



September 21, 2023

# World Day of Migrants and Refugees

September 24, 2023



## A message from Pope Francis:

The migratory flows of our times are the expression of a complex and varied phenomenon that, to be properly understood, requires a careful analysis of every aspect of its different stages, from departure to arrival, including the possibility of return. As a contribution to



this effort, I have chosen to devote the Message for the 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees to the freedom that should always mark the decision to leave one's native land.

“Free to leave, free to stay” was the title of an initiative of solidarity promoted several years ago by the Italian Episcopal Conference as a concrete response to the challenges posed by contemporary migration movements. From attentive listening to the Particular Churches, I have come to see that ensuring that that freedom is a widely shared pastoral concern.

“An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said: ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about

to search for the child, to destroy him” (Mt 2:13). The flight of the Holy Family into Egypt was not the result of a free decision, nor were many of the migrations that marked the history of the people of Israel. The decision to migrate should always be free, yet in many cases, even in our day, it is not.



Conflicts, natural disasters, or more simply the impossibility of living a dignified and prosperous life in one’s native land is forcing millions of persons to leave. Already in 2003, Saint John Paul II stated that “as regards migrants and refugees, building conditions of peace means in practice being seriously committed to safeguarding first of all the right not to emigrate, that is, the right to live in peace and dignity in one’s own country” (*Message for the 90th World Day of Migrants and Refugees*, 3).



“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me” (Mt 25:35-36). These words are a constant admonition to see in the migrant not simply a brother or sister in difficulty, but Christ himself, who knocks at

our door. Consequently, even as we work to ensure that in every case migration is the fruit of a free decision, we are called to show maximum respect for the dignity of each migrant; this entails accompanying and managing waves of migration as best we can, constructing bridges and not walls, expanding channels for a safe and regular migration. In whatever place we decide to build our future, in the country of our birth or elsewhere, the important thing is that there always be a community ready to welcome, protect, promote and integrate everyone, without distinctions and without excluding anyone.

The synodal path that we have undertaken as a Church leads us to see in those who are most vulnerable – among whom are many migrants and refugees – special companions on our way, to be loved and cared for as brothers and sisters. Only by walking together will we be able to go far and reach the common goal of our journey.

To read the entirety of Pope Francis’ message, please click [here](#)

For further information, please click [here](#)

# 100 Candles Shining Brightly!



On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Cabrini Sisters celebrated a very special 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday for our Sr. Margaret Mary Hernandez, better known by many of her students as Sr. Fabian.

Sr. Margaret Mary taught for over 35 years and was known as an excellent 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, teaching in Brooklyn, NY (by the way her favorite mission), Kearny, NJ, Philadelphia, PA, Burbank, CA, and Seattle, WA.

On this special day, when she was asked what she would like for her birthday - of course, it would be pizza, cake and ice cream.... and she enjoyed all three.

Thank you, Sr. Margaret Mary, for all the love, care, and dedication that you put into teaching all these years. Your guidance and support have left a great impact on your students and we, your Sisters.



How exciting to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sr. Margaret Mary Hernandez, MSC! Joining in the festivities are from left: Missionary Sisters Arlene Van Dusen, Isalia Carvalho, Alfonsina Gomes, Maria Loretta Caeti and Romualda Molon. Happy, happy Birthday!!

Remember that you are still teaching (by example) to all those who now come in contact with you at the nursing home.

You are still in charge!

~ submitted by Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, MSC



# Sharing Life and Belonging



**Photo above:** Angela Campbell, PhD, (2<sup>nd</sup> r.) spent time with the MSC novices and presented a workshop on DEI and Belonging.

**Photo right:** Sr. Genet Henok, MSC, Novice Director, (2<sup>nd</sup> l. standing) joins the MSC novices for the proceedings.

Dr. Angela Campbell, Vice President of Mission, DEI and Belonging, etc., at Cabrini University, recently presented a workshop on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion which was held at the Sacred Heart Novitiate in New York City on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. The workshop focused on the history and current realities of African Americans.

Dr. Campbell shared, “We enjoyed our time learning and dialoguing together. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to support the education, empowerment and socialization of the novices. To Christ be the glory!”

*~ submitted by Dr. Angela Campbell, Cabrini Univ.*



## One Minute Meditation

We need to want to pray enough to set aside a time and place each day to be alone with God. Without this, the relationship can easily slip into artificiality and lack depth because we have not shared anything of our inner self.

*~ Joyce Rupp, Inviting God In*

# Cabrini University presents Ivy Young Willis-Martha Willis Dale Award

Each year, the History and Political Science Department of Cabrini University recognizes a woman who has made a noteworthy contribution to the civic life of her community; local, regional, national, or international. She is invited to Cabrini to speak to our students and receive the Ivy Young Willis and Martha Willis Dale Award.



Jennifer M. O'Mara

This year's recipient, **PA State Representative Jennifer M. O'Mara**, is being honored for her creative, innovative and progressive contributions to public affairs. Jennifer believes there is more that unites us than divides us and is committed

to being part of a government that serves the people.



Dr. Michelle Filling-Brown (r.) congratulates Jennifer O'Mara on her distinguished award.

Established through the generosity of their respective families, in addition to many friends and alumni, the Ivy Young Willis and Martha Willis Dale Award and lecture series was initially established in 1992 by William G. Willis to honor Ivy, his late wife and modified in 2013 by John Dale to honor his late wife and daughter of Ivy and William.

Ivy Young Willis was a teacher, administrator, and reading consultant whose work, at WQED in Pittsburgh led the way for the teaching of reading on public television.



Martha Dale was a dear friend and mentor of so many Cabrini alumni. They were excited to attend this most recent presentation given in her memory.

Martha Willis Dale, a much-beloved alumni

director at Cabrini College for 26 years, modeled her mother's teachings through her life of service to students, alumni and the community. This series is dedicated to their memory and the strong belief a that women have a unique talent for improving the climate and conduct of public affairs. ~ with appreciation to Liana Henrie, Cabrini University



For reservations and event details contact:  
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Save  
The Date



MOTHER CABRINI SHRINE  
GALA 2023

*Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm*

PINNACLE CLUB  
AT THE GRAND HYATT DENVER

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CHAPEL DEDICATION

*Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm*

AT MOTHER CABRINI SHRINE

[MotherCabriniShrine.org](https://MotherCabriniShrine.org)

**Gala Registration is Open**

**Friday, November 17, 2023**

**Pinnacle Club at the Grand Hyatt  
5:30 p.m.**

[Visit our Gala Website for tickets and table sponsorship opportunities.](https://MotherCabriniShrine.org)

# Prayer Requests

## *A Family in Crisis*

In recent weeks, we have been asked to pray for a family that is experiencing great stress and anxiety. They have asked that we please continue our prayers for them.

## Prayer for the Changing Seasons

Let us pray: O Lord, you mark the journey of life with change. Once again we witness your creation moving from one season to the other. Change is your instrument of growth that brings us to a deeper relationship with you. May your Word be the lantern that guides the roads of change in our lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

