



July 2, 2026

With Great Joy, We Celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

July 7, 2026

On July 7, 2026, the global Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will observe and celebrate the 80th anniversary of the canonization of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. **Canonized by Pope Pius XII on July 7, 1946**, Mother Cabrini made history as the very first United States citizen to be elevated to sainthood. Coming just after the devastation of World War II, her canonization was a powerful symbol of global healing, shining a light on her lifetime of dedication to the poor, orphans, and immigrants.

Frances Cabrini was very much a woman alone. Unlike the majority of religious foundresses, she had not been selected by a bishop or priest to establish a religious order. The plan was her own.

Despite fatigue, hardship, poor health and disappointment, Mother Cabrini's peace of soul enabled her to radiate a joy born of unfaltering trust in divine providence. This total and unabashed trust in God was her outstanding personality characteristic and was the source of an inner strength which propelled her to remarkable accomplishments in a relatively short span of time. Some saw in Cabrini the embodiment of immigrant aspirations: to get ahead, to excel, to prove one's self. Others, instead, attributed her achievements to the zeal of a saint.

To read Pope Pius XII's remarks on that day, please click [here](#)

~ excerpts from *Mother Cabrini, "Italian Immigrant of the Century"* by Sr. Mary Louise Sullivan, MSC, PhD



The Canonization Mass of Mother Cabrini
in the Vatican on July 7, 1946.

Honoring Immigrant Heritage Month

In celebration of Immigrant Heritage Month, Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC (CIS-NYC) welcomed 20 participants for a wonderful community potluck. Clients brought traditional dishes from their home countries, giving everyone the opportunity to share and enjoy a variety of cultural foods.



Immigrant Heritage Month was marked by fun, food, festivity and salsa dancing at CIS-NYC.

The afternoon was filled with great conversation, music, and a delicious multi-cultural meal. We ended the celebration with an energetic salsa dance class led by a professional instructor, Ximena Salgado, creating a fun and memorable experience that honored the rich cultures and traditions of our community.

~ submitted by Sofia Cruz, Justice for Immigrants Coordinator, CIS-NYC



Photos left and below:

What better way to celebrate immigrants than with dancing and dining?!

A salsa dance class and tasty dishes made for a delightful evening.

*Celebrating
Immigrants*



Pope Leo To Receive the Liberty Medal

On July 3, on the eve of the nation's 250th Anniversary, the National Constitution Center (NCC) will present Pope Leo XIV with the 38th Annual Liberty Medal. This is the first time that a pope has been the recipient of the award since its inception in 1988.

The Liberty Medal recognizes men and women of courage and conviction who strive to secure the blessings of liberty for people around the world. The honor reflects the values that have shaped Pope Leo's life and leadership: his Augustinian formation, global pastoral experience and American roots.

Fr. Peter Donohue, OSA, PhD, the President of Villanova University, said of the award honoring Pope Leo, "St. Augustine reminds us that meaningful civil discourse begins with respect for one another and a shared search for truth. In honoring our Holy Father, we recognize not only his lifelong witness to the dignity of every person and the common good, but also the deep and enduring connections among our nation's founding ideals, the Augustinian tradition and Catholic Social Teaching."

~ excerpts from Villanova University newsroom press release

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage Arrives in Philadelphia



All ages and walks of life are welcome to join in prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage travels across the country. The Pilgrimage is taking place in [Philadelphia](#) from July 2nd to July 5th. ***Special Note! The Movie "Cabrini" will be screened multiple times on Saturday, July 4th.**

Showings of the Cabrini film will take place at 10:00am, 1:00pm and 3:30pm in Drexel Hall, Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, 1723 Race St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

Please RSVP at this link: <https://themoviescreener.com/cabrini/>.

Cabrini Mission Foundation and the Guadalupe Province Respond to Earthquake Crisis in Venezuela



In the wake of the devastating earthquakes that struck Venezuela on June 24, the Cabrini Mission Foundation, together with the Guadalupe Province of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, has committed \$5,000 in emergency relief to support those affected by this humanitarian crisis.

At 6:04 p.m. local time, a powerful 7.2 magnitude foreshock struck north-central Venezuela, followed less than a minute later by a catastrophic 7.5 magnitude earthquake—the most destructive seismic event the country has experienced in more than a century. Authorities immediately declared a state of emergency as communities were left reeling from widespread destruction.

Early reports indicate that more than 1,700 people have lost their lives, with over thousands still missing. Thousands of families have been forced to spend nights outdoors, fearful of aftershocks and unable to return to damaged homes.



Among those hardest hit are the educational and social service communities served by Jesuit partners, including Fe y Alegría Venezuela, a network of 39 schools

reaching more than 21,200 children and young people through education, school meal programs, and other vital services. Supported by more than 3,000 staff members—including nearly 1,000 teachers—these centers are now facing enormous challenges as buildings have been damaged and operations disrupted.

In these critical first days, Jesuit schools, parishes, social centers, and community partners are conducting rapid assessments and mobilizing emergency assistance, including temporary shelter, food, clean water, healthcare, and protection for vulnerable families.

Through collaboration with local partners on the ground, aid is being directed where it is needed most to help families recover and rebuild. The Cabrini Mission

Foundation's contribution reflects our ongoing commitment to stand with those in crisis and to answer Mother Cabrini's call to serve the most vulnerable.

As this tragedy continues to unfold, we ask for prayers for the people of Venezuela and for all those working tirelessly to bring hope and healing in the midst of devastation. ~ submitted by Caitlin Della Rocca, Director of Communications, Cabrini Mission Foundation

The Update

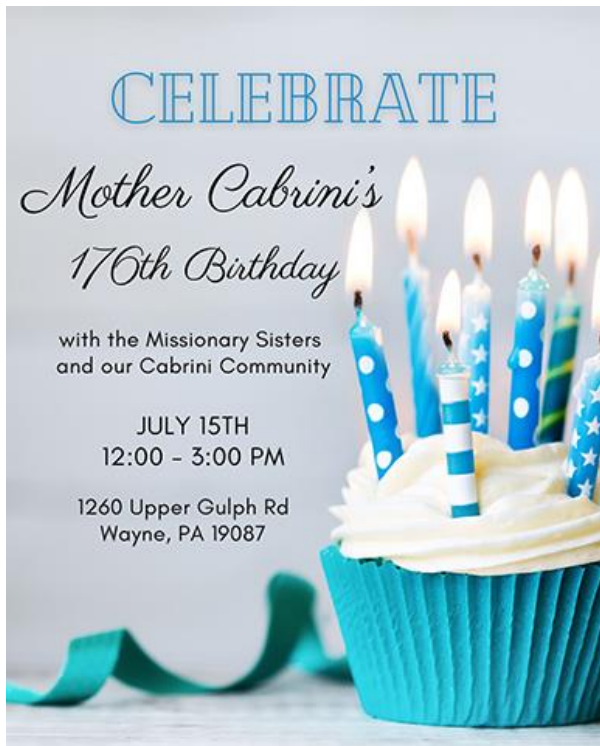
Publication Notice

Next week, due to scheduling in the Province Communications Office, The Update will be published on Wednesday, July 8th instead of Thursday, July 9th.

Kindly email all submissions and prayer requests
by Tuesday, July 7th at noon.

cabrininews@mothercabrini.org ncostello@mothercabrini.org

Thank you for that consideration.



It's Getting Closer!!!

The Guadalupe Province Immigration Commission & the Cabrini University CAVS Alumni Association invite you to honor Mother Cabrini's birthday by supporting immigrant children.

Please consider giving a gift card to Walmart, Target or Giant Foods. Denominations of \$10, \$15, \$20 or \$25 are welcome and will be donated to the social workers of local school districts in Southeast PA who will distribute the gift cards among families in great need.

Join us for birthday cake and friendship at the
Cabrini Cottage on July 15th 12 – 3 pm
Hope to see you there!

Play Ball!

Cabrini Mission Foundation hosts

Annual “Day at the Ballpark” at Yankee Stadium

There’s something special about baseball that can bring people together. On June 20, the Cabrini Mission Foundation hosted its annual *Let’s Play Ball* fundraiser, held this year for the first time in the Bronx at Yankees Stadium.

This year’s event was filled with excitement and memorable firsts. For many of the Missionary Sisters, it was their first visit to the iconic ballpark, making the day even more meaningful.



Supporters, friends, and Sisters gathered in a spirit of joy and fellowship,

Many Missionary Sisters visited Yankee Stadium for the very first time! Enjoying our national past time are: from left, front row: Sr. Sonnia Ossorio, MSC; Sr. Isalia Carvalho, MSC; Sr. Antonina Avitabile, MSC. From left, back: CMF staff members Mariely Martinez, Ellen Cunningham and Sr. Pat Dunleavy, MSC, Sr. Aloysia Morelli, MSC and Sr. Emperatriz Espinoza, MSC.

celebrating not only America’s pastime but also the mission of Mother Cabrini. With hot dogs, warm pretzels, cold drinks, and the energy of a Saturday afternoon game, attendees enjoyed all the traditions that make baseball so beloved. A few home runs, spirited fan chants, and plenty of laughter made for a perfect day at the stadium.



More than just a fundraiser, *Day at the Ballpark* was a reminder of the power of community. Much like baseball itself—a sport where individuals work together for the good of the team—the Foundation’s mission depends on people coming together to support those most in need. Every act of generosity strengthens our ability to carry forward the charism of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini: to heal, teach, and care for the most vulnerable.

It was a winning day in every sense—and one that reminded us all that when we work together, great things are possible. ~ submitted by Caitlin Della Rocca, Director of Communications, CMF

Prayer Requests

Raymond Burke

Our prayers are requested for Raymond Burke, the husband of Bonnie Burke, the Administrator of Cabrini of Westchester. Raymond was admitted to the hospital with respiratory issues. Please pray for his quick recovery and well-being.

Fala Family

Danielle Fala Beken, a Cabrini University alumna, requests prayers for four of her family members who are currently battling cancer. Her family would be thankful for our prayers.

Louie Graiff

Lou's daughter, Carol, asked for prayers for her father, Louie. He is suffering with bad spine problems. They are asking for healing. Both Louie and Carol have worked and volunteered at Mother Cabrini Shrine in Colorado for many years. Many MSCs know them both.

Thomas Hinchin

Please keep Thomas Hinchin, the brother-in-law of Sr. Antonina Avitabile, MSC, in your prayers. He is currently recuperating from his first kidney stone surgery. He is also expecting a second procedure in the near future. Pray that all will be well.

People of Venezuela

Let us pray for the people of Venezuela as they continue to search for survivors of the earthquakes that rocked their nation last week. Let us also be mindful of them as they mourn those who have perished and seek to recover and rebuild their towns and cities after the devastation.

Bill Pierson

Please unite in prayer for Bill Pierson, the husband of former Cabrini University faculty member, Dr. Susan Pierson. Bill suffered a serious stroke earlier this week and remains hospitalized. Please keep Bill and Susan in your prayers at this very stressful time.

In Loving Memory

Carol Reilly

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Carol Reilly, the mother of Dr. Beverly Reilly Bryde, former Dean of the School of Education at Cabrini University. Mrs. Reilly passed away at the age of 91, peacefully, at home. May she rest in God's eternal light. Please keep the Reilly and Bryde Families in your prayers at this sad time.

Prayers for the 250th Anniversary



Loving God, on the 250th Anniversary as a nation, help us to be just, loving, merciful, grateful, compassionate and above all, kind. Help our nation mirror the kind of people we want to be. And, help us to avoid envy, cruelty, violence, boasting, prejudice, nationalism, scapegoating and malice towards anyone. Help us to be loving, as you are, Loving God. Amen.

~ Fr. James Martin, SJ

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas,

You appeared as a mother of hope and unity.

As we celebrate 250 years of our nation, we turn to you as beloved children and ask you to intercede for us with your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray for us, loving Mother,
that God may pour out the Holy Spirit upon our nation and all the Americas—
upon our families and loved ones
so that, by God's grace,
we may rededicate ourselves in building a nation rooted in truth, justice, and love.
May the Holy Spirit teach us to reflect rather than blame,
replace division with unity,
grant wisdom to our leaders,
and kindle compassion for the poor and suffering.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Holy Spirit, come.

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and bless our land.

God our Father, be our strength and our peace. Amen.

~ *Novena prayer for America, [Catholic Scouting](#)*

