



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

THE UPDATE

July 23, 2026

July Celebrations at the National Shrine of St. Cabrini



At the National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini in Chicago, we had a variety of ways in which to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the Canonization and the birthday of Mother Cabrini. We hosted a children's choir from St Mary of the Lake - Our Lady of Lourdes and had a rousing gospel choir from St. Simon of Cyrene Parish.

Fr. Corey Brost, Executive Director of Viator House for Immigrants spoke on the Catholic Church and Immigration.



We had an ethnic food tasting representing Poland, Puerto Rico, Hispanic, Italian and Filipino. And on Sunday, we had a beautiful Mass followed by a dove release in our garden.

What varied and festive ways in which to observe such august occasions.

(Additional photos on following page.)

~ submitted by Laurie Halaska, Executive Director, National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Photos above: On July 15, 1850, the day that Mother Cabrini was born, a flock of doves encircled the family home. In commemoration, at the National Shrine, children sent doves aloft once again.

Sr. Laura Baldini, MSC (lower photo, left) and Shrine guests are clearly enchanted as the doves take flight.



Top photo: The children's choir from St. Mary of the Lake - Our Lady of Lourdes brought their musical talent to celebrate Mother Cabrini.

Middle photo: There is nothing like gospel music to bring festivity and joy. The gospel choir from St. Simon of Cyrene Parish raised the rafters with their soul rousing hymns.

Photo right: Fr. Corey Brost, Executive Director of Viator House for Immigrants spoke on the Catholic Church and Immigration as a part of the celebrations at the National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini.



Immigration in the News



The following are links to articles/podcasts regarding immigration that have recently appeared in Catholic publications and on websites:

[Attacks on human dignity can never be normalized](#)

[More than 100 clergy from across the country stage protest at Delaney Hall](#)

Showtime!



Cabrini Immigrant Services-Dobbs Ferry (CIS-DF) offered a Sharing Stories! Making Movies! Summer Program. Children in Grades 3-7 attended the 3-week program. In addition to helping the students with reading and writing skills, the program helps children expand their imagination and creativity.

Parents and siblings were invited to our 'Movie Premiere' on the last day of the program. Each child stood up, welcomed everyone and then explained the story that they had written and then filmed. The movies were shown on a 'large screen' (Smart Board). After showing their movie, the children answered questions from the audience about their films. Some of the film titles were: Snowy the Penguin, My Friend Ishi, All About Helen Keller and Panky's Pool Day.



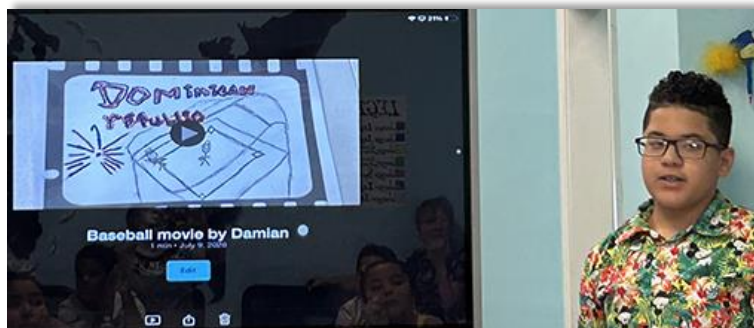
Teacher Anne Marie Santoro (c.) takes a well-deserved bow surrounded by her talented movie directors.



A round of applause for these young filmmakers as they debut their original screenplays!

The celebration ended with pizza and punch. What a great way to end the program!

A special thank you to our teacher, Anne Marie Santoro, who goes above and beyond to help our students learn and succeed. ~ submitted by Lorraine Campanelli, Director, CIS-DF



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!



Our heartfelt appreciation to all those who supported this very special initiative. Bless you!

The MSC Guadalupe Province Immigration Commission and the Cabrini University CAVS Association wish to thank everyone who joined in the celebration of Mother Cabrini's 176th Birthday on July 15th. Once again, this year, you overwhelmed us with your generosity by donating **\$2,566** in gift cards that will be divided equally among the three local school districts in Southeast Pennsylvania that serve large populations of immigrant students.

The social workers in these districts know well the students who are in the dire need and will judiciously distribute the gift cards to their families to assist with food purchases and other essentials.

What a meaningful and impactful way to honor Mother Cabrini on her special day.



Please note: This week's Update will be the final edition for the summer. The Update will resume publication on Thursday, September 3rd. Prayer requests are always welcome and can be submitted to cabrininews@mothercabrini.org and will be published on Thursdays as they are received. Thank you and have a good summer!

Prayer Requests

Thomas Hinch

Your prayers are requested for Thomas Hinch, the brother-in-law of Sr. Antonina Avitabile, MSC, who is currently hospitalized with an infection. Please pray for his swift recovery.

Prayers for a Couple

Please say a prayer for a Pennsylvania husband and wife who recently lost their home, their dog, and all their belongings in a house fire. Pray for their strength and patience as they navigate the negotiations with their insurance and mortgage companies as they seek to recover from this devastating loss. Please pray, too, for their townhome neighbors who have also been temporarily displaced from their homes.

A Summer Blessing

May the long, golden hours of summer slow your pace and lighten your heart.

May the warmth of the summer sun rest gently on your shoulders, washing away the rustle and rush of daily life.

May the soft evening breezes whisper calm into your spirit and may the quiet beauty of these sun-dappled days grant you deep, abiding peace, vibrant rest, and the precious freedom to simply *be*.

Wishing you a season filled with still moments, gentle companionship, and pure relaxation.

