

He is not here...
He has Risen. Alleluia!



When we carry the message of Jesus - when we live the life of Jesus here and now, when we, too, confront the world around us with the blessedness of those poor, those outcast, those foreigners, those women, those voiceless for whom Jesus gave his life - we carry within ourselves the promise of new life. We live the ongoing message of the Resurrection itself: What comes in the name of Jesus will not die.

The darkness will not overcome Christ's message as long as we ourselves never blow out the light of truth in our own hearts. Alleluia. ~ *Joan Chittister, OSB*

May the resurrection of Christ inspire your faith and renew your life with hope and grace this Easter season.

Editor's Note: As we are about to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on this Easter Sunday, it was thought that Update readers might enjoy the following story which appears in this week's Global Sisters Report. As we observe Easter, this is a touching, hope-filled story of our connection to the Divine as seen through the eyes of a grandmother and her granddaughter. It is excerpted here with a link to the complete story.

We're All Playing Chase Games with God

~ by Stephanie Peirolo, Global Sisters Report



My granddaughter, Ruby, is 4. She likes to play chase games.

Sometimes, we chase her; sometimes she chases us. Shrieking with delight is involved either way.

Her parents aren't churchgoers, but they like me taking her to church. It gives them some time with her baby brother and gives Ruby some one-on-one time with Nana and Coco.

Talking about God to a child growing up in a house with different ideas about God than I [have] is a great exercise. She leaned over and pointed to the pictures of angels on the front of the bulletin one Sunday.

"What are those?" she asked.

"Those are angels," I told her. "Some people believe ..." I use that phrase often. Some people believe. I believe. I think.

She's [cool] with the whole God thing, generally. When I told her God is inside us, she didn't like that at all and rejected it out of hand. "God's *next* to me," she said, pointing to the space next to her car seat. "God's next to all of us," she said.

Recently, I was talking to some priests from another denomination, and we were talking about how people connect with God. I assumed since these women were priests, they felt connected with God. One of them said no, the topic interested her because she wanted to feel more connected to God.

Not all of us have that felt sense that the Divine is right next to us. If we do, how do we communicate that to others, especially others who believe differently than we do? I like the idea of "[attraction rather than promotion](#)," a 12-step concept where people

in recovery don't advertise or proselytize, they just show up and live in a way that attracts others to be curious and ask about their path.

Tonight, my best friend and I were talking with some other friends, all women, about our various beliefs and spiritual practices. My best friend said that when I described the "[dark night of the soul](#)" to her, she read about it and then read St. Teresa of Avila's [Interior Castle](#). "Me, a Jewish woman, reading this super Catholic book and getting something out of it!" she exclaimed.

To which another friend responded that my being spiritual and approachable, being open to any and all beliefs, makes my friends want to learn more and read books I read. They are attracted to my connection with the Divine. I felt really good about that. Maybe saying, "Some people believe..." and then asking, "What do you believe?" with Ruby has been good practice.

I think it's the same with God. We're all connected to the same source, we're all connected to the Divine. What if we just went around attracting love in a way that was so radically hospitable, so deeply welcoming, that everyone was included? It's always the love that draws us in. God is coming after us, welcoming us, yearning for us. All of us. No matter what.

Yesterday, when we were driving home from church, Ruby said, "I was running around the house, and I was playing chase games with God." And I thought yes, that's it, we're all playing chase games with God. And all we have to do is stop, turn and wait to be caught. **Happy Easter!** To read the full account, please click [here](#)





The Messages Keep Pouring In

The Communications Office of the Guadalupe Province continues to receive abundant emails, comments, family stories, well-wishes, and prayer requests since the debut of the CABRINI film on March 8th.

Some further reactions:

“Just saw CABRINI – it was wonderful! It was a huge reminder of who we should be as a welcoming nation, and not, historically, as we have been.” ~ J.C.

“My husband and I saw [the film] last night. The cinematography was stunning. I thought Cristiana Dell’Anna [the actress playing Cabrini] was phenomenal. Both of us really enjoyed it.” ~ M.B.

“Saw the wonderful CABRINI film with my adult daughter today. As a grandson of Italian immigrants who came to New York about the time Mother Cabrini began her work here, I was deeply moved. She was all that a human being should be, including brave and indomitable. Would that we were all as strong in our desire to help others. I never knew her story before. Now I know she worked in the New York City my grandparent immigrants came to and I now realize what a difficult time they must have had. Thank you, Mother Cabrini, for helping Italian immigrants, perhaps even my grandparents.” ~ P.C.

“Just had to write to tell you how touched I was after seeing the CABRINI film. Mother Cabrini truly is an inspiration for all humanity. Blessings to the Missionary Sisters for continuing the work with immigrants that she started.” ~ M.K.

“I have been inspired by the CABRINI movie. I want to learn all I can about her. I plan to visit her shrine in New York City in the near future.” ~ P.L.

“The CABRINI film was amazing. I never knew much about her. Her life story is one of determination in the face of personal insults, prejudice, and denigration. I can’t wait to learn more about this petite and remarkable woman.” ~ J.N.

At UN Gathering, Dozens of Catholic Sisters Advocate for Women

~ by Chris Herlinger, *Global Sisters Report*

Two weeks of meetings, workshops and assemblies at one of the most prominent annual global gatherings of women – The United Nations [Commission on the Status of Women](#) have affirmed the need for gender equality and female empowerment by eradicating poverty and strengthening access to financial institutions.



Women’s conference at the United Nations. On the screen is U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres. (U.N. photo/Mark Garten)

Dozens of Catholic sisters participated as leaders, participants, or observers in the 68th gathering of the commission at the United Nations in New York. This year’s priority theme was “Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and finance with a gender perspective.

In a March 22 statement, UN Women, the United Nations organization focused on gender equality, said the outcome document [from the conference] “recognizes that women and girls living in poverty become ‘shock absorbers’ in times of crisis and that further efforts are needed to increase resources to address women’s and girls’ poverty. Acknowledging that the international architecture is not fit for a crisis-prone world, the Commission called for reforms to enable countries to mobilize and invest resources in gender equality. These measures include debt relief and progression taxation and ensuring that public resources are allocated to address the needs and rights of women and girls.”

In a post-meeting interview with the Global Sisters Report, [participant](#) Good Shepherd Sr. [Winifred Doherty](#), who represents the [Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd](#), praised the conclusions as a “good document” that “looks realistically at the issue of poverty and its debilitating effects on women and girls around the world and says we should do something and it should be done with regard to healthcare, food, sanitation, water, electricity and to digital learning – all of these things that we speak about that would raise the quality of life for women and girls.” To read the entire account, please click [here](#)

National Eucharistic Congress



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

The USA has not had a National Eucharistic Congress in 83 years. That is about to change. This will be the largest Catholic event this year.

To learn more please click [here](#)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Sr. Beatriz Santos, MSC has a new email address:

bettisan@cabrini.com.au

Kindly make a note. Thank you.

WEEKLY UPDATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Due to the MSC International Vocations Conference being held next week in Codogno, Italy, The Update **will not** be published next Thursday, April 4, 2024.

The Update will resume on Thursday, April 11th.

Please keep the Vocations Conference in your prayers.



As we celebrate Easter, we give thanks to the Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLMs) for accompanying us through Lent with their reflections. The reflection for Easter Sunday is by Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director.

Easter Sunday

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

It's true, Jesus rose from the dead! There is life after death, eternal life!

In John 11:25-26, Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me though they die, they shall live forever."



Jesus asked Martha, "Do you believe this?" Jesus is asking each one of us, "Do you believe this?"

May our hearts be filled with the joy of the Resurrection and the belief that we shall live forever with our Lord.

~ Lorraine Campanelli, CLM

Prayer Requests

Mark Peters

Please pray for Mark Peters, who recently underwent heart surgery. Please pray that he will make a full recovery. His family would be grateful for our prayers.

In Loving Memory

Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse victims

Let us keep in prayer all those who perished in the bridge collapse in Maryland. May their families be given strength and comfort at this very sad time.