



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

THE UPDATE

October 31, 2024

National Vocations Awareness Week

November 3 – 9, 2024

National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to ordained ministry and consecrated life through prayer, invitation, and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering these vocations.

The National Religious Vocations Conference (NRVC) provides insightful resources for those in vocation ministry and for those who are discerning a religious vocation.



The new interactive vocation resource showcases today's Catholic sisters, nuns, brothers, and priests, the [Bold and Faithful Storymap: Meet Today's Religious](#).



[This storymap](#) is designed for use by individuals considering a religious vocation and for parishes, campuses, and classrooms to promote vocations and connect those in religious life to everyday Catholics. Check it out!

Among the Very Best!



An aerial view of Cabrini of Westchester along the Hudson River in Dobbs Ferry, NY.

Cabrini of Westchester is proud to be recognized by Newsweek as part of its *America's Best Nursing Homes 2025* list. The award is presented by Newsweek in partnership with Statista Inc., a statistics portal and industry-ranking provider.

The list comprises the nation's leading skilled nursing facilities in those

25 states that have the highest number of facilities according to the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The ratings aim to provide families with a clearer view of the quality of care provided by nursing homes. A total of 1,050 top facilities in 25 states were ranked, including 69 of the over 600 nursing homes in New York State.

This comprehensive evaluation is based on five data sources: performance data, a national online survey that included thousands of peer recommendations, management of COVID-19, resident satisfaction, and accreditations.



“For over fifty years, Cabrini of Westchester has provided high-quality, compassionate eldercare to countless individuals,” said Patricia Krasnausky, President and CEO. “Our inclusion on the 2025 Best Nursing Home’s list is a testament to the hard work and dedication that Cabrini’s team provides to the residents each and every day and we are honored to be recognized.”

~ by Susan Herveg, Director of Development and Public Relations, Cabrini of Westchester

A Memorable Day!

On Wednesday, October 23rd, the residents and staff of Cabrini of Westchester enjoyed a visit from the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart's General Superior, Sr. Maria Eliane Azevedo da Silva and General Councilor, Sr. Gilda Mercedes Mendoza Argueta. Accompanied by Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC, Provincial of the Guadalupe Province, Sr. Eliane and Sr. Gilda arrived in time to attend Mass that was celebrated in Cabrini's chapel followed by lunch with the Sisters who are residents of the home. A veritable feast was enjoyed by those in attendance as well as lively and entertaining conversation.



The Missionary Sisters enjoyed a wonderful visit with one another at Cabrini of Westchester.

After lunch, Sr. Eliane, Sr. Gilda and Sr. Diane made their way to visit the Cabrini Immigrant Services program located at a store front in Dobbs Ferry, NY, just a few minutes' drive from the nursing home. As the Sisters arrived, a



The women from the "Knitting Group" engaged in a meaningful conversation with Sisters Eliane, Gilda and Diane.



group of women fondly known as the "Knitting Group" were gathered around a table to greet and interact with the Sisters. The group meets weekly not only to work on improving their English, but sometimes, they knit various items such as blankets and face cloths which are then donated to local charities.

Account continues on the following page.



Sr. Eliane makes a new friend with a youngster from the CIS literacy program.

After the adults left for the day, it was time for the Children's Literacy Program. Several young ones from both pre-K and Kindergarten arrived ready to get to work creating a craft that was based on the children's book, "Bad Apple," by Edward Hemingway. The literacy program is intended to assist the children with their reading skills, improving their English and exposing them to creative arts. Sr. Eliane and Sr. Diane helped the children with the craft project while Sr. Gilda made her own. Lots of fun and laughter were had by all in attendance! ~ submitted by Susan Herveg, Cabrini of Westchester

Thank you Sr. Eliane, Sr. Gilda, and Sr. Diane for a memorable day!



Look at her wonderful smile! Sr. Gilda looks justifiably proud of her apple creation.



The Synod Comes to a Close

Pope Francis will not write an Exhortation

~ by Cindy Wooden for USCCB website

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- After members of the Synod of Bishops approved their final document, Pope Francis announced that he would not write the customary post-synodal apostolic exhortation but would offer the final document to the entire church to implement.

"There are already highly concrete indications in the document that can be a guide for the mission of the churches in the different continents and contexts," he told synod members late Oct. 26. "For that reason, I do not intend to publish an apostolic exhortation. What we have approved is enough," he said. To read more, please click [here](#)

Busy Autumn Days at CIS-NYC



Sharing their hopes and dreams via a Mapa de Sueños".

We're excited to share updates from our programs at Cabrini Immigrant Services! The CIS-NYC Social Services team hosted their first activity group, where participants created a "Mapa de Sueños" (Dream Map), it was an opportunity to visualize and share our goals and aspirations.



Additionally, Social Services organized a family trip to the aquarium over the weekend, taking eight families for a fun and educational day out.



Our Justice for Immigrants (JFI) program recently completed two parts of a three-part leadership training for 7 members, focusing on advocacy work near elections and how our local, state, and federal governments function.



JFI Leadership Training program participants.

The final training will focus on the Unemployment Bridge Program, a campaign we've been working on for several years, which will launch on November 19th.

Please enjoy photos from these three events. ~ submitted by Andrea Sedoris, Community Organizer, CIS-NYC

National Shrine Gala – A *Sparkling* Event!

The National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini held its first fundraiser in three years on October 24, 2024. We welcomed 130 guests to the John B. Murphy Auditorium at the Driehaus Museum. Dr. Murphy was one of the first surgeons hired



Mr. John T. Murphy addresses the Gala audience.

by Mother Cabrini, who eventually became chief of staff at Columbus Hospital. We were honored to have his great nephew, Mr. John T. Murphy, in attendance. It was a wonderful night, celebrating the life and legacy of Mother Cabrini and her extraordinary contribution to the city of Chicago.

Ana Belaval, host of *Around Town* on WGN-TV, graced our event as Master of Ceremonies. The exhilarating evening included highlights of Mother Cabrini's tireless work in Chicago; a thank you to our sponsors;

and a paddle raise supporting the ongoing mission of the National Shrine. We honored Missionary Sisters Joan McGlinchey, Joaquina Costa and Barbara Staley with the Mother Cabrini Life and Legacy award.



Ana Belaval, Master of Ceremonies, introduces Shrine benefactor Mary O'Neil.



National Shrine Executive Director Laurie Halaska (l.) and her husband, Christopher, chat with Ana Belaval.

The night was extremely successful and great fun. A spirit of love and generosity filled the room. [The donations] will enable the National Shrine to continue to provide a sacred space for Masses and liturgical celebrations, pilgrimages, and service initiatives such as Uncle Pete's

lunches, our back-to-school backpack initiative, Chicago Street medicine, and more. Mother Cabrini's legacy is more alive than ever, and it is with gratitude and renewed commitment that we move forward with Mother Cabrini's own most cherished belief: "We can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us."

~ submitted by Kim Sorenson, Social Media Coordinator, National Shrine of St. F.X. Cabrini

Musical Charity: Voices Unite for Refugees



Cabrini Choir and St. Joseph's Music Ministry's Soiree at Cabrini Chapel Malvern raised \$2400 for the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project.

The event, attended by 180 people, continues a decade-long tradition of support.

Sr. Brigid Arthur praised the arts' role in creating a better world.

The collaboration aligns with St. Frances Cabrini's mission as Patron

Saint of Immigrants. Cabrini Outreach also supports refugees through their Health Hub in Northcote. ~ submitted by Margaret Stewart, Group Director, Identity and Mission, Cabrini Health



The Cabrini Chapel was filled with music to benefit the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project.

One Minute Meditation

For All Saints Day

The French writer Leon Bloy famously said that "the only real sadness, the only real failure, the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint." We desire to be saints because that is God's desire for us.

The saints were not perfect, they were holy. There is a difference. There are many paths to holiness. Some people know that their charism is to be clean of heart or poor in spirit. But most of us stumble onto a path through circumstance. We mourn the death of someone we deeply loved or a relationship shattered by betrayal. We hunger and thirst for righteousness.

A great cloud of witnesses testifies to the glories that come to those who persevere. So let us walk our sacred path with confident trust that the God who created and redeemed us is longing for us to arrive at the mansion that was prepared for us since the beginning of time. ~ Rachele Linner



All Saints Day

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1st.

Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints'

Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church.

In Mexico and Central America, the Day of the Dead holy days extend from October 31 through November 2. ~ *Catholic Online*

All Souls Day

Known liturgically as the "Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed", All Souls' Day is often seen as a continuation and extension of the All Saints' Day observances conducted the day before. While All Saints' Day is dedicated to those who are in heaven, All Souls' Day is a day of prayer for those who have died but have not yet reached heaven. The custom of placing lit candles on the graves of deceased relatives on All Saints' Day often continues into All Souls' Day. ~ *Catholic Online*



The Feast Day of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini is November 13th.

As we approach the Feast Day of our Patroness, please join us in praying a novena to Mother Cabrini.

The novena can be found [here](#)

Let us unite our hearts and our prayers with all those in the Cabrinian community as we seek the guidance and intercession of our Patroness.



Prayer Requests

National Religious Vocations Conference Convocation

From October 31st – November 4th, the members of the National Religious Vocations Conference will be gathering in St. Paul, MN, for their Convocation. Please pray that their time together will be a time of prayer, education, networking, friendship, and grace.

Prayer for Election Day

As the United States holds its Election Day on Tuesday, November 5th, we pray, O Lord, that your hand will guide the campaigns and the elections themselves, that they will be free and fair and that all candidates will graciously accept the results. We pray for a peaceful transfer of power.

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father,
we thank you for calling women and men to serve in your Son's Kingdom
as consecrated persons, priests, and deacons.

Send your Holy Spirit to help others respond generously and
courageously to your call.

May our community of faith support vocations of our youth and young
adults.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Happy Halloween!

