



May 26, 2022

## Ukraine – a Hunting Ground for Traffickers

Human trafficking occurs in every country in the world and the war in Ukraine is not just a battleground - it is a hunting ground for human traffickers. The uprooting of many people and the creation of refugees make a war zone ideal for recruitment into slavery.

According to Michael O'Neill, former Chair of the International NGO Safety and Security Association, "The predators are well-organized, well-resourced, and relentless." Defeating the traffickers, or at least slowing them down, depends on **educating** the refugees. Too often refugees have no idea of the dangers they face from traffickers while at the same time being exceptionally vulnerable to them.



Here's what too often happens: A young woman fleeing Ukraine may be weighed down with multiple fears, including that she: Doesn't have a place to stay; doesn't speak the language; is afraid for her husband's life; is separated from her family and what was once her support system; has lost all her material possessions. Additionally, she's exhausted from a 22-hour trip. She is now the perfect target for a seemingly kindly stranger who offers her a hot meal

and a place to stay. Unfortunately, that "kindly" stranger may whisk her away to another country where she may disappear forever into the sex trade.

Also, members of trafficking rings target relief organizations. They know that if they manage to be accepted as a volunteer, they'll have inside information on who is vulnerable and how to get to them.

Sex trafficking is not a new phenomenon in Ukraine, a country long-known as a hub for transnational organized crime syndicates involved in all manner of black-market illicit activity.

"But it has exploded since Russia invaded" in February, according to Mariya Dmytriyeva, a Kyiv-based women's rights advocate for the Democracy Development Center, an NGO that works on the development of civil society and state of law in Ukraine.

Dmytriyeva said the many criminal mafias in and around Ukraine flock to sex trafficking because of the lax attitude toward it among authorities. The pimps, hustlers and crime syndicates responsible for it are rarely arrested and almost never prosecuted. And there are far more lenient penalties for those who are than for drug trafficking and other serious crimes.

“We know that organized crime is using this because it is much easier to sell a girl than to sell a bunch of cocaine,” she said. “And there is this famous saying here that you can sell a kilo of cocaine only one time, but you can sell a 12-year-old girl until she dies.”

In the nearly three months since Russia’s invasion, the signs of sex trafficking have been everywhere, officials and experts report.

In Ukraine itself, hundreds of women and girls have reported experiencing sexual violence, including rape, to the country's officials who work for human rights.

Russian soldiers – and even some opportunistic taxi drivers – are suspected of facilitating the trafficking of women and girls or forcing them to flee into Russia where they fall prey to organized crime syndicates who exploit them, according to other advocates on the ground.

In neighboring countries Poland, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia and Hungary, where most Ukrainians initially landed, reports of suspected trafficking have spiked. An unknown number of the more than two million who have made it to points beyond also have been victimized, according to recent reports by the United Nations, the OSCE and numerous advocacy and humanitarian groups.

To help address the issue, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Ukraine, has scaled up the work of the National Migrant Advice and Counter-Trafficking Hotline 527, by extending opening hours, doubling the number of advisers and offering reliable and updated information on a wide range of topics. The hotline, which can be accessed from within Ukraine, has



already provided over 12,000 consultations to over 2,400 callers received from 24 February to 16 March only, which is 60 percent more compared to the same period last year. More than half of the people calling are newly displaced persons. The hotline provides verified information on rights and obligations related to the current procedures of border crossing, services within Ukraine and neighboring countries, work of border-crossing points, safe travel and countering human trafficking.

**The IOM-supported National Migrant Advice and Counter-Trafficking Hotline can be reached in Ukraine at 527 (free from mobile phones) or at 0 800 505 501 (free from landline phones) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those staying abroad can reach hotline consultants at [527.hotline@gmail.com](mailto:527.hotline@gmail.com).**

*~ submitted by Karol Brewer, Guadalupe Province Cabrini Action and Advocacy Coalition*

To access more information on Anti-Human Trafficking and the MSC Corporate Stance against Human Trafficking please click [here](#) and [here](#)

# Pope Francis Approves Canonization of Two Blessed

~ by Vatican News staff reporters

***In decrees approved on Saturday, May 21, Pope Francis approves the canonization of Blessed Giovanni Battista Scalabrini and Blessed Artemide Zatti.***



Bishop Giovanni Scalabrini

THE VATICAN: Pope Francis will convene a consistory to canonize Bishop Giovanni Battista Scalabrini, raising to the altars a bishop already recognized throughout the world as a patron of migrants. Scalabrini, who served as Bishop of Piacenza, Italy, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is the founder of the Congregations of the Missionaries of St. Charles, which have as a special charism the mission of serving migrants.

Scalabrini's canonization was announced on Saturday at an audience granted to Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Pope Francis also approved the canonization of Artemide Zatti, an Italian layman who emigrated with his family to Argentina in the late 1800s and who became a Salesian co-worker and missionary in Patagonia. To read more, please click [here](#)

~ Vatican News, with appreciation to Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC

***From Mother Cabrini, "Italian Immigrant of the Century" by Sr. Mary Louise Sullivan, MSC, PhD:*** Bishop Scalabrini, whose work on behalf of Italian emigrants to the Americas led him to seek out Mother Cabrini's assistance. Scalabrini and Mother Cabrini were to become the leading advocates on behalf of their brothers and sisters who were leaving Italy for distant lands to better their economic status.

It was at the time of her first trip to Rome that Mother Cabrini met Scalabrini, after having expressed to Vatican authorities her desire for papal recognition, the expansion of her institute to include a foundation in Rome and the possibility of missions in the Orient.

A letter directed to Cabrini at Rome from the pastor of Castel San Giovanni (Piacenza) mentioned Scalabrini, the man who was the single most important individual responsible for Mother Cabrini's decision to go to America.

Scalabrini was a man of learning, piety and compassion, he demonstrated a keen pastoral awareness of the political, social and economic matters of the day and their impact on the working class. The needs of Italians emigrating abroad became a major concern for Scalabrini. He sought to aid the cause of the emigrants with his writings and public addresses.

Archbishop Corrigan of New York had read of Scalabrini's new missionary institute of priests and asked Scalabrini to provide "good Italian priests" for the Italians of New York City. [However], after having met Mother Cabrini, Bishop Scalabrini must have decided that she and her new congregation of sisters, determined to be missionaries in fact as well as in name, were the religious women best suited to undertake the assistance of Italian immigrants in conjunction with the priests he would send to New York from Piacenza. Scalabrini wrote to Corrigan, "The sisters destined for New York will be the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, a new community, but stable and well experienced." *Chapter Four, pages 35 – 41.*

## “O Mary, We Crown Thee with Blossoms Today...”



St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in New York had its May crowning this past Sunday. Sr. Aynalem Paulos, MSC spoke with the children before the procession about why we honor Mary in this way. Each child brought up a handful of flowers to place before the statue of Our Lady.

It was sweet and simple and fun.

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

May Crownings are a beloved tradition in the Catholic Church. Children bring forth a crown of flowers which they place on Mary's head. Bouquets of flowers are often brought from home gardens to honor Mary, the Blessed Mother, during her special month of May.

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## Cabrini High School Class of 2022 Graduates

NEW ORLEANS – Cabrini High School president Jack Truxillo and principal Yvonne Hrapmann '76 awarded diplomas to 56 students during the 2022 Baccalaureate Mass and 60th Commencement Exercises on May 14 at St. Dominic School. Father Emmanuel Mulenga, O.M.I., school chaplain, celebrated the Baccalaureate Mass.

The class earned \$7,182,268 in college scholarships. Among those students receiving scholarships, each earned an average of \$179,556.70. Together, the class received admission offers from 82 different colleges and universities throughout the United States.

**Sophie Brodtmann and May Yuratich were co-valedictorians.** Sophie Brodtmann is the daughter of Eric and Melissa Brodtmann of Metairie. She will attend the University of Alabama in the Honors Program this fall to study Biomedical Engineering.



Sophie Brodtmann

**Sophie Brodtmann** served on Student Council all five years, and was a member of National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta president. She also served as a Cabrini student Ambassador for four years and played varsity volleyball and soccer. Outside of Cabrini, Brodtmann volunteered at Second Harvest Food Bank for five years.

**May Yuratich** is the daughter of Max and Ginny Yuratich of Lacombe. She will attend Mississippi State University in the Honors Program this fall to study Social Work. May Yuratich won the Mother Cabrini Award, the highest honor bestowed to a member of the senior class, for demonstrating the care, love and selflessness that reflects Mother Cabrini's spirit.



May Yuratich

Congratulations to the Class of 2022! May your future be bright.

~ submitted by Madeline LeBlanc, CHS Director of Communications



# Totally Terrific Toddlers!

Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS), Dobbs Ferry, NY, hosted a course entitled “Terrific Toddlers.” The class was taught by Donna-Marie Lasco, a certified teacher and the owner of Terrific Twos©.

Pre-schoolers and their parent/caregiver were invited to the program. They met once a week from September 2021 through May 2022. The purpose of the program is to prepare children for the start of school and to help the parent/caregiver work with the child at home. Another important piece is to teach the children routine.

Each week the children would learn a color or a shape. The children wore clothes to match the color that was being learned in the class. Their clothes, the tablecloths, napkins and the snack also matched the color. When class started, everyone would create different shapes using Play-Doh. After that, they would play with a puzzle or matching colors game. When finished, the children would wash their hands, say a prayer and have a snack. There was a different activity every week. The toddlers would



What could be more fun than playing with Play-Doh? This toddler is very intent as she uses her rolling pin to smooth out her green Play-Doh.

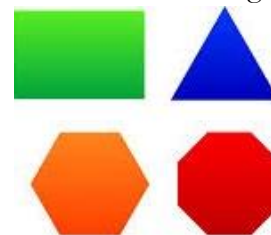


Learning their shapes and colors is an important developmental task for toddlers. Color themed activities provide opportunities for creativity and fun.

either paint, glue different materials, etc. Each activity chosen had to do with either the color or the shape they were learning. Following that activity was reading time. Then the children would either play rhythm instruments, march, match shapes or play games such as ‘Ring Around the Rosie.’ Of course, everyone left with homework. It was usually an art project, which would follow-up on the lesson taught.

An extra special gift was that at the end of each semester, the toddlers received a copy of the books that were read during the program.

We saw a beautiful transformation in the toddlers. In the beginning, they would come in and tend to be quiet and stay close to their caregiver. It didn’t take long before the children would walk in, go directly to their seats and begin their work. They are certainly prepared to begin Pre-K.



A special thank you to Mrs. Lasco for all her hard work in preparing for the class and teaching the class. We are looking forward to welcoming our next class in September. ~ submitted by Lorraine Campanelli, Director, CIS- Dobbs Ferry

## Showing Appreciation – Deliciously!



On Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Cabrini of Westchester, in Dobbs Ferry, NY, held a barbecue for all staff in celebration of National Skilled Nursing Care Week. With the cooperation of the beautiful weather, employees were able to dine outside on Cabrini's North Patio and relax during their lunch break.

Thank you to Director of Food Service, Daryl Foriest and his team who provided a veritable feast to honor our caring and compassionate staff members! Delicious meals were also provided to the evening and night shifts. ~ submitted by Susan Herceg, Director of Development and PR, Cabrini of Westchester

**Photo above:** A round of applause for the Food Services team for providing a delicious lunch for all staff to enjoy! Seen here with his staff is Daryl Foriest, Director of Food Services (c.), and (l – r) Fallon Mayard, Anna Barczack and Syeda Ali.

**Photo right:** Some members of the Rehabilitation Department Team enjoy the special luncheon treat from left: Jonathan Lucero, Anto Manalil, Davide Leyden, Director of Rehabilitation and William (Bill) Uy.



**Photo above:** Certified Nursing Assistants from left: Anastasia Christopher, Jivena Veus, Cynthia Thomas and Sherlyn Baptiste enjoyed the beautiful weather and the amazing food!



## Cabrini Immigrant Services – NYC Offices are Truly Blessed

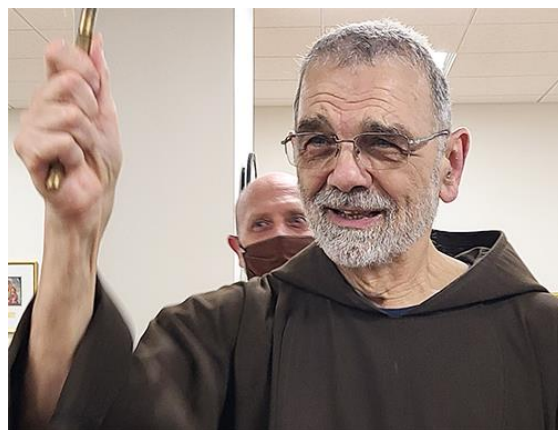


On Friday, May 20, the beautiful new offices of Cabrini Immigrant Services of NY at 701 Fort Washington Avenue were blessed by Fr. Tom Faiola, OFM, Cap. The ceremony was followed by a picnic on the lawn with the Missionary Sisters and staff from CIS-NYC and St Frances Cabrini Shrine. ~ submitted by Julia Attaway, Executive Director, St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine

**Photo above:** Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC, Provincial, (c.) offers a prayer during the blessing of the CIS-NYC new offices as from left: Sr. Evarlyne Ndeti, Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, Sr. Evon Somirla and Sr. Yolanda Flores join in the blessing ceremony.

**Photo right:** Fr. Tom Faiola walks through the CIS offices and blesses each workspace.

**Photo below:** The blessing was followed by a festive cookout on the Shrine lawn. From left: Sr. Amarech Herego LeFamo, Sr. Evarlyne Ndeti and Sr. Evon Somirla enjoy the tasty fare.



**Photo left:** What better way to celebrate the blessing of the new CIS offices than to have a cookout! Here Javier Ramirez Baron (I.) Director of Cabrini Immigrant Services takes a turn at barbecue grill as he prepares to serve the staff and honored guests.

*From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Promotion Team...*

## **Leadership Makes the Difference**

*~ by Sr. Mary Rowell, CSJ for HORIZON the Journal of the National Religious Vocations Conference*

### **Communicate Hope**

Above all at this time, vocation leaders need to communicate and engender hope through affirmation and sometimes, challenge. Sessions in community that generate seeds of hope, even on difficult days, can be invaluable in creating a context for inviting new life. The vocation leader must provide such hope for the regeneration of an invitational climate so that the shoots of new life appear.

hope

Hope is essential for creating a context that is attractive to new members. In recent years of diminishment, however, it has become a difficult virtue and context to create. So I suggest that leaders in vocation ministry, indeed all leaders formal and informal, need to look for ways to engender hope in all they do. Otherwise, our lack of hope will send out negative messages and may itself become a self-fulfilling prophecy with respect to vocation. In my experience of offering hospitality in our homes, opportunities for praying with our members, open houses and social events not only provide an opportunity for visibility and witness, but in turn bring hope. One of our larger communities held a young adult open house that included contemplative prayer, a vocation video, discussion and a pizza dinner. It brought great vitality to all the sisters who participated, both younger and older members.

Vocation leadership that includes affirmation and development of charism and community has the capacity to re-create a sense of grateful identity and an attractive context. For while a new generation has been deeply exposed to change and instability and are, thus, flexible, it is paradoxically those same conditions that attract them to ventures and groups that know and name clearly who they are and to what they are called. Identity, albeit an identity in transition, is critical. Reclaiming who we are and who we are becoming may well lead us to actively invite women and men to consider the possibility of a religious vocation.

Finally, which one of us, I wonder, doesn't "come alive" when our gifts are affirmed and called upon or when we are engaged in seeking and claiming the gifts of communal identity? Through these leadership processes, vocation ministers, with others, call out a lively and engaged joy, an essential component for a community that attracts.

Above all, together in mission and in shared leadership, we are called to witness to living joy and to be joy-makers! For as Pope Francis has said, "Only if our witness is joyful will we attract men and women to Christ." Leadership indeed!



**This concludes our article on Leadership in Vocation.**



# Celebrating Juneteenth at Cabrini University



In observance of Juneteenth, also known as “Emancipation Day,” “Freedom Day,” and “Black Independence Day,” Cabrini University will hold its inaugural celebration on Sunday, June 19, from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. I am inviting you to join us for this family-friendly occasion that will offer an abundance of education, entertainment, and interactive events. These include a reenactment of the Frederick Douglass’ speech, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July,” African drumming and dancing performances, poetry, cultural artifacts, face-painting, vendors, lawn games, raffles prizes, and great food.

As a friend of Cabrini University, your participation is essential. This will be an opportunity to tour our beautiful campus, engage with our faculty, staff, and students, learn more about Juneteenth, and have fun with family and friends.

This year’s theme is represented by the Sankofa bird, a West African adinkra symbol, which means, “Reaching Back to Move Forward.” As we celebrate freedom, we realize the resilience and strength of the past. Also, in recognition of Father’s Day, we will honor the legacy of African American fathers who have stood firmly in their commitment to the freedom and liberation of all people. We encourage everyone to bring the men in their families as we celebrate African American history and culture.

To register for this event or for sponsorship opportunities, please click [here](#).

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at Cabrini!

*~ a campus announcement by Lailah Dunbar, Director of Office of DEI and Belonging*

Do you know someone who might be interested in receiving The Update?

If so, kindly send their name and email address to:

[Cabrini-news@mothercabrini.org](mailto:Cabrini-news@mothercabrini.org)



*The Cabrini Lay Missionaries-Guadalupe Province  
invite you to join us for an  
Afternoon of Reflection*

**Saturday, June 4, 2022  
1:00-3:00 PM EST**

**Join us in-person at the Cabrini Shrine, NYC or via Zoom**  
*(Spanish/English available via Zoom)*

**Theme: Hope**



**Speaker: Lucille Larrivee Naughton**

Please register for the program by emailing:

[Cabrinilaymissionariesgp@gmail.com](mailto:Cabrinilaymissionariesgp@gmail.com)

Please indicate if you will be joining us **in-person or via Zoom**

If attending in-person, lunch will be served at 12:00 Noon.



## **PLAY BALL!**

New York has a new professional baseball team the Staten Island Ferry Hawks of the Atlantic League. The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Cabrini Mission Foundation want you to join us for a day at the ballpark! Get your team together and meet us behind home plate in the stadium's big event suite. Hotdogs, burgers bottomless popcorn, and soft drinks are included.

**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022

**Game Time:** 11:00 AM

**Where:** Staten Island University Hospital,  
Community Park, 75 Richmond Terrace, Staten  
Island, NY 10301

**(Easy to get to by car, ferry, train or bus)**

### **Sponsorships Available!**

Tickets for the game \$100  
Sponsor a Sister \$100  
Beverage Sponsor: \$350  
Base Hit Sponsor: \$750  
Stolen base Sponsor: \$1,000  
RBI Sponsor: \$1,500  
Double Sponsor \$2,000  
Triple Sponsor \$3,000  
Homerun Sponsor \$4,500  
Grand Slam Sponsor: \$5,000  
Team Captain Event Sponsor: \$10,000



Please contact:

Ellen 212-228-8608 or [ecunningham@cabrinifdn.org](mailto:ecunningham@cabrinifdn.org)





# Prayer Requests

## ***James Clark***

Cabrini Lay Missionary Vicky Lucio asks for prayers for her brother-in-law, James Clark. His family all got Covid, except for one person, but it took a huge toll on him because he is suffering from leukemia. He is now in the ICU. Please pray that he will soon regain his strength and recover.

## ***Rita Lambert***

Prayers are requested for Rita Lambert, the bursar at Cabrini University, who is experiencing some health issues at this time. Please pray that her health will soon resolve.

## ***Prayers for an unborn child***

Please pray for a friend's daughter whose baby is expected in June. The baby seems to be having some problems and is not showing signs of normal growth. Pray that all will be well.

## ***Special Intention***

A member of the Cabrinian community asks prayers for a special intention.

## ***The General Chapter of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus***

One month from today, the General Chapter of the Missionary Sisters will commence in Rome. This is a sacred and special time in the life of the Institute when the Sisters will discern how the Institute will move forward into the future. It is also a time when new congregational leadership is decided upon. During the upcoming weeks, please unite in prayer that the Holy Spirit will bless and guide the Chapter proceedings.

In anticipation of the General Chapter, the MSC Generalate prepared four small videos in the different languages, with the **Chapter Prayer and some photos from the different countries and missions:**

English: [https://youtu.be/r54aUC4b\\_wY](https://youtu.be/r54aUC4b_wY)

Italian: <https://youtu.be/V2Dn6mEx7L8>

Spanish: <https://youtu.be/S9IRFXEfuH0>

Portuguese: <https://youtu.be/CluB1hY2ZbQ>

# In Loving Memory

## ***All the victims of gun violence***

With profound sadness, we are praying for the innocent victims of gun violence in the United States. We have been shocked, once again, by the mass shootings in the Tops grocery store in Buffalo, NY and in the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. We pray for the most recent victims of mass shootings, and for all those who are shot on the streets of our nation's cities and towns on a daily basis. We pray for their families and friends whose lives have been shattered by these violent acts. We pray, in time, that they will

find comfort and healing as they grieve the loss of their loved ones. We pray that elected leaders will – finally - respond in meaningful and effective ways to end gun violence through the enactment of strict and sensible gun laws.

***Sheila Donovan Callinan, '66***

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Sheila Donovan Callinan, Cabrini (College) Class of 1966. Sheila passed away on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for her family and her classmates as they mourn her passing.

***Those who have given their lives in service of our country***

We pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace.

## Today is the Feast of the Ascension



Jesus ascended and is with God the Father where he intercedes forever in our favor.

He is our Advocate.

Let us not be afraid to turn to him to ask forgiveness,  
to ask for a blessing, to ask for mercy!

He always pardons and defends us!

~ Pope Francis