



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

THE UPDATE

February 15, 2024

## Our Lady of Guadalupe Documentary to Run in Theatres across the US

Not only will the CABRINI movie make its debut on March 8<sup>th</sup>, International Women's Day, this week, a new documentary about the Virgin of Guadalupe, (the Patroness of our province) — the vision of Mary, the mother of Jesus, seen by a 16th-century Mexican peasant — premiered Tuesday, February 13 at an event in Los Angeles attended by the city's archbishop.

"Guadalupe: Madre de la Humanidad" ("Guadalupe: Mother of Humanity"), in Spanish with English subtitles, will run in more than 100 Regal and Cinemark theaters across the U.S. from Feb. 22 to Feb. 28. The film, by the Spanish company Goya Producciones, features dramatized scenes of Our Lady of Guadalupe's apparitions and interviews with those impacted by her, including LA Archbishop José Gomez.



The film will also be released in hundreds of theaters in Latin America and Spain.

A still photo from the Our Lady of Guadalupe film.

Narrated by Pepe Alonso, a presenter on the Eternal Word Television Network, the documentary stars Mexican actors Karyme Lozano, known for lead roles in many telenovelas, as the hostess, Angelica Chong as the Virgin of Guadalupe and Mario Alberto Hernandez as the man who saw the virgin, Juan Diego.

The filmmakers collected testimonies about the Virgin of Guadalupe's miracles in the U.S. and Mexico, as well as Germany, a nod to the documentary's title acknowledging

Our Lady of Guadalupe's impact far from Tepeyac Hill in Mexico, where the apparition occurred.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patron saint of Mexico, appeared to St. Juan Diego, an Indigenous convert to Catholicism, in December of 1531.

When the bishop did not believe Juan Diego's account that Mary had requested a shrine be built on Tepeyac Hill, she appeared a second time to Juan Diego and ordered him to collect roses. As Juan Diego opened his cloak in the bishop's presence to reveal the roses, the now-famous brown-skinned image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was displayed on his cloak.

Andrés Garrigó, a former journalist, was inspired to found the Spanish company Goya Producciones more than two decades ago.

Because there were already many documentaries telling the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Garrigó never expected Goya Producciones to make one, he said, but he finally responded to the many requests he got, including from Mexicans.

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

---

## Inside the Vatican's synod office: 'New style of leadership' for Catholic Church

*~ by Joshua McElwee and Christopher White for Global Sisters Report*



Xaviere Sr. Nathalie Becquart

As the Vatican prepares to host the second part of Pope Francis' major summit on the future of the Catholic Church this October, one of the event's main organizers said a central purpose of the gathering is to create "a new style of leadership" for the global faith institution.

In an exclusive interview with National Catholic Reporter in late January, Xaviere Sr. Nathalie Becquart said that, through the October 2023 and 2024

assemblies of the Synod of Bishops, Francis is creating "a path of conversion" toward "a new way to exercise the authority" in the church.

Becquart, an undersecretary at the Vatican's office for the Synod of Bishops, also described the synodal process as "the Second Vatican Council in a nutshell."

"I really see that what we are doing is really to continue to implement the Second Vatican Council," she said, speaking in an interview at the synod office for NCR's "[The Vatican Briefing](#)" podcast.

Francis has called the two synod assemblies to discuss a wide range of issues facing the global Catholic Church, including women's leadership, priestly celibacy, and ministry to LGBTQ Catholics.

The first assembly ended on Oct. 29, but [postponed action](#) on most of the hot-button issues until the upcoming 2024 assembly.

Synod  
2021  
2024

In her interview for "The Vatican Briefing," Becquart discussed in particular the synod's ongoing consideration of women's leadership in the church.

"We have also emphasized that, at this time, what is also very important ... [is] to continue to put into practice many things or many ways that are already possible to put into practice, for

becoming more and more a synodal church," she said.

"That means calling more women [to] leadership in different church bodies and in dioceses, in bishops' conferences, Catholic Charities, in Catholic universities," said Becquart. "Finding ways to move, to go forward, to have more and more women in leadership."

"For many things you don't need to wait, you know, [for] the end of the synod," she said.

---

## CABRINI



Sr. Renee Kittleson, MSC shares that the trailer for the Cabrini movie was shown at the March for Life and at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast.

On February 15, the World Over on EWTN at 8 p.m. will include a discussion of the movie. The program will be repeated at 9:30 a.m. the next day.

## *From the Guadalupe Province Vocation Team...*

*The following are excerpts from an article written by Sr. Michele Vincent Fisher, CSFN, that appears in the Winter 2024 issue of HORIZON, the Journal of the National Religious Vocations Conference. Sr. Michele writes about striking a healthy, hopeful balance as a vocation minister; however, her words can be helpful for all of us no matter what our vocation in life. The article will appear in installments over the next few weeks.*

### Strike a Healthy, Hopeful Balance

#### **Strengthen Your Core by Taking Inventory**

Yesterday morning, as I enjoyed watching the sun rise over the Atlantic from my perch high up on a pier, I noticed a man paddle boarding. From far away, he appeared to be simply standing on the water and moving with the tide. As he got closer to me, I saw how perfectly he was balanced on his board with a paddle in one hand, keeping rhythm with the waves, seeming to skim the surface and float above the water. As he passed closer to the pier, he looked up, and we shared a smile. This little glimmer reminded me of two important facts. The first, which I learned after months of physical therapy, is that if you want better balance, you have to strengthen your core. Yes, that means discovering and working muscles you never knew you had. Second, as I learned from the great Albert Einstein, “To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”

On a purely human level, we know that our basic needs are for nourishment, shelter, sleep, and movement, but equally essential are the needs for bonding, relationship, and love. Moving higher on the list are needs for purpose, meaning, direction, and generativity. These needs constitute our “core,” and giving them proper attention enables us to live a vibrant, dynamic, passionate life. What are some of these core areas that need to be strengthened and nurtured in you at this time? Where do you feel a tightness or resistance? Taking time to do an inventory might help you understand what you need to do to move toward greater harmony and balance.



As you look at your core, you might discover some areas of stagnation, feeling stuck or mired in a particular pattern of behavior or thinking. Perhaps, it’s a feeling of

helplessness at not being able to meet expectations or to use the gifts and talents you possess to minister as you feel called. What do you need in order to keep moving?



Ironically, it might mean stepping back, resting, and taking time out for your spiritual and emotional health.

This stepping back is an essential movement that many of us in vocation [or any] ministry don't nurture until we feel exhausted and burned out. Movement is not equal to busyness. Movement is a much gentler way to keep us in life's flow, to keep us connected to the movements and rhythms of God's Spirit in our lives. Even if the movement comes in the smallest of steps, it's still movement.

Having someone in your life to help you to keep moving is a great blessing, whether it is a good spiritual director, counselor, peer minister or soul friend. If you are blessed to have this kind of person in your life, take a minute to write him or her an old-fashioned thank you note. Expressing gratitude for goodness received is one of the best fuels to rekindle your inner flame.

***Next week: Rooted in Hope and Tend to Your Home***

---

### One Minute Meditation

#### Practicing Lenten Silence

In Lent, we make an interior journey and hopefully find a bigger God. Therefore, I want to encourage each of us to take time alone each day. Let us practice the discipline of silence. Secondly, let us take some solitude. Thirdly, let us practice the discipline of speech. Our patterns of many years are such that whenever there is a moment of silence, we fill it up by talking. Let's see if God can teach us a way to say only what's necessary and what's important. We live in front of the TV, or whatever it might be with social media. Now we can get away from that. We don't need to fill the silence up with more sounds. There are things that don't need to be talked about, things that are just time fillers. They're just there to fill up our nervousness.

*~ Richard Rohr, On Pilgrimage*



*A beloved Cabrini tradition during the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent is the sharing of the reflections of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLMs). Once again, as we journey through this Lent, we are grateful to receive the contemplations of our CLMs. Our reflection for the First Sunday in Lent is offered by Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director. Lorraine is the Director of Cabrini Immigrant Services in Dobbs Ferry, NY.*

## First Sunday of Lent

I am a strong believer in the fact that things do not happen by chance. Rather, things happen for a reason. How ironic that this year Ash Wednesday fell on Valentine’s Day. It was less than 2 months ago that Love was born on Christmas Day. Now, we are preparing for Jesus’ death. From the moment that Jesus was born until the moment He died on the Cross, He witnessed love. Jesus came to this earth so that we can experience the unconditional love of God.



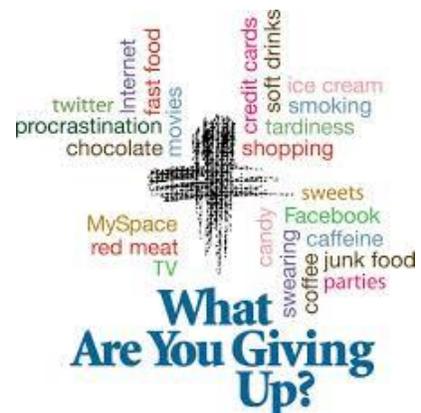
There was a popular song that told us about the world needing love. Some of the lyrics are, “*What the world needs now is love, sweet love. No, not just for some but for everyone.*” Maybe as we begin Lent, we can focus on love, love of God and love of one another. Wouldn’t it be

great if on Easter Sunday we could sing, “*What the world has now is more love, sweet love. It isn’t just for some but for everyone.*” Just think, it will be because you loved a little harder and loved a little more that our world will be filled with even more love.

~ Lorraine Campanelli, CLM

**Lent is here. Take some inspiration from the staff of AMERICA Magazine as you decide what to give up (or take on) as we journey to Easter.**

To read 101 THINGS TO GIVE UP FOR LENT, please click [here](#)



# Prayer Requests

## In Loving Memory

### ***Sr. Teese Currie, SHCJ***

Kindly pray for the repose of the soul of Sr. Teese Currie, SHCJ, who passed away yesterday on Ash Wednesday. Sr. Teese is the cousin of Sr. Eileen Currie, MSC. Sr. Teese served in many differing roles in her congregation. May she rest in God's eternal light. Please keep the Currie Family in your prayers at this sad time.

### ***Mr. Giacomo***

The MSC Generalate in Rome has shared that Sr. Giuditta Pala's brother, Mr. Giacomo, "has gone to the Father's House. Let us pray together to accompany him to the Light and let us pray that the Lord may comfort his family in these difficult moments of physical separation." Please keep Sr. Giuditta's Family in your prayers.

### ***Sr. Benigna Morais, MSC***

It is with great sadness that the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus announce the passing of Sr. Benigna Morais, MSC. Sr. Benigna passed away peacefully yesterday, February 14th, after a brief illness. Into your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our Sr. Benigna. In this life you embraced her with your tender love. Now, welcome our Sr Benigna into Paradise where there is fullness of peace and joy, forever.



