



March 24, 2022

## Pope Francis Speaks to President Zelensky Offers Vatican Peace Negotiation

*~ by Christopher White, National Catholic Reporter*

ROME – On March 22, Pope Francis spoke for a second time by phone with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky, who said he would welcome a Vatican mediation to bring about an end to the Russian invasion against the country.

The call, which was first made public on social media by Ukraine's Vatican ambassador, and then by Zelensky's own Twitter account, was late confirmed by the Holy See press office. The Vatican did not provide a read out of the conversation.

According to Zelensky's account, during his call with Pope Francis, the president said he discussed the "difficult humanitarian situation and the blocking of rescue corridors by Russian troops."

He went on to note that Ukraine would welcome a mediation from the Holy See to help end the conflict, something the Vatican has offered on numerous occasions, though Russia has yet to express interest in such an option.

Zelensky also addressed the Italian parliament on March 22, where he also recalled his conversation with the Pope.

Francis first spoke by phone with Zelensky on February 26 less than 48 hours after Russia's invasion of Ukraine began. During that call, the Pope reportedly expressed his sorrow and solidarity with the country.

According to Andrii Yurash, Ukraine's Vatican ambassador, Zelensky on March 22, repeated his desire for Pope Francis to visit the country.

Earlier this month, Kyiv's mayor appealed to Pope Francis urging him to visit the Ukrainian capital, saying his physical presence could help bring about peace in the war-torn country.



Pope Francis greets Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky during a private audience at the Vatican in February 2020.

*CNS photo/Gregoria Borgia/via Reuters*

# College Students Watch for 'More than Business as Usual' in the Church

~ by Miguel H. Diaz, National Catholic Reporter

The historic February 24 encounter between Pope Francis and college students from across the Americas was part of a larger continental experience of synodality that involved 58 universities in 21 countries. For two months, university students across seven regions in the Americas gathered virtually in a synodal process exploring the root causes of migration and dreaming together just resolutions.

The initiative was born from a collaboration between Argentinian theologian Emilce Cuda and Loyola University Chicago. The powerful public meeting between Francis and university students was mutually rewarding. Afrikaan Sahra, a refugee from Somalia, described the process as life changing. He observed how the Pope "was tenderhearted and very open-minded to differences." A number of the students were touched by the fact the Pope listened to them, took notes during the Zoom meeting, and commented on their ideas and proposals to tackle the root causes of migration. Cuda commented that Francis "is still caught up in joy, delighting in the moment that he shared with them."

Many have now begun to ask what comes next. These students want more than business as usual in the church. They want conversation to evolve into concrete actions, and they want marginalized people to be recognized as agents of change. As these students dream of a new beginning in the church, they are ready to take the lead in this innovative educational and synodal initiative to address the salient signs of the times within and beyond our American continent.



Pope Francis meets with students from North, Central, and South America, as well as the Caribbean, during a February 24 virtual dialogue as part of the Synod. *Photo: Vatican Media*

Welcoming new minds, hearts and hands lies at the heart of a synodal church. As Pope Francis mentioned in his conversation with the students, this means that the church, as people of God, must be willing "to open its doors and exit from its temples to meet Jesus in the streets."

To become this synodal presence in the world is to embrace the mind, the heart and the hands of Jesus and seek to encounter and serve him preferentially among the poor and marginalized. The students who participated in this synodal process expressed deep commitments to become this synodal presence in the world, especially by placing themselves, their studies and their talents in service to re-incorporating those who have been disenfranchised from church and society, marginalized and oppressed by ecclesial and socioeconomic realities.



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

# Collecting Religious' Feedback for the Synod

~ by Dan Stockman, Global Sisters Report (GSR)

Sacred Heart Sr. Maria Cimperman is a true believer in the Synod of Bishops on synodality.

Cimperman, Director of the Center for the Study of Consecrated Life at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, is part of a four-member panel put together by the International Union of Superiors General (UISG) for women religious and the Union of Superiors General (USG) for men religious.

Religious congregations have until March 27 to submit their responses for the synod. Cimperman and her fellow commission members will meet in April in Rome to begin synthesizing those responses for the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops and the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. The response must be filed by August.

**GSR: Your passion for the synod is undeniable.**

*Sr. Cimperman:* It goes against polarization. Normally, we are in our own little worlds, and this – the synod – is flying in the face of that, and you don't know where it's going to go, which means it's probably the Spirit guiding it.



The whole synodal process is really communal discernment. How do we walk and talk with each other and hear each other? And if we do it right, it may not be that dominant voice that stands out, it may be that quiet voice you hear and say, "There is truth in this." How do we invite and engage religious everywhere in this so it's not

only the leaders, it's everyone in the church and even people not in the church.

**GSR: You have talked about how vowed religious have a particular role to play, by helping the process for laypeople.**

*Sr. Cimperman:* Religious are being called to offer something – really, two things. Yes, fill out your response as religious, **but also participate in the parishes, our schools, wherever the conversations are happening, to listen and hear – because we're always trying to meet the unmet needs – and to offer some of our ways, to show how we seek to listen through our own discernment processes.**

We have some experience in communal discernment. It's the experience of listening, engaging, ways of being silent and listening, modes of prayer. Plus, we'll learn from other people. It's a space where we can offer what we are deeply about.

Continued on next page...

**GSR: Will it matter? Is it really worth the bother when so many people say the church won't listen and nothing will change?**

**Sr. Cimperman:** People are asking that question. It is an act of hope. It's an action – and it's hope. That's important.

I also see this as a call of the Spirit. This is a cure for that polarization and all this division. Synodality is asking us to sit with one another and have a conversation and listen and do some sharing. If we don't do this, if we keep doing the same thing, what will happen? This is not doing the same thing. This is doing something different.

Also, I have confidence in the Spirit's movement among us. This is not top-down. It's not bottom-up. It's coming from everywhere. Everyone is asking and being asked to be involved in this. We don't know where it's going to lead, and that's exciting.

**GSR: Do you get the sense that people are responding, that they really are participating in this process?**

**Sr. Cimperman:** I think they're getting so many people responding that they are trying to refigure how to do this. To me, that's a great sign. There's a hunger, and we're going to lose people if we don't engage them, the possibilities here are immense. And we, too, as religious can offer spaces for these conversations, space for people of the margins whose voices don't get heard.



**GSR: Is there some fear that what is said and heard may not be positive? There's no shortage of people with criticisms of the church.**

**Sr. Cimperman:** I think we are going to hear both pain and grace, but we don't know where the conversations will lead. To read the full account, please click [here](#)

**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

**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

Ignatian Volunteer Corps

**Javier Ramirez – Baron**

of

**Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC to be honored...**

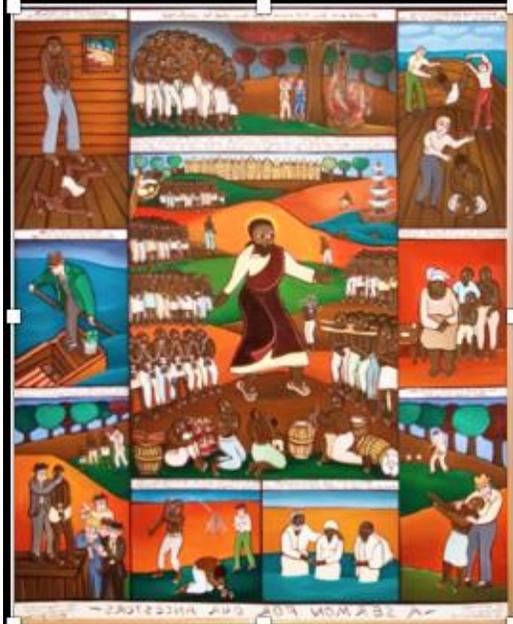
**Please Save the Date.**

**Congratulations, Javier!**

# Black is Blessed.

## Ethiopian Icons *by Laura James*

~ a reflection by Evarlyne Ndeti, MSC Novice



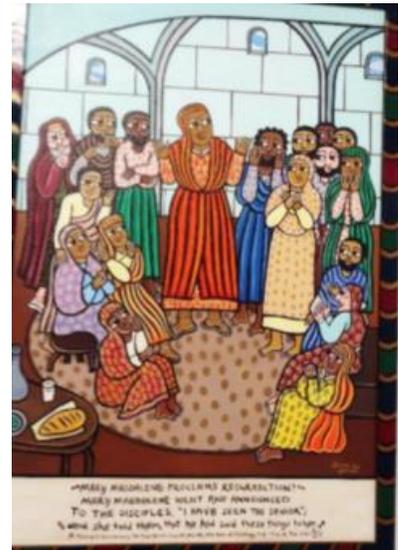
Who would ever think of the Ethiopian Christian artwork being displayed in an exhibit in New York City?! Being able to witness these phenomenal artworks at the Sheen Center in Greenwich Village, brought such a realization of possibilities. The uniqueness and beauty of each image was beyond description.

Reading about the artist's life and the ideas/decisions towards the Ethiopian artwork was stunning also. Each one of us, after the tour, got an informational sheet about the artist and her artwork. For more information: <https://www.laurajamesart.com/laura-james-bio/>

We were in awe seeing these beautiful works of Christian tradition and features of biblical scenarios. We were also

grateful to God, Laura James, and to Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC, who found out about this exhibit and invited us to go and see. Some of the featured stories included: The Call of Mary Magdalene, as someone who is very important and highly recognized in Jesus' mission; The Sermon for our Ancestors which illustrated the African American history of enslaved people; and Jesus' Proclamation of God's Kingdom.

In love and gratitude we continue our pilgrimage to Our Lady of Pompeii Church where we prayed before the image of St. Frances Cabrini, before returning to the novitiate.



**Photo above:** From left: Missionary Sisters Aynalem, Genet, Evarlyne, Evon and Bernadette enjoy the Ethiopian-inspired artwork of artist Laura James.

**Photo right:** The Sisters also made a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Pompeii Church and paused for a prayer with Mother Cabrini.



# 'Tis a wee bit of Irish fun at Cabrini of Westchester!



St. Patrick's Day was celebrated a day early at Cabrini of Westchester! On March 16th, the staff and residents were treated to a festive celebration thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the Rivertowns Rotary!

The Rotary's wonderful members secured donations from a variety of local businesses to provide lunch for the staff, cupcakes and ice cream for the residents and a bagpiper for entertainment! They also did some fundraising to assist Cabrini in purchasing a necessary piece of equipment that will be utilized in the new Dialysis Den. Several of the Rotarians were on hand to present a check to administration for \$1500!

We are very grateful to the Rivertowns Rotary for their generosity and look forward to working with them in the future! ~ submitted by Susan Hecceg, Director of Development and Public Relations, Cabrini of Westchester

**Photo above:** Ice cream was donated by Penny Licks Ice Cream in Hastings-on-Hudson to the delight of residents. Edmund Appiah, Maria Samuels and Jennifer Cabrera of the Therapeutic Recreation Dept. prepare to serve the ice cream treats.

**Photo right:** From left: Representing the Rivertowns Rotary, Bill Florin, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Ellen Sledge, President, presents a \$1500 check to Patricia Krasnausky, President and CEO, and Bonnie Burke, VP of Operations and Administrator of Cabrini of Westchester.

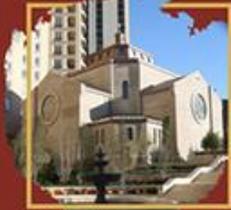
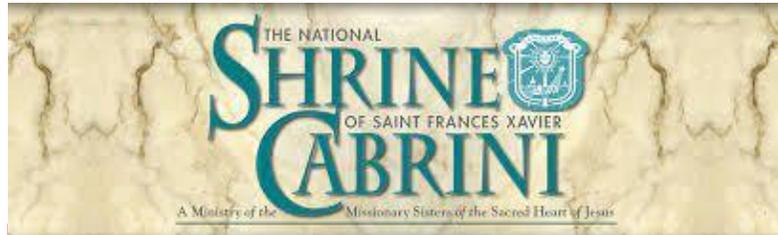
**Photo below:** The staff was thrilled to have pizza for lunch. Unit Clerk Pat Cooper gets ready to deliver several of the pizzas to the nursing staff.



What would St. Patrick's Day be without the sounds of the bagpipe?

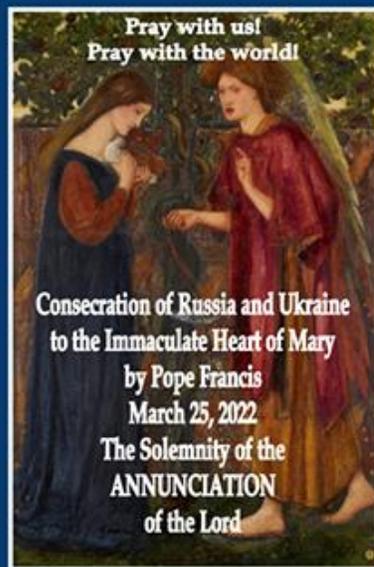
A bagpiper made a special visit to St. Cabrini Nursing Home to make the day authentically Irish!





The Shrine is responding to the request of Pope Francis that all bishops and priests join him in prayer as he leads the Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Rosary for Peace - 10:30 AM  
Mass - 11:00 AM  
Stations of the Cross - 12:30 PM  
Adoration - 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM



At the request of Pope Francis, the Cabrini Shrine will join in solidarity with him and all the bishops and priests of the world, as he consecrates Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

**Friday, March 25**  
**11:00 AM**  
**Solemn Mass**

The Holy Father will lead the Act of Consecration at the Vatican at 5:00 PM Rome time, to which the Shrine Mass corresponds.

### Weekly Update

Just a gentle reminder that all news submissions should be sent to: [Cabrini-news@mothercabrini.org](mailto:Cabrini-news@mothercabrini.org) no later than noon on Wednesday for publication on Thursday. When sending photos, kindly remember to send accompanying captions. Thank you.

Prayer requests are welcome at any time.

## Cabrini Mission Foundation - Help Those in Ukraine



Jump on the bandwagon and give what you can.

Join our supporters and the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Funds donated will directly impact our fellow Sisters of Saint Basil the Great in Ukraine along with the displaced children, women and men of the war. Your gift will provide safety and desperately needed supplies to navigate these unprecedented times.

As of this week we have received **\$9,090.00**

Please Consider Donating! To Donate Click [here](#)

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## Three Spiritual Disciplines for Lent

**Prayer:** Balance your spiritual life by integrating the body, mind and soul in your prayer life. Enhance meditative prayer by “unplugging” from the TV, the iPad, the car radio. Create spaces where God’s voices can be heard. Keep a journal, read the psalms or sing sacred music.

**Fasting:** Use your fasting, not to impress God with your discomfort, but to feed on the gifts for which you hunger most. Let your fasting serve the lives of others as well as your own. Fast from anger, blame, and entitlement; feast of forgiveness, affirmation, and the common good.



**Almsgiving:** Connect your almsgiving to your fasting so that self-denial becomes other-enhancement. If you skip a daily latte, give the money to a local food bank. If you have limited financial means, supplement your alms by giving of your time and talent. Volunteer at a soup kitchen or become a minister of care at your parish. Let your own poverty, enrich the lives of others.

# Witness & Grace Conversations: The Synod and Consecrated Life

*Presented by Sr. Nathalie Becquart and Sr. Maria Cimperman*

 GLOBAL SISTERS REPORT presents

## Witness & GRACE CONVERSATIONS

**March 31, 2022**

**2 P.M. New York | 1 P.M. Chicago | 12 P.M. Denver | 11 A.M. Los Angeles**

**REGISTER**

**Conversation**

In partnership with the Catholic Theological Union, Global Sisters Report presents Witness & Grace Conversations: The Synod and Consecrated Life

The Synod on Synodality was launched in Rome in October 2021 by Pope Francis. This extraordinary two-year process is cause for hope for some and skepticism by others. But what is the Synod, really? How did it come to be, and what are its aims? How will it intersect with the lives of women religious?

To answer these and other questions, we are pleased to announce this two-session series in partnership with Chicago's Catholic Theological Union. We are grateful Sr. Nathalie Becquart and Sr. Maria Cimperman have agreed to lend their expertise to our sessions to provide clarity, answer questions, and maybe even challenge us.



Session one will be moderated by the Catholic Theological Union ([register here](#)); session two will be moderated by Dan Stockman and Gail DeGeorge of Global Sisters Report. You are welcome to attend either or both sessions.



*Each week, as we journey through Lent, one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLM) is offering a reflection. For the Fourth Sunday in Lent, the reflection is given by Patricia Stancato.*

## **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Lent is a practical time when our Father in Heaven desires that we forgive others and that we can use this example from our Lord, who told Peter that he should forgive not just 7 times, but 70 times 7 times.

Forgiveness passages:

- Ps. 103:3—Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, Who heareth all.
- Ps. 130:4—But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be: healed.
- Mt. 6:14—For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you (Mk. 3:23).
- Acts 15:31—Him God with His right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.
- Acts 13:38—Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that this Man has preached unto you the forgiveness of sins.

*~ reflection by Patricia Stancato, CLM*



# Prayer Requests

## ***Ron Carter***

Prayers are requested for Ron Carter, the cousin of Lindsay Eury, wife of Cabrini University Chief of Staff, Brian Eury. Mr. Carter recently underwent emergency surgery. Please keep him in prayer as he and his family await the next steps in his treatment.

## ***Emily Lawrence***

Marianne and Tom McGowan ask prayers for their grandniece, Emily. Emily will be hospitalized for neurological testing. Please pray that test results indicate no need for surgery.



## ***Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus***

Please continue your prayers for the Missionary Sisters as their Provincial Assembly draws to a close today. Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire and guide all the decisions and ministry works that will evolve from their meeting. Please pray, too, that all participants will travel home safely.

## ***Annie Papariello***

Kindly keep Annie Papariello in your prayers. She is a young woman, a mother of three college-age sons, who has entered hospice care. Pray, too, for her husband and their boys. Please pray for her comfort and serenity at this time.

## ***Residents of Louisiana and Mississippi***

Please keep the residents of Louisiana and Mississippi, especially the City of New Orleans, in your prayers as they recover from, yet another, intense storm. Given them strength and hope as they seek to rebuild homes and businesses.

## ***Ukrainian people***

Let us continue to pray for the people of Ukraine as they defend their nation and seek shelter from the horrors of war. Let us pray, too, for all those who have fled their homeland seeking refuge in other countries, may they find a welcome and safety.

# In Loving Memory

## ***Carol Morgan***

It's with great sadness that the Cabrini University community shares the passing of Carol Morgan, former Bursar at Cabrini University. Carol passed away on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Please keep Carol and her family in your prayers at this sad time. A memorial Mass for Carol will be held on campus in the near future. May she rest in God's eternal light.