



Today is the World Day for Consecrated Life



“BROTHERS AND SISTERS, GO FORTH! Remember the beauty of your first call. Jesus continues to call you today with the same full love and untamed grace. GO FORTH! There is always more to do, to encounter, to be grateful for, to be astonished by. Begin and end with the joy of prayer—the marrow of consecrated life. GO FORTH! Each of us has a role to play in the Church. Witness and sow well each day, and look to tomorrow with hope. GO FORTH! Grow in love for God so that others will be attracted by the divine light in you. Welcome the new vocations the Lord sends to continue the work of consecration. We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of God and first disciple of her son, Jesus, our Lord. Amen.” — *Pope Francis*

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day for women and men in consecrated life. This global celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church on Thursday, February 2, 2023, and in parishes over the weekend of February 4-5, 2023. ~ *USCCB website*

Please pray for our Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

Pope Francis Visits the DRC

~ by Christopher White, Vatican News, for National Catholic Reporter

In his visit today to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, going off script, Pope Francis led the tens of thousands of young people in attendance at a super-charged meeting in Martyrs Stadium – the largest sporting arena in the country – on the final full day of his visit here in a spontaneous chant of “no to corruption” – with some of those seated near the country’s political leaders turning to directly face Congo’s top power brokers as they joined in the chorus.



Pope Francis watches as dancers perform in Martyr Stadium in Kinshasha, Congo. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Pope Francis urged 65,000 Congolese young people to resist the “poisonous temptation” of corruption that has long plagued the nation and to choose a different future for themselves.

“Keep your hands clean,” the pope cautioned. “For hands that traffic in easy money get stained with blood.”

In a country where some 67% of the population is under the age of 24, the 86-year-old Pope Francis received a welcome akin to a rock star, thrilling the massive crowd that repeatedly interrupted his speech with deafening applause and cheers. At one point an organizer was even forced to calm the crowd so the pope could continue his address.

Francis seemed to delight in the rapturous response, while at the same time encouraging those present to harness that energy and to broaden their horizons in order to avoid past mistakes that stem from deep seated suspicion of different ethnic groups. “The Democratic Republic of the Congo expects from your hands a different future, for that future is in your hands,” he told the youth gathered at the stadium.

Brigitte Nyuwa, a local catechist, reflected on the ongoing war in the country’s east. “The pope is not just here for us in the capital but for those people, too, who have become poorer and poorer,” she said. “I hope following his visit that people will put into practice what he has told us.”

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

Podcast: The Catholic Nun Fighting Modern-day Slavery at the Super Bowl

~ *The Gloria Purvis Podcast featured in AMERICA*

The Super Bowl is the largest sporting and television event in the country. Tens of thousands will flock to the stadium, and millions will watch from home. However, at events like this, it is essential we keep track of not only the game but also the potential victims of human trafficking who are vulnerable at these large gatherings. Every year, 50 million people are trafficked somewhere in the world for either labor or sex.

Joining Gloria on “The Gloria Purvis Podcast” is Sister Anne Victory, a board member at U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking, who has led efforts against human trafficking for over a decade.

According to the U.S. Sisters Against Human Trafficking, this crime “occurs when a trafficker uses force, fraud or coercion to control another person for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or soliciting labor or services against his/her will.”



Scenes from the Walk 4 Freedom to end human trafficking. *CNS photo/Victor Aleman, Vida Nueva*

Sister Anne describes the most common circumstances in which people get trafficked, profiles of traffickers and what to look out for. If you suspect someone is being trafficked, please call (888) 373-7888. Even if you’re not certain, Sister Anne encourages you to report what you see and leave the investigation with local law enforcement who are specially trained for these cases: “Just know that they’d rather have you report it and save someone’s life than be wrong.”

While the topic of human trafficking is dark, Sister Anne continues to find hope in her work to end it. “I think one of the ways that I keep the faith is I’ve seen the difference since when we started 15 years ago working on this. And now people are a little more aware,” Sister Anne says. “Even becoming educated about it is doing something, becoming involved in fair trade and understanding what fair trade is and how our purchases make a difference, or how the stock we hold makes a difference.” To listen to the Gloria Purvis podcast please click [here](#)

February 8th is the Feast Day of St. Josephine Bakhita



St. Josephine Bakhita was born in Sudan in 1869. She was kidnapped and sold into slavery, suffering tremendously in body and soul.

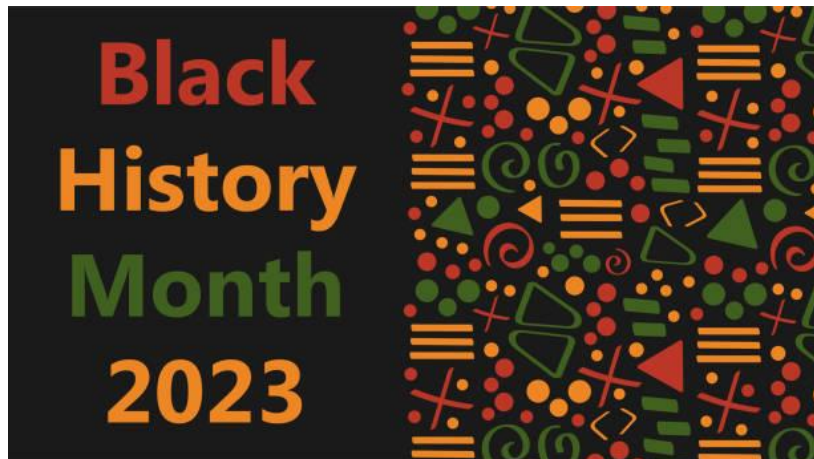
She was eventually bought by an Italian consul and after some years gained her freedom.

She put her faith in Christ and was baptized in 1890.

She discerned the call to religious life and became a Canossian Daughter of Charity. Her life was marked by joyful, heroic virtue.

She died in 1947 and was canonized in 2000. She is the Patroness of Human Trafficking Victims.

Click [here](#) to access a novena to St. Josephine Bakhita.



Cabrini University Celebrates Black History Month 2023!
LOVE. LEARN. LIBERATE.

Wednesday, February 1

3:15 to 4:30 pm

Bruckmann Chapel

Black History Month Kickoff Event

What Does Liberation Mean to You?

Join us for a celebration of African American poetry, prose, prayers, and music

Music by Perry Brisbon, Adjunct Faculty

Poetry and prose by the Cabrini University Black Student Union and Poetry Club

Wednesday, February 8

2:00 to 3:00 pm

Iadarola Lecture Hall

Common Hour

How Do We Get Free? Part 1

Join us for a conversation with Professor Ron Whitaker and Lailah Dunbar, Director of ODEIB who will discuss the socio-spiritual foundation and future of equity, justice, and liberation.

Friday, February 10

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

BE-Lounge (area between the ODEIB and SEaL)

Blackout Poetry

Join us to compose your own poetry and decorate/design your pages inspired by famous African American authors, essayists, and poets.

Black History Month Kickoffs at Cabrini U.



Photo left: Mr. Perry Brisbon, Adjunct Faculty member, gave stirring musical renditions.

Photo right: A Cabrini University student recited a poem that she had composed about liberation.

Yesterday, the kickoff event for Black History Month, entitled, “*What Does Liberation Mean to You?*” was held in the Bruckmann Chapel of St. Joseph on the campus of Cabrini University.

This inaugural event was powerful and poignant.

Thanks to Ms. Lailah Dunbar, Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (ODEIB), for orchestrating such a meaningful beginning to this special month.

Important Notice

Sr. Sharon Casey, MSC
is updating her contact information:

Email: scaseymsc@gmail.com

Cell: 347.930.8416

Kindly make a note.

Prayer Requests

Sr. Deborah Borneman, SS.C.M.

Please say a prayer for Sr. Debbie Borneman, the Director of Mission Integration at the National Religious Vocations Conference. Sr. Debbie recently had a nasty fall and sustained a broken wrist. She is undergoing surgery today to repair her wrist. Please pray for a successful procedure and a swift recovery. She would be grateful for our prayers.

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

On this the World Day of Consecrated Life, we give thanks for the lives of the Missionary Sisters who give so generously of themselves to the Church and all its people.



In Loving Memory

John Ward

The Cabrini University community recently learned of the passing of John, the husband of Denise Santor Ward, Cabrini (College) University Class of 1969, who passed away in September. Our prayers and condolences go to Denise and her family.

Massachusetts Family

Cabrini University Interim President Helen Drinan asks for prayers for a Massachusetts family who has suffered a terrible tragedy that resulted in the deaths of three young children. Please remember this family in your thoughts and prayers.

February 3 is the Feast of St. Blaise ~ Blessing of Throats

On February 3rd, most often as part of the Mass, parishioners desiring a blessing of their throats typically proceed to the front of the church where the priest with the two blessed candles, tied with a red ribbon, holds them in the form of an X. He touches the candles to each side of the person's neck and prays: "*Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat, and from every other disease. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*"



