

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

April 20, 2023

April 22nd is Earth Day!



Laudato Si' is Pope Francis's encyclical "On Care for Our Common Home." The Holy Father's message is loud and clear: caring for our environment is a fundamental tenet of our Catholic faith. As such, Earth Day presents a golden opportunity for teaching about Laudato Si' as well as the Catholic principle of <u>Care for God's Creation</u>, one of the <u>seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching</u>. Here are 10 ways to make your observance of Earth Day a truly Catholic experience.

- 1. **Give praise to our Creator.** In the Nicene Creed, we say, "I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth." How appropriate that the first sentence of our Creed mentions the fact that all of creation comes from God! Pray the Creed. Sing songs of praise such as "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow," "How Great Thou Art," and "Holy God We Praise Thy Name."
- 2. **Contemplate the wonders of God's creation.** <u>Contemplation</u>, (i.e. resting in God's presence) is an authentically Catholic practice and a way of coming to a deeper appreciation of finding God in all of creation. Take some time to contemplate outdoors. Pope John Paul II said, "Faced with the glory of the Trinity in creation, we must contemplate, sing, and rediscover awe."
- 3. **Pray, pray, pray.** Pray for those who are at risk from exposure to environmental hazards. Pray for social justice for those who are poor and who suffer disproportionately from environmental destruction. Pray for those with

an excess of wealth that they (we) may come to share with others more generously. Pray for future generations that they may benefit from a healthy environment.

- 4. **Create a garden.** Participate in God's ongoing creation by planting a garden. Consider planting a vegetable garden and sharing your harvest with those less fortunate. Create a "<u>Mary Garden</u>," a tradition going back to medieval times that dedicates the garden to the Blessed Virgin Mary and is populated with plants that bear her name.
- 5. Read and study Church documents on caring for God's creation. Considering creation as sacred is not new to Catholics. The Church has a long tradition of respecting God's creation. Read up on what both <u>Scripture and Tradition have to say about ecology and the environment</u>.
- Learn about and teach others about the lives of <u>St. Francis of</u> <u>Assisi</u> and <u>St. Kateri Tekakwitha</u>. These two saints are the patron and patroness of ecology. Children especially love to learn the stories of these two saints.
- 7. Learn six ways to help your parish or community "go green." Here are some wonderful ideas from <u>Darcy Osby about helping children learn about</u> <u>care for God's creation</u>.
- 8. Take the St. Francis Pledge to care for creation and the poor. The <u>St.</u> <u>Francis Pledge</u>, initiated by the Catholic Climate Covenant, is a solemn commitment made by Catholic individuals, groups, and institutions to honor God's creation and to serve those who are poor.
- 9. Make a donation to Catholic Relief Services. CRS, the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic community, promotes caring for the environment in the U.S. and abroad. Visit <u>their website</u> to learn more about their work and how you can help.
- 10. **Read** <u>Laudato Si</u>². Pope Francis's encyclical on how we need to care for our common home takes the notion of care for the environment out of the political arena and links it to our Catholic faith. ~ *Catechist's Journey website*



Giving Back to Help Others



Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS), Dobbs Ferry, NY, held a Giving Back Program to benefit an organization that assists Muslim women who are victims of

domestic violence. Some of our 'alums' who are now in high school, along with some of the women in our Knitting Group, made 150 packets of different items to donate to the organization. The bags were filled with hand lotion, a small mirror, Chapstick, a pen and notebook, tissues, a facial mask, a keychain with a positive saying, such as "You are strong" and a pair of socks.

Thank you to Tom Costello, from The Joy of Sox, in Pennsylvania, who donated 150 pairs of socks to add to the individual bags.



Forming an assembly line, the CIS volunteers quickly put together 150 packets. Women helping women!



A CIS volunteer helps to assemble the packets to be donated to aid Muslim women who are victims of domestic violence.

The program was organized by one of our Human Services Intern, Danna Morales, from Westchester Community College. Danna explained about the organization and the different types of services that it has for women who are victims of domestic violence.

Thank you to all who helped to make the lives of these women better. ~ submitted by: Lorraine Campanelli, Director, Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY

Do you know someone who might enjoy receiving The Update? If so, please encourage them to email: <u>Cabrininews@mothercabrini.org</u> We'll get them signed up! Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC shares this news from UNANIMA INTERNATIONAL:

FYI from UNANIMA today. How wonderful that a woman honored by UNANIMA in 2018 as Woman of Courage, is now being featured in TIME magazine for 2023!



International

We hope this finds you well! We are very excited to share that our 2018 Woman of Courage, María Herrera Magdaleno,

has been selected by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People of 2023!

You can read the TIME article here: https://time.com/collection/100-most-influentialpeople-2023/6269871/maria-herrera-magdaleno/

Bouquets of Love and Devotion



Jesus, | trust in you! Jesus, en ti confio!

For Divine Mercy Sunday the people from the weekly Spanish Mass at St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in New York donated 20 dozen roses (and spent nearly three hours arranging them!) to honor the mercy shown by Jesus to the world. Red roses flowed from the left side of Christ, representing his blood, while white roses poured forth to represent water.

The devotion to the Divine Mercy, which is intimately linked to that of the Sacred Heart, is popular among visitors to the Shrine.

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

Twenty dozen roses adorn the chapel at the St. Frances X. Cabrini Shrine in NYC for Divine Mercy Sunday.

From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Team...

Sunday, April 30th is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

The purpose of World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

2023 marks the 60th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

The Delaware Valley Member Area of the **National Religious** Vocations Conference, of which the MSCs are a part, is hosting a Zoom gathering on the World Day of Prayer for Vocations for anyone to join us in praying for vocations: to ask questions about their vocational path; and/or to get to know vocation directors from many different religious congregations. Spread the word!



Here's how you can log on: (You may have to copy and paste this into your browser or e-mail sorellamichele@aol.com to re-send you the link)

> https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84152917637? pwd=V3czRmtIenFhWUVSSHRFOEVIayt0QT09

Meeting ID: 841 5291 7637 Passcode: 521230



Prayer Requests

Nicole Giacche

Nicole Giacche, a Cabrini University alumna, has been in and out of the hospital with cancer complications. Nicole's mother, Irma, is her caregiver. They would both appreciate our prayers.

Rita Dworecki and Bernie Schwab

Prayers are requested for the mother and sister of Rita Lambert, a Cabrini University staff member. Mrs. Rita Dworecki, and Rita's sister, Bernie Schwab were just both diagnosed with cancer. They would all appreciate many prayers at this very trying time.

Prayers for employment

Prayers are requested for someone who is seeking employment. Please pray that the right opportunity will present itself and that this individual will be the successful candidate.

Prayers for a special intention

A member of the Cabrinian community is asking for prayers and the intercession of Mother Cabrini for a special intention.

Sr. Christopher Wagner, OSF

Prayers are requested for Sr. Chris Wagner, a Sister of St. Francis of Philadelphia. Sr. Chris, an artist, and the former vocation director for her congregation, has been ill and has now entered hospice care. Please pray for her comfort and serenity at this time.

With a Grateful Heart

Landon Reid

In recent weeks we have prayed for a youngster who was diagnosed with cancer. His family shares the following: "[Recently] Landon's scans showed no signs of cancer (completely gone) mostly everywhere. A spot remains on his liver and the medical team at CHOP will address that with his continued chemo and radiation. But all in all this little boy is doing AMAZING! The team of doctors are pleased with his recovery. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the prayers and support. Please continue to pray for little Landon."

In Loving Memory

Tom Manzella

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Tom Manzella, the brotherin-law of Sr. Maria Loretta Caeti, MSC. May he rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon him.

A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we might protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.



Learn more about Pope Francis' Encyclical on Climate Change at: <u>http://igsol.net/pope-ecology</u>