



April 16, 2026

# Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>

Earth Day 2026 calls for moving beyond awareness into tangible, daily responsibility under the theme “**Our Power, Our Planet,**” highlighting the duty to steward God’s creation through concrete actions. **As we mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Laudato Si’*,** this is an invitation to ecological conversion—linking faith with action on energy efficiency, clean energy, and protecting the vulnerable from climate change.

~ Catholic Health Association

## Key Themes and Messages for 2026:

- **«Our Power, Our Planet:** This theme stresses that choices in homes, parishes, and communities—not just rhetoric—are what protect the earth.
- **Ecological Conversion:** A profound, interior turning toward God as Creator, recognizing that environmental decay is a crisis that harms our neighbors, particularly the poor.
- **Integral Ecology:** Recognizing that everything is connected—social, economic, and environmental systems. Our faith calls us to care for God’s creation and those most vulnerable.
- **Energy Action:** The 2026 program specifically highlights clean and renewable energy, reforestation, and net-zero planning, particularly for U.S. Catholic institutions. ~ Catholic Climate Covenant



To learn more and for ways to get involved:

- [USCCB](#)
- [Green Climate Fund Partnership](#)
- [Laudato Si' Movement](#)



## Tips to Protect Our Global Home: YOU Can Help!

*Each of us can help the environment every day by focusing on reducing waste, conserving energy and water, adopting sustainable consumption habits, and lowering our carbon footprint through daily choices. Small, consistent actions by many people create a significant*

*positive impact.*

Here are ways to help:

### Waste Reduction and Management:

- **Refuse Single-Use Plastic:** Carry a reusable bottle, coffee mug, shopping bag, and utensils to avoid disposable plastics.
- **Recycle Properly:** Learn local recycling rules to avoid contamination, and clean containers before recycling.
- **Buy Less, and Second-hand:** Choose quality over quantity, buy second-hand clothing, and borrow or rent items instead of buying new ones.

### Energy and Water Conservation:

- **Switch Off and Unplug:** Turn off lights when leaving a room and unplug electronics (like chargers and computers) when not in use to avoid phantom energy drain.
- **Use Energy-Efficient Appliances:** Swap to LED light bulbs and use energy-efficient appliances.
- **Conserve Water:** Take shorter showers, fix leaks promptly, and turn off the tap while brushing teeth or washing dishes.
- **Adjust Thermostat:** Lower the heat in winter and raise the AC in summer by just a few degrees.

### Transportation and Diet

- **Choose Sustainable Transit:** Walk, bike, carpool, or use public transportation instead of driving alone.
- **Reduce Meat and Dairy Intake and Food Waste:** Adopting a more plant-based diet reduces carbon emissions and land use; eat leftovers, eat local/seasonal

### Lifestyle and Advocacy

- **Go Digital:** Choose electronic statements and bills to save paper.
- **Maintain Digital Hygiene:** Delete old emails, files, and apps to reduce the energy consumption of data centers.
- **Support Eco-Friendly Brands and Educate others:** Buy products from companies with transparent and sustainable practices and share those tips with others.

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# National Eucharistic Pilgrimage

*Walk with Jesus. Pray for the nation. Follow the journey.*

In honor of America's 250th year, the 2026 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will carry the theme One Nation Under God. One Nation Under God is not a slogan—it's an invitation to realign our lives, communities, and country under the sovereignty of Christ.



It's a call to build unity through prayer, and to let Jesus, present in the Eucharist, renew and heal the heart of our country, one soul at a time. As pilgrims on this route, we walk with Christ so that His love might draw our nation back to Him.

The pilgrims will journey along what is known as the **St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Route** which will travel up the Eastern seaboard, beginning on May 24 in St. Augustine, FL and will conclude on July 5<sup>th</sup> in Philadelphia, PA. The pilgrimage will pass through most of the original 13 colonies. ~ *National Eucharistic Congress*

To learn more and to see a map of the route click [here](#) and [here](#)

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## Mother Cabrini Shrine Pilgrims in Italy



A large group from the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, CO, led by Shrine Executive Director JoAnn Seaman, (c. middle), is currently on a pilgrimage in Italy following in Mother Cabrini's footsteps. They spent time in Rome visiting with MSC General Superior Sr. Eliane Azevedo da Silva and Councilors Srs. Patricia Godoy and Gilda Mendoza Argueta. A full account of the pilgrimage and more photos will appear in next week's Update.

# The Perfect Spot for a Peace Prayer



As they were seated on Mother Cabrini's bench, friends of the St. F. X. Cabrini Shrine in NYC joined with Pope Leo XIV in praying for peace on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Pope Leo XIV asked the world to join him in praying a rosary for peace on Saturday, April 11. A handful of regulars at St. Frances Cabrini Shrine thought the perfect place to do that was on Mother Cabrini's bench! Clear blue skies, sunshine, and spring temperatures made it a beautiful time of prayer.

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

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## Celebrating Our Student Authors

Tuesday of this week was a 'picture-perfect day.' The sun was shining brightly, the temperature was in the high eighties, you didn't need a winter coat or an umbrella. I thought, could this day get any better? It did!



Four students who attend the Sharing Stories! Making Movies! Program at Cabrini Immigrant Services-Dobbs Ferry (CIS-DF) had a special ceremony at their school. The four students had written a short story which was published in a book, *Adventures in Crittertown - Where Magic Happens*, by Patti Kaufman. The children wrote a story about one of Ms. Kaufman's critters, whom they named Bella. Anne Marie Santoro, the teacher of our Sharing Stories! Making Movies! Program, shared the story with Ms. Kaufman who thought it was so wonderful that she published it in her new book.

I was honored to present a copy of the book to the librarian at Springhurst Elementary School in Dobbs Ferry, NY. Many of the authors' classmates and teachers attended the ceremony that was held in the library.



**Photo above:** We're so proud of the CIS-DF student authors, too! CIS-DF Director Lorraine Campanelli (2<sup>nd</sup> l.) presented the book in which the children's story is published to the school librarian.

**Photo left:** One of the student authors reads their story to the audience. A proud moment, indeed.



On display in the library was a sign that read, "We're so proud of our student authors."

One of the authors read the story to the group. After the reading, I presented the book to the librarian. She then asked each of the authors to sign the book. It was such a proud moment to see our students being recognized in such a unique way. It was beautiful to see all the support and accolades that they received from their teachers and classmates.

*~ submitted by Lorraine Campanelli, Director, CIS-DF*

  
**CABRINE MISSION**  
 FOUNDATION



**BOWLING NIGHT**  
 The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – Guadalupe Province  
 and Cabrine Mission Foundation Board of Trustees present Bowling Night.  
 Please join us for an evening guaranteed to be right up your alley!

**THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH AT 6PM**  
PLEASE ARRIVE BY 5PM TO START FOR 6:30PM

**LUCKY STRIKE**  
**60 CHELSEA PIERS**  
**NEW YORK, NY 10011**

Six (6) bowlers per team. Individual bowlers welcome.  
 We will match you up with a team.

[CABRINEFOUNDATION.ORG](http://CABRINEFOUNDATION.ORG)      **212-228-8608**

**Cabrine Mission**  
**Foundation**  
**Bowling Night!**

**April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**  
**Get your tickets soon.**  
**212-228-8608**

# A Night of Green and Gold in New Orleans

Cabrini High School's Night of Green and Gold Gala brought together alumnae, parents, and friends last Saturday for an unforgettable evening celebrating the Crescent spirit.

Guests enjoyed a festive night filled with signature cocktails, delicious cuisine, and lively entertainment from the Wise Guys band, which had partygoers dancing until the



Sr. Catherine Garry, MSC (c.) attends the Gala virtually to deliver a special acceptance speech after receiving the Heart of Cabrini Award. Joining in the festivities is Sr. Arlene Van Dusen, MSC.

very end. The event also featured both a silent and live auction, with attendees bidding on an array of sought-after items, including vacation packages, dining experiences, retail finds, and recreational experiences—all in support of Cabrini's mission.

A highlight of the evening was the recognition of Sr. Catherine Garry, MSC, who received the Heart of Cabrini Award. Sister

Catherine's lifelong dedication and influence have inspired generations of Cabrini women in New Orleans. Her impact on the founding of Cabrini High School and the school community was celebrated with deep gratitude and admiration for the legacy she established in New Orleans.

The school was also honored to welcome Sister Diane Olmstead, MSC, Sister Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC, and Sister Maria Loretta Caeti, MSC, as special guests. The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus served as a sponsor of the event, helping to make the evening possible and especially



Principal Ashley Evison, (l.) President Eric DesOrmeaux, (r.) and Sisters Diane Olmstead, MSC, Maria Loretta Caeti, MSC, and Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC at the Night of Green and Gold Gala benefiting Cabrini High School.



CHS President Eric DesOrmeaux and Sr. Pietrina Raccuglia, MSC present the Heart of Cabrini Award.

meaningful for alumnae, who remain deeply grateful for the Cabrinian education that has shaped their lives.

As Cabrini's largest annual fundraiser, the Night of Green and Gold Gala plays a vital role in sustaining the school's commitment to academic excellence and the formation of young women as faith-filled leaders. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of all who attended and supported the event, the evening was a great success.

Cabrini High School extends heartfelt thanks to its sponsors, donors, and volunteers who made the night possible, ensuring that the legacy of Cabrini High School remains strong for years to come.

*~ submitted by Anne Argus DiPaola, '96, Communications Director, Cabrini H.S.*



## Prayer Requests

### ***Cabrinian Community member***

A member of the Cabrinian community requests our prayers for the favorable outcome of medical tests tomorrow.

#### **One Minute Meditation**

##### Finding Peace Amid Turmoil

We have to pray from a position of chaos, because that is where we are, and that is the material on which the Spirit delights to work. It may help us, when we are painfully conscious of turmoil, to remember that Christ's gifts are more than a spiritualized version of secular commodities. As the love he gives us is a love that has made itself vulnerable to all that hatred can do and has conquered hatred, as the life he gives is a life that has been through death and proved the stronger, so the peace he gives is something more than an absence of stress. The gift may sometimes be offered and received within the turmoil, in the eye of the storm. ~ Maria Boulding, *The Coming of God, from Words of Grace*, with permission