



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

THE UPDATE

September 22, 2022

This is National Migration Week September 19 – 25, 2022

For nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is an opportunity for the Church to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children, and victims and survivors of human trafficking.

National Migration Week for 2022 takes place September 19-25, and will climax with the Vatican's celebration of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR), which always falls on the last Sunday of September. The primary theme for this year's WDMR is "*Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees*". Commenting on the place of migrants in God's plan, Pope Francis emphasizes that "the Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the Kingdom that God wants. The inclusion of those most vulnerable is the necessary condition for full citizenship in God's Kingdom."



**Migration and
Refugee Services**

Renewing Hope. Seeking Justice.

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

In solidarity with the Vatican, National Migration Week will use the same theme as WDMR – "*Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees*" – but will emphasize the particular ways in which this theme and its application to the migration question is important for the Catholic Church in the United States.

To learn more please click [here](#)

Bishops Speak Against Transport of Migrants

~ by Rhina Guidos, Catholic News Service

Washington – Several U.S. Catholic bishops slammed the actions of politicians who have recently begun to send out of their states groups of women, children, and men seeking refuge.

They said these politicians are falsely telling the migrants that work, food and other benefits await them if they get on planes to other locales, but instead the only thing they find on the other end of the trip is confusion.

“To use migrants and refugees as pawns offends God, destroys society, and shows how low individuals can (stoop) for personal gains,” wrote San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller on September 18.

He was one of several bishops to speak out after the latest drop-off of migrants – two groups of mostly Venezuelans who were flown on September 14 to Martha’s Vineyard in Massachusetts.



A 1-month-old baby is placed into a vehicle for transport to a safe place in Washington, D.C. after a group of mainly Venezuelan migrants arrived by bus from detention in Texas and were dropped off outside the official residence of Vice President Kamala Harris. (CNS photo/Marat Sadana, Reuters)

Some of the migrants have been sent from border states such as Texas and Arizona to Washington and New York in planes and sometimes buses. Some were recently dropped off near Vice President Kamala Harris’ residence in Washington, D.C. without prior notice to local officials.

Volunteers in those cities, including faith-based nonprofits such as Catholic Charities, have scrambled to help the newcomers confused by the situation.

“The problem is not the refugees, it is leaders that cannot accept: We are one humanity,” Garcia-Siller said, adding that we would be praying for “conversion of heart” and for the protection of brothers and sisters in need.

Though taken by surprise, the community of Martha's Vineyard pulled together to help with the sudden arrival of migrants on September 14. In a September 16 statement, Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha of Fall River, Massachusetts, said the community responded in the manner the Gospel tells Christians to care for the stranger, citing St. Matthew's Gospel: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me."

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

Welcome, New U.S. Citizens!



Proudly displaying her U.S. Citizenship papers is Alba Parada (r.) with her tutor Nancy Rodriguez.

Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS), in Dobbs Ferry, NY is so proud to announce that it has two new citizens! Alba Parada, from El Salvador, became a US Citizen in July and Somchai Soponong, from Thailand, became a US Citizen in August.

Alba worked with her CIS tutor, Nancy Rodriguez and Somchai worked with his tutors, Richard Devir and Shirley Godoi, the Administrative Assistant at CIS. Both students worked hard to improve their English, reading and writing skills and learning the answers to the 100 US Civics questions.

Congratulations Alba and Somchai! We are so proud that you were able to achieve your goals of becoming U.S. Citizens. ~ submitted by Lorraine Campanelli, CIS, Dobbs Ferry, NY



New U.S. citizen Somchai Soponong (c.) worked diligently with his two tutors CIS Admin Shirley Godoi and Richard Devir.

Citizenship Event at St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine



On Saturday, September 17 a citizenship drive was held at St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in conjunction with the non-profit Dominicanos USA and the City University of NY. A team of 20 pro bono attorneys reviewed over 95 applications for U.S. citizenship. Seventeen applicants who lacked the

ability to pay the application fee were granted fee waivers. Most applicants had lived in the U.S. for at least 10 years, with some here as long as 40.

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



Over 95 U.S. citizenship applications were reviewed by a team of 20 pro bono attorneys at an event at St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine in Upper Manhattan.



“Today Love Must Not Be Hidden...”

~ a reflection by Evarlyne Ndeti, MSC Novice

My first mission experience at Cabrini of Westchester was in 2018 when I was assigned to help Sister Romualda Molon, MSC at the convent and to spend time with our resident Missionary Sisters. Going back to Dobbs Ferry this year brought more



responsibilities. Not only did I spend time with the MSCs, I also extended my wings through different ministries within the St. Cabrini Nursing Home.

Our resident sisters reminded me that *what* I give doesn't matter. Instead, what matters is *how* I give what I give. This gentle reminder helped me to love freely and assist all the residents from the bottom of my heart. Spreading the love of Christ with the residents of St. Cabrini Nursing Home was mutually beneficial.

Smiles bring about connection and friendship. Here Sr. Xavier Hayden, MSC (.) and MSC Novice Evarlyne Ndeti take time for a selfie.

Here is my overflowing cup of blessings I received through my volunteer experience:

- 1. Expanded my social connections -** Getting to know and work with the staff, caregivers and volunteers were grace-filled moments. The connections I made will always remain meaningful.
- 2. Increased professional self-confidence –** Getting to know the role of social workers in a nursing home not only increased my skills but also boosted my self-confidence when working with the clients.
- 3. A sense of purpose and trust –** Smiles from the residents was a way of inviting me into their space. Chatting and laughing brought trust and purpose into our lives.
- 4. Spiritual growth and strengthened religious journey –** Praying the rosary with the sisters,



Evarlyne and the late Sr. Consolata Demma, MSC would meet regularly at 2 pm to say the rosary.

especially the late Sr. Consolata Demma, MSC, was an awakening for me. Our rosary was at 2 pm to which we were faithful. Having this time taught me the importance of seeking Mary's intercession. I interviewed our sisters and other religious – listening to their beautifully lived religious lives increased my desire to serve God and increased my admiration of this way of life.

5. **Eucharistic ministry** – At the beginning of my Pastoral Care ministry, I had an encounter with one of the Charity Sisters congratulating me on the upgrade. We laughed and shared high fives. It was a blessing to bring Jesus to the residents and pray with them every day.



I am so grateful to Sr. Genet Henok, MSC, the Formation Team, Missionary Sisters Arlene Van Dusen and Catherine Garry and Cabrini of Westchester for giving me the opportunity of living, acting and [authentically] being with the residents and helping as much as I could. I loved every bit of the experience. ~ *Evarlyne Ndeti, MSC novice*

One Minute Meditation

A Time for Everything

Our lives are filled with ordinary moments when the hidden beauty of life breaks into our everyday awareness like an unbidden shaft of light. It is a brush with the sacred, a near occasion of grace. Too often we are blind to these moments. We are busy with our daily obligations and too occupied with our comings and goings to surround our hearts with the quiet necessary to hear life's softer songs. There is no shame in this. We are only human, and the demands of life make a raucous noise. But we must not let those demands drown out the quieter voices of the spirit. We must take the time to stop and listen, knowing that the voice of the spirit speaks more often in a whisper than in a shout.

~ Kent Nerburn
The Hidden Beauty of Everyday Life

SAVE THE DATE



Education of the Heart Thursday, October 13, 2022

Metropolitan Club New York
One East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022

2022 Honoreess

Catherine Bullock, Yvonne Hrapmann,
Helena & Francis Ottaviano (posthumously),
Eustace Wolfington and Joel Zazyczny

Prayer Requests

Richard Meister

Kindly keep Richard Meister in your prayers as he recuperates from a cardiac procedure. Richard is the brother of Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, MSC.

Jack Nowry

Your prayers are asked for Jack Nowry, the brother-in-law of Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, MSC. Mr. Nowry is experiencing some medical issues.

Paul Reeber

Prayers are requested for Paul Reeber, who has suffered a stroke. Paul is the husband of Marilyn Rogers who worked at St. Cabrini Nursing Home and was a volunteer at Cabrini Immigrant Services in Dobbs Ferry, NY. Pray that he will soon recover.

Kate Connolly Stauffer and Maureen Connolly

Last week, we requested prayers for the members of the Stauffer Family who were in a very serious car accident in suburban Philadelphia on Sunday, September 11th. Kate, a 1983 graduate of Cabrini (College) University, has been discharged from the hospital. Kate's mother, Maureen, remains hospitalized. Please unite in healing prayer for their continuing recovery and for the three adult Stauffer children and family members as they support them through this stressful time.



Mary Tambasco

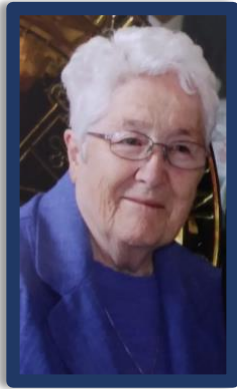
Your continued prayers are requested for Mary Tambasco, the mother of Michael Tambasco, who works in the Guadalupe Province Office.

Tim Woestman

Please keep Tim Woestman (Cabrini College Honorary alumnus 1990) in your prayers. He and his wife Cassie Bradley Woestman, Cabrini College, Class of 1967 are long-time friends of the Missionary Sisters. Tim was admitted to the hospital last Thursday, September 15. Your prayers for Tim, Cassie, and their family at this time are sincerely appreciated.

In Loving Memory

Conchita McDonnell



Sr. Conchita (Mary Theresa) McDonnell of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary in Ireland, passed away while on retreat on Ascension Thursday, May 26th.

Sr. Conchita ministered in Ireland, Southern Nigeria, Cameroon, USA and Brazil. She also facilitated one of the MSC Chapters and has been a good friend of the Cabrini Sisters. Our prayers are with you, Sr. Conchita, your Holy Rosary Sisters Community, and your family. May you rest in God's eternal peace.

Conchita Dunga

Kindly pray for the repose of the soul of Conchita Dunga, who passed away recently in California. She is the sister of Milagros Torrabla, former nurse at Cabrini Medical Center and a good friend of the Sisters. May she rest in God's eternal light.

Marines Zanin Prigol

Sr. Bridget Zanin, MSC requests prayers for her cousin Marines Zanin Prigol who died following a heart attack. She leaves behind her husband and 3 sons, one with special needs. Let us pray for Sr. Bridget's family at this very sad time.

Larry Stauffer

It is with heavy hearts that we share the untimely passing of Larry Stauffer, a true gentleman who worked as an electrician in the Cabrini University Facilities Department. On September 18th, Larry succumbed to the injuries he sustained in a car accident the previous Sunday with his family. Larry was a kind and beloved member of the University community for forty years. He was eager to be of assistance in any way he could. He will be deeply missed. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for the comfort and solace of his family as they cope with his passing.



