



May 8, 2025

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Sunday, May 11, 2025

On this 62nd anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, also liturgically known as Good Shepherd Sunday, we are invited to pray for and promote all vocations. Initiated by Saint Paul VI during the Second Vatican Council in 1964, the purpose of this day is to help all of us respond to God's call and to support in prayer all those who are discerning how to best respond to the needs of today in the vocation God calls them to be.

Participating in parish life is a way individuals can discern their vocation and receive prayerful support from parishioners. Matter of fact, people in parishes are more likely to encourage someone to discern their vocation than their own family members!

Many parishes and religious institutes commemorate this day by praying for vocations and supporting vocation promotion events. Considering that 73 percent of women and men professing final vows participated in one or more parish activities and 88 percent served in one or more parish ministries *before* entering religious life, presence and participation in activities that mark this special day are essential.

~ National Religious Vocations Conference website (NRVC)



A preface by Fr. Ron Galt, Vice-President of Pastoral Care and Mission, St. Cabrini Nursing Home:

Please enjoy this written piece from Sr. Christina Dougherty, one of our residents, following the first mini pilgrimage to the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine by our residents last month. We are planning to have a mini pilgrimage once a quarter to take groups of residents to experience the beauty of the shrine and the inspiring life and ministry of Mother Cabrini.

Pilgrimage to the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine

On an early spring day in April, five residents accompanied by Fr. Ron Galt and three staff members set off on our first pilgrimage to the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine in Upper Manhattan. It was a beautiful spring day for a ride along the Hudson River. We quickly experienced Mother Cabrini's guidance when Fr. Ron guided our very skilled driver through the entrance gate [at the Shrine] which was a lot narrower than was anticipated - not a scratch or dent!



Happy pilgrims from St. Cabrini Nursing Home enjoyed their day at the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine in Upper Manhattan.

The staff at the Shrine welcomed us warmly, helping us up the ramp and into the simple yet magnificent chapel where we heard the story of Mother Cabrini using the beautiful images painted on the dome ceiling above the altar. There were exhibits nearby that gave us an opportunity to hear more about the mission of Mother Cabrini and her Missionary Sisters in the United States.

We celebrated the daily Mass with the neighbors of the Shrine. Lunch followed giving us the chance to share what we had seen and heard. I think we were all struck by the remarkable faith and courage Mother Cabrini showed and passed on to her Sisters.

NEVER GIVE UP...NO BOUNDARIES...LET NOTHING STOP YOU!!

~ submitted by Sr. Christine Dougherty, St. Cabrini Nursing Home

Cabrini Immigrant Services – NYC

Changing Lives, One Person at a Time

Amadou is a Senegalese immigrant living in the Bronx, he first came to Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS-NYC) seeking legal support for his citizenship journey. During his intake, he was referred for social services after sharing that he was feeling emotionally overwhelmed and struggling to navigate complex public systems alone. What began as a search for legal help became a turning point in his journey toward healing and self-advocacy. “When I started the case with you, my priorities changed,” he said. “I learned a lot about myself. I gained tools to overcome challenges, and I appreciated learning how to count on myself. You made me realize my own potential and that I have it in me.”

Through his participation in counseling and case management, Amadou found consistent, trauma-informed support that helped him feel grounded and empowered. He described CIS-NYC as warm and welcoming, and said he had never experienced services quite like this before. “Cabrini humanized my challenges and gave me the support I really needed,” he shared. Over time, Amadou began engaging more actively with his care. He developed stronger advocacy skills and began approaching his interactions with landlords, doctors, and care providers with increased confidence. He often speaks about how the consistency of services helped him regain trust in others and feel less alone.



Amadou, from Senegal, shares his appreciation for the support provided by CIS-NYC.

With the support of CIS-NYC, Amadou secured a CityFHEPS housing voucher, received increased hours for home care assistance, and was connected to resources and education around the citizenship process. These concrete changes, paired with emotional and practical support, helped him envision a more stable future. Reflecting on his experience, he said, “I used to think of Cabrini as just a place to learn a few tools, but I ended up getting so much more. CIS is very involved. You don’t say, ‘I helped you with this,’ you say, ‘You did this, and we worked together.’ That makes all the difference.”

- written by Chloe Carbono, Social Services Intern and submitted by Amelia Scdoris, Community Organizer, CIS-NYC

Neighborhoodly Gestures of Support



For two days last week St. Frances Cabrini Shrine served as a drop-off point for our neighbors who wished to donate gently-used clothing and housewares. Volunteers sorted the items and all items were transported to the Uptown Free store, a pop-up event with the motto, “Take what you need, give what you can.”

Never let it be said that New Yorkers are uncaring! The generosity of our neighbors is humbling. ~ submitted by Julia Attaway, Executive Director, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine, NYC

For a quick video of their goodness of click here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1E2unm7ZGa/>

(You don't need to be a Facebook user to see it.)

Un Día de Reflexión ~ A Day of Reflection



Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC (c.) offered a Day of Reflection, in Spanish, at the St. F.X. Cabrini Shrine to people from northern Manhattan

More than two dozen people from across northern Manhattan gathered at St. Frances Cabrini Shrine on Sunday, May 4 for a day of reflection about the Sacred Heart. The program was led by Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC, in Spanish, and ended with Mass.

Participants were very enthusiastic. They eagerly asked to return this summer for another event. Many thanks to Sr. Yolanda for her support!

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

A Time of Formation at the National Shrine

The staff of the National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini and staff members from the Generalate Offices in Chicago, met for an afternoon of input from married couple Michelle Sherman and Nick Rademacher. In this year proclaimed a Pilgrimage of Hope, they underscored the impact of Pope Francis, Mother Cabrini and a Sacred Heart Spirituality.



From left: Michelle Sherman, her husband Nick Rademacher, and Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC pause for a photo following their formative presentation.

Michelle and Nick are continuing their connection with our Cabrini ministries as the newest members of the National Shrine's Board's Formation Committee. Many will remember Michelle who served with Cabrini Mission Corps in New York City and Nick who was a Professor of Religion at Cabrini University for many years.

~ submitted by Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC

Excellence in Spanish Language and Culture

Cabrini High School in New Orleans proudly celebrates the outstanding achievements of Tessa Anderson '25 was awarded the José Luis Baños Award for Excellence in Spanish by the *Sociedad Española*. The award was presented by the Honorary Consul of Spain in New Orleans during a special ceremony recognizing exceptional achievement in the study of Spanish language and culture. Anderson was accompanied by Cabrini Assistant Principal and AP Spanish teacher Vivian Deschapelles Coutin, who also serves as President of *Sociedad Española*. Coutin opened the event with remarks highlighting the



Tessa Anderson '25 (r.) and Vivian Coutin, CHS Asst. Principal and AP Spanish teacher at the Sociedad Española awards ceremony

global significance of Spanish and encouraging students to continue pursuing linguistic and cultural understanding. Tessa will attend Baylor University this fall on a full tuition scholarship, where she will study pre-med/biology.

~ submitted by Anne Argus DiPaola, '96, Director of Communications, Cabrini High School



Cabrini Immigration Commission

GUADALUPE PROVINCE

Visiting Our School Partners

As a part of its outreach, members of the Cabrini Immigration Commission of the Guadalupe Province, with thanks to Commission Chair Karol Brewer and Commission member Dr. Susan Pierson, have established a partnership with three school districts in southern Chester County, PA: Avon Grove, Kennett Square and Oxford that each serves a large population of children from immigrant families.

Thanks to the generosity of Update readers and many generous donors, the Cabrini Immigration Commission has been able to provide multiple copies of colorfully illustrated books on the topic of immigration, written in English and



Sr. Christine Marie helps to deliver snacks to Julia Rutherford, a social worker in the Oxford School District.

Spanish, and appropriate for grammar school age children in each of the districts.

Additionally, in consultation with the district social workers, the Commission members have ascertained the ongoing needs of their immigrant students. Such necessities as toiletries, underwear, socks, footwear, and school supplies as well as individual packages of healthy snacks were cited as items that these children often lack.

Earlier this year, Immigration Commission members brought gift cards to Target, Walmart, Giant Foods and a variety of items to the Avon Grove and Oxford districts and this week, they made a return visit bringing summer clothing, sandals, hairbrushes, toiletries and more healthy snacks that will help to see these children through the summer months.



From left: Sr. Christine Marie Baltas, MSC, Immigration Commission Chair Karol Brewer and Avon Grove School District Social Worker Holly Oliver.

Prayer Requests

Papal Conclave

The Cabrinian Community joins the global community in prayer for all those gathered in Rome for the Papal Conclave. We pray that the cardinals are attentive to the movement of the Holy Spirit among them as they discern and select the next Holy Father.

Prayer for Vocations

As we observe the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, let us pray that each person may live fully the vocation that has been planted in their hearts at baptism.

In Loving Memory

Marion Li Mandri

Kindly pray for Marion Li Mandri, the cousin of Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC, who returned home to God on Sunday, May 4th, after a long cancer illness. Please keep her family in prayer during this time of great loss.

Arthur “Art” Peterson

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Arthur Peterson, the brother of Sr. Regina Peterson, MSC, who returned home to God on Saturday, May 3rd. Kindly remember Arthur in your prayers as well as the Peterson Family as they mourn their loss. May perpetual light shine upon him.

Bishop Gerald Walsh



Bishop Gerald Thomas Walsh
1942- 2025
Rest in Peace



It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Bishop Gerald Walsh. We are grateful for the time he gave not only to the diocese of New York, but to the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, especially serving on the Board of Mother Cabrini High School and often helping at the Shrine.

His life was a gift to so many, and though he may be gone, his teachings and spirit will live on.

We pray for him and all those who knew and loved him, finding comfort in the legacy of love and faith he leaves behind. Let's carry forward his message, ensuring that his impact continues to resonate within our hearts and communities.

We, the Missionary Sisters thank you for your mission of service, for your example of bringing the "Love of Christ" to the world and for being an example to all of us, especially here in New York City.