



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

THE UPDATE

July 14, 2022

## Happy 172<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, Mother Cabrini! July 15, 1850



“The saint of the immigrants,” “patroness of immigrants,” the “Italian immigrant of the century.” These are some of the phrases used to describe the frail, diminutive (less than five feet tall) Frances Xavier Cabrini, foundress and driving force of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Born in 1850 in the Lombard village of Sant’ Angelo Lodigiano, she became a United States citizen in Seattle in 1909 and died in Chicago in 1917, closing a life of sixty-seven years, twenty-eight of them spent in prodigious religious accomplishment on behalf of her beloved Italian immigrants in the Americas. In 1946, Pope Pius XII declared her a saint. She was the first citizen of the United States to be so honored.

Mother Cabrini was a major agent for change during what has been called “modern history’s greatest and most sustained movement from a single country,” the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century emigration of millions of Italians to the Americas, over 100,000 of whom were located in New York City’s Lower East Side.

It was to this community, and to communities like it across the United States, that Mother Cabrini came. She brought them what they needed, a spirit of compassion and of understanding, as she built orphanages and hospitals, worked in parishes and established schools. She and her sisters, who grew in her lifetime to be over 1,000 in number, fanned the spark of faith among the immigrants and their children. It is with great joy that we celebrate the anniversary of her birth. ~ excerpts from the Foreward written by James Hennessey, SJ for Mother Cabrini, "Italian Immigrant of the Century" the book written by Sr. Mary Louise Sullivan, MSC, PhD

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## Updates from The General Chapter

On July 5<sup>th</sup> the participants at the General Chapter continued to reflect on discernment, trying to distinguish what is beginning to emerge and what common elements can already be perceived. In a second session on that day, Sr. Mercedes Casas Sanchez, of the Congregation of Daughters of the Holy Spirit, presented the theme: *We are MISSION and MISSION is key to Consecrated Life*. Through her guidance and quoting from *Evangelii Gaudium*, she emphasized that Sisters and laity, are consecrated by Baptism, and that our charism remains alive and active. It is a gift of God that we have to proclaim with boldness and creativity.



The participants of the General Chapter gather for a group photo before the laity headed home to their respective countries and ministries.



Much of the General Chapter discussion and reflection takes place through smaller table discussion.

July 6<sup>th</sup> brought with it reflections and discussions about co-

responsibility for mission with the facilitation of consultant, Chris Lowney. He guided the Chapter participants in individual and collective activities designed to elicit thinking about leadership, examples of good leaders, and characteristics of good leadership. The aim was to bring a recognition of Chapter participants as leaders, always willing to think about the whole group, to indicate the path that must be followed, and to encourage the emergence of new leaders.

Such activities led the group to conclude that we need to continue to grow in trust between sisters and lay people. A deep spiritual formation is needed for committed laity, to ensure that the Cabrinian culture takes root. It is important that the laity have the training and information needed to truly contribute to mission, and that their potential and capacities are valued.



The prayer and belief is that the Holy Spirit is active during the General Chapter through conversations formal and informal. Here Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC, Chair of the Cabrini Mission Foundation (I.) exchanges thoughts with Ms. Sue Williams, CEO of Cabrini Health.



The General Chapter participants extend arms in a blessing.

co-responsibility and walking together; this was confirmed. The day concluded with prayer and a ritual of appreciation and a commissioning of the laity back to their homes and missions. Sr. Barbara Staley thanked the laity for their presence and dedication to mission.



The General Chapter affirmed the co-responsibility for mission on behalf of the Sisters and the laity. Here Missionary Sisters and laity from the Guadalupe Province take time for a photo.



After a weekend of rest, on July 11, work continued with a better understanding of the report from the International Formation Coordinating Team (IFCT). The Sisters of the IFCT shared their experience of working on the team and were open to questions from the assembled Sisters.

The day also included discussion on the statistics compiled by the General Secretary as well as the Desiderata and Recommendations of the Provinces and Region. Prayer for the mission and the common good ended the day.



On July 12, Sr. Joan McGlinchey, MSC, with the contribution of Sister Melanie Di Pietro SC, presented a report on the Constitutions consultation results. The delegates discussed the issue of possible modifications to the Constitutions. A small team was assigned to formulate a draft mandate for comprehensive review.

The Chapter delegates also began the process of drafting the mandates and recommendations for mission for the next six-year period. It was an afternoon of intense, enriching work which emphasized the aspects needed to formulate the mandates and recommendations that will guide us in living our missionary life into the future. ~ with ongoing appreciation to Tatiana Paradiso, for sharing the General Chapter synopsis



For further photos and recaps of the General Chapter, please click [here](#) and [here](#)  
Additional information can be found at [www.cabriniworld.org](http://www.cabriniworld.org)

## All are Welcome in this – Special - Place

Cabrini of Westchester is a very special place. Not only are we lucky enough to be sponsored by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and care for some of

**CABRINI**  
– OF WESTCHESTER –

the Missionary Sisters who are residents, but we also have the good fortune of caring for a number of other religious sisters, brothers and priests from 16 different congregations.

On Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, a festive Mass was celebrated with the Sisters of the Divine Compassion present, including six Sisters that reside in the nursing home, in honor of their Founder's Day. A number of other Sisters from the congregation attended and together, they were able to renew their vows, a tradition on Founder's Day. Following the liturgy, a lovely luncheon was served in the Board Room.

Sr. Laura Donovan, RDC, President of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion led the Sisters in the renewal of vows and then shared her thanks: "Thank you for your warm hospitality from Cabrini. We love having our Sisters on mission here and we have so much to thank God for."

Fr. Ron Galt, Pastoral Care Director, has reached out to all congregations that are represented here at Cabrini and similar celebrations are being planned. We are truly blessed to be able to witness the love and dedication to God that all of these women and men religious share and we are grateful for their presence at Cabrini of Westchester.



The Sisters of Divine Compassion celebrated their Founder's Day at Cabrini of Westchester on Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Six of the sisters are residents of the nursing home. The Missionary Sisters and the Cabrinian community wish the Sisters every grace and blessing.

# Pope Francis: Nations Must Work Together to Adapt to Climate Change

~ by Devin Watkins

VATICAN NEWS: The Pontifical Academy of Sciences is hosting a two-day conference at the Vatican's Casino Pio IV on July 13-14, focusing on the theme: "Resilience of People and Ecosystems under Climate Stress".

As the event kicked off yesterday, Pope Francis sent his greetings to participants and encouraged their efforts to discuss the environmental crisis.

*"The phenomenon of climate change has become an emergency that no longer remains at the margins of society. Instead, it has assumed a central place, reshaping not only industrial and agricultural systems but also adversely affecting the global human family, especially the poor and those living on the economic peripheries of our world."*

The Pope said that the world is facing the twin challenges of "lessening climate risks by reducing emissions" and of "assisting and enabling people to adapt to progressively worsening changes in the climate." These challenges require everyone to come up with a multi-dimensional approach to protect people and the planet, he added.

## International cooperation on climate issues

Pope Francis made reference to his oft-repeated call for an "ecological conversion", saying this process requires everyone to be grateful for God's creation, to live in communion with one another, and to work together to deal with environmental problems.

*"Courageous, cooperative and far-sighted efforts among religious, political, social and cultural leaders on local, national and international levels are needed in order to find concrete solutions to the severe and increasing problems we are facing."*

The Pope called on the most-developed nations to reduce their own carbon emissions, while also offering financial assistance to "less prosperous areas of the world."

## Common Good of the Planet

The Pope recalled the related concerns of loss of biodiversity and the various wars that threaten human survival and lead to "problems of food security and increasing pollution. "Everything is connected, repeated Pope Francis, adding that "promoting

the long-term common good of our planet is essential to genuine ecological conversion”.

He noted that the Holy See and Vatican City State have recently acceded to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement.

### **Protecting the Human Family**

In conclusion, Pope Francis encouraged participants in the Vatican resilience conference in their efforts on behalf of people and the planet.

*“In working together, men and women of good will can address the scale and complexity of the issues that lie before us, protect the human family and God’s gift of creation from climate extremes, and foster the goods of justice and peace.”*



### **Weekly Update – Important Notice**

The July 21<sup>st</sup> edition of **The Update** will be the last Update for the summer.  
The Update will be on vacation and will return on  
September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Prayer requests are welcome at any time at:  
[avandusenmsc@gmail.com](mailto:avandusenmsc@gmail.com)  
and will be published on Thursdays as they are received.



## St. Frances Xavier Cabrini National Shrine Chicago, IL

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### Happy Birthday, Mother Cabrini



**JOIN US FOR A  
CELEBRATION**  
**Saturday, July 16**

We will celebrate the birthday of Mother Cabrini (July 15) and her Canonization Day (July 7) with an all-day Open House on July 16, which includes Mass at 4:00 PM celebrated by Monsignor Kenneth Velo.

Our Garden gates will be open to an exhibit of "Music and Miracles" starting at 10 AM, weather permitting. Learn about the miracles that led to her beatification and canonization as well as interesting facts about her life, all to a background of beautiful music.

After Mass all are invited to an Italian-themed reception to enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine, Italian soda and sweets, *e naturalmente, torta di compleanno!* (birthday cake!)

Our Gift Shop is stocked with many Cabrini items. A special birthday discount of 10% will be offered all day on Saturday, July 16.

*Christ's love heals the world!*

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The Shrine will now be open on Mondays  
Chapel: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Office: Monday – Friday 10 am – 3:00 pm  
Thursday Only – Open until 7 pm  
Saturday – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Mass: 4:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Mass: 10:00 am





## **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)



# Mother Cabrini Shrine Gala



**Friday, September 16**

***Pinnacle Club at the Grand Hyatt***

555 17th St. Denver, CO

Cocktails & Silent Auction\* 5:30 p.m.

Dinner, Program & Celebration 7:00 p.m.

*All proceeds from this gala will be used for the addition of an elevator and for the remodel and renovation of the chapel.*

*For more information about our capital campaign plans and construction phases, please visit our website at [www.mothercabrinishrine.org](http://www.mothercabrinishrine.org).*

***\*Silent Auction and on-line bidding will open on  
Friday, September 9.***

# Prayer Requests

## *Cabrini University community member*

A member of the Cabrini University community asks our prayers for the favorable outcome of medical tests.

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



The General Chapter of the Missionary Sisters continues in Rome. Please unite in prayer that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire and guide the meeting which will conclude on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.




## In Loving Memory

### *Innocent Opara*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Innocent Opara, the father of Charles Opara, a friend of the Missionary Sisters. Mr. Opara passed away unexpectedly last Friday in Nigeria. Please pray for him and the comfort of his family at this very sad time.

### *Lucy Libero Velandrea*

Kindly pray for the repose of the soul of Lucy Libero Velandrea, the first cousin of Sr. Amada Libero, MSC. Ms. Velandrea passed away unexpectedly on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Please keep her family in your prayers at that sad time. May she rest in God's eternal light.



### In Loving Memory

Prayers Requested  
for the Repose of the Soul

Lucy Libero Velandrea, the first cousin  
of Sr. Amada Libero, MSC

On July 6<sup>th</sup> while on vacation and visiting family in Las Vegas, Lucy died unexpectedly. She had recently celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this past April 12<sup>th</sup>. Lucy leaves behind three children: Cheryl, Gina and Neil.

Eternal Rest grant unto Lucy, O Lord.  
May she find in Your presence, light, happiness  
And Eternal Peace.  
AMEN

## XVI General Chapter Prayer

Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for all the graces and blessings of our shared journey as followers of Jesus in the Cabrinian charism. May your abiding presence renew our minds and hearts, as we walk towards our General Chapter.

Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
Release in us the passion and desire for you that filled the heart of St. Frances Cabrini as she brought your liberating love to the peoples scattered around the world. Free us from all that would prevent our entering fully and generously into this favorable time of discernment and renewal.

Holy Spirit,  
Breathe in us once more – that through our listening, conversing and decision-making, we may embrace the future with courage, freedom and faith. Give wings to the desires of our hearts, so that, drawn ever closer to the Heart of Christ, we may enter with joy and abandonment into the horizons of God. Amen.