many. Her love and passion for social justice shaped the hearts and minds of anyone privileged to know her. The Cabrinian Community extends our prayers and condolences to her family and friends.

Rosalind Yu’s nephew, Mark

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mark, the 27 year-old nephew of Rosalind Yu, who passed away earlier this week after a three-year battle with cancer. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for the Yu family as they grieve their loss.

