

# We Give Great Thanks

Good and gracious God,  
as people gather together this Thanksgiving,  
we pause from the routine of our daily lives  
to give special thanks and praise  
for the abundant blessings you have bestowed upon us.

You have entrusted us with the wonders of your creation  
and given us the freedoms and opportunities  
to creatively collaborate in your divine plan.

Bless all who gather in your name.  
Give us the grace to be good stewards of your bounty,  
the courage to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed,  
and the generosity to return all to you with increase.

Grant that those who are blessed with abundance,  
never close their hearts to those most in need of your mercy,  
particularly the hungry, the homeless, the poor, and  
those who traverse the earth in search of a better life.

Bless our loved ones, family and friends.  
This we ask through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your son  
who lives and reigns with you, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.



# A Life Inspired by Mother Cabrini

~Fairfield County Catholic

When Lucille Souza was a high school freshman in Burbank, California, the idea crossed her mind that maybe, just maybe, she might be called to the religious life. Her parents, who were immigrants from Portugal, worked hard to make a good life for their family, and they sent her to a school run by Mother Cabrini's Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"I was very active in school," she recalled. "I played sports and did all different kinds of things. I never really thought of entering the convent until my freshman year when I kind of had this calling."



Sr. Lucille Souza, MSC

When she was growing up, her mother always asked, "Don't you want to become a sister?" And Lucille would promptly repond, "No, I don't! Don't even talk about it!"

But, by senior year, the desire became very, very strong, largely inspired by the example of sisters in her school.

"Then, when I told my mother I wanted to enter the convent, she said, 'Oh no! Don't even talk about it!'" She was not happy with her daughter's decision, but her father was.

And so, at 18 years old, right out of high school, she entered the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and within a month she was teaching second grade at a school in Brooklyn, NY.

Recalling the sisters who inspired her, she said, "I knew this is what I wanted because I saw the sisters interacting with one another and how they loved each other and how they reached out to us girls, not just for the academics, but for our personal lives, and to help us grow and know Christ. That's what really motivated me."

Today, years later, after dedicating her life to the order, Sr. Lucille Souza, MSC has accomplished many things through the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the example of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, the Patroness of Immigrants and the first American citizen saint.

Sister recently spoke at the Cabrini Mass at Sacred Heart Church, which is sponsored by Catholic Charities of Fairfield County, CT. It commemorates the Italian-American founder of the religious order, who supported immigrants throughout the United States and established 67 institutions, including schools, orphanages and hospitals that cared for the poor and marginalized.

"Mother's message today is as it has been throughout her whole life and that is love – bringing the love of Christ to the whole world," Sr. Lucille said. "That is the message the Missionary Cabrini Sisters bring to the world. Bringing that love means feeding the poor and reaching out to those in hardship. Mother really had a devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and that is the devotion and charism she has passed on to us."

Mother's deep love of the Sacred Heart is what propelled her to do everything she did. It was that love of him that he shared with her and, and she reciprocated that love to people she met along the way. "That is what we are trying to do today through that same love, that same going out of ourselves to give to others, especially those who are in dire straits," she said.

To read the entire article, please click [here](#)

## Feast Day Celebrations on the Mountaintop



Fr. John Lager, OFM, Cap. celebrates Mass at the Mother Cabrini Shrine on the Feast Day.

With grateful and joyful hearts, the Missionary Sisters, staff and community of volunteers, friends, and donors at Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, Colorado celebrated the feast day of St. Frances Cabrini on November 13.

The chapel was full as we celebrated Mass, followed by the blessing of our new gift shop and of course, a festive reception with refreshments.

Fr. John Lager, O.F.M., Cap., long-time friend of the Shrine and Missionary Sisters, wrote a guest article for the Denver Catholic about what the Shrine means to him, and how the renovations that the Shrine is undergoing honors the legacy of Mother Cabrini by looking to the future.

To read Fr. John's article please click [here](#)

Also, in honor of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mother's canonization, Denver's Archbishop Aquila granted a partial indulgence for all who visit the Shrine over the next year.

To see the official decree please click [here](#)  
~ submitted by JoAnn Seaman, Mother Cabrini Shrine



From left: Shrine Administrator Jeff Lewis, Shrine volunteer Julie Swint, Fr. John Lager, OFM, Cap. and Shrine volunteer Lloyd Swint gather for the blessing of the new gift shop at the Mother Cabrini Shrine.

## VOICES for the VOICELESS

On Monday, November 15, not even the cold, blustery weather could dampen the Cabrini spirit. Students from Cabrini University's ECG 200,

Voices for the Voiceless class, spoke during a walk throughout campus where a number of "stations" were designated that focused on different topics around human trafficking. Many sports teams' members and their coaches attended, as well as, other students, staff and friends from the University. Many of these students will engage with human trafficking victims through their future careers and may be the first contact victims have. They will know the signs to recognize victims and know what to do about it. Our students have pledged to continue raising awareness and educate everyone they can to be part of ending human trafficking.

~Cabrini Action and Advocacy Coalition and ECG 200 Voice for Voiceless-Anti-Human Trafficking Class



Karol Brewer, (L.) Chair, Cabrini Action and Advocacy Coalition and Cindy Ross (R.) adjunct faculty, mentored the students in coordinating this compelling presentation.



# Cause for Celebration at Cabrini High!

Friday, November 12, was a special day on Cabrini High School's campus.



**Photo above:** Cabrini High School Principal Yvonne Hrapmann (l.) and Cabrini High School President Jack Truxillo (r.) offer their congratulations to Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC as she accepts her award for service.

**Photos below and right:** Members of the Classes of 1970 and 1971 celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> reunions and received a beautifully designed commemorative pin to mark the occasion.

In preparation for Mother Cabrini's Feast Day, the school hosted a wonderful celebration of the Eucharist where Sister Renee Kittelson, MSC, was awarded for her service at Cabrini High.

Additionally, a new tradition was born. The 50-year graduates (classes of '70 and '71) joined us in honoring our patron saint and received a special pin to commemorate their golden anniversary.



**Thank you for all you've done, Sister Renee!  
And congratulations to the 50-year graduates!**

# COP26 Climate Summit Made Progress But, Came Up Short re: Catholic Agencies

~ Brian Roewe, *EarthBeat*, National Catholic Reporter

The United Nations climate summit known as COP26 took some steps forward in the global effort to rapidly limit dangerous levels of warming, but not nearly enough or fast enough, say Catholic groups who were present in Glasgow throughout the two-week conference.



Catholics take part in a march of more than 100,000 people on November 6 through the streets of Glasgow calling for stronger and more urgent action from world leaders to address climate change. *Laudato Si' Movement*

Its final document, the Glasgow Climate Pact, showed signs of progress, with countries asked to deliver new plans to cut greenhouse emissions by next year, movement on “loss and damage” and the first-ever mention – in 26 years of these proceedings – of the need to reduce the use of fossil fuels.

But, for many, the ambition exhibited by nations, near the start of a decade scientists say is critical to avoid catastrophic climate change, was less than expected and overall disheartening.

The COP has yet again failed to deliver real ambitious action and transformation,” Josianne Gauthier, Secretary General of CIDSE, a network of Catholic development agencies, said in a statement. “This is a missed opportunity to change course and reach an inclusive economic system that supports healthy and thriving ecosystems and protects human rights and dignity for all.”

“COP26 has not been a disaster – but not a success either. Some would call it a ‘compromise’ or a ‘balanced outcome,’ Lorna Gold, Board Chair of the Laudato Si’ Movement, told *EarthBeat*. “Sadly, a rapidly changing climate does not react to such human excuses. Climate reacts only to action – scientifically, verifiable reductions. We are still a long way off from that.”

To read the complete article, please click [here](#)

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## Santa Cabrini Hospital, Montreal, Canada – A Significant Milestone



Although no longer a presence there now, for many years, the Missionary Sisters served as the religious sponsors of Santa Cabrini Hospital in Montreal, Canada. Many MSCs served there as administrators and nurses, among them Sr. Grace Waters, MSC and the late Sr. Joan Marie Sariti, MSC.

Recently, the hospital celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. On this special occasion Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC, Provincial, sent greetings to the hospital staff. Ms. Irene Giannetti, a former hospital administrator, who orchestrated the anniversary celebration shares that Sr. Diane’s much appreciated message has been translated into French and Italian and was circulated during the celebrations. Ms. Giannetti shares this link which highlights the history of the institution. To view, please click [here](#)

# LOVE in Action

## A Spotlight on the Cabrinian Outreach for Immigrants

### Please Mark Your Calendars

Please join us in December for the third and final webinar in this series on immigration. Sponsored by:

**The National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Chicago, IL  
in collaboration with  
Cabrini Retreat Center, Des Plaines, IL**

**WEDNESDAY, December 1, 2021**

**11:00 am EDT/ 10:00 am CDT/ 9:00 am MDT/8:00 am PDT**

### The Art of Storytelling – Uniting Immigrants and Elders Cabrini Immigrant Services-Dobbs Ferry and St. Cabrini Nursing Home

Depression, anxiety and isolation are becoming more prevalent especially during COVID. Immigrants and nursing home residents are also experiencing these feelings. This webinar, which brings together immigrants and elders, will demonstrate how through storytelling and discussion, there has been an improvement in their quality of life. Participants will listen to a storyteller present a story and participate in a discussion about the book.

Presenters:



#### **Lorraine Campanelli, MS, MSW**

Lorraine Campanelli is the Director of Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY. She holds a BS in Elementary Education; a MS in Education (Reading Specialist) and a Master of Social Work. She has postgraduate certificates in spiritual direction, health care management, and health care ministry leadership. She has taught on elementary and college levels. She serves on advisory boards for social work schools and on various community boards. She is also a field supervisor for social work interns.



#### **Deborah Mosley, MA**

Deborah Mosley is a certified dietitian-nutritionist and trained storyteller. She has worked for the NYS Department Health, Division of Nutrition, Public Health Nutritionist, Chronic Disease Prevention and Adult Health. She volunteers as a storyteller in schools in Westchester County, NY. She is currently involved in adult literacy and the STARS (StoryTelling, Art, Reading and Socialization) for Kids program as well as the Expressive Arts: Improving the Well-Being of Adult Immigrants and Elderly Nursing Home Residents at Cabrini Immigrant Services in Dobbs Ferry, NY.

**Please note: If you are unable to join the webinars at the scheduled times, they will be recorded and the link will be available in The Update, [www.cabrinationalshrine.org](http://www.cabrinationalshrine.org) and on the National Shrine page of the [www.mothercabrini.org](http://www.mothercabrini.org) – Click [here](#)**

### **Missed the previous LOVE in Action webinars?**

**To view a recording of the webinar on Cabrini Immigrant Services, Dobbs Ferry, NY, please click [here](#)**

**To view a recording of the webinar on Cabrini Immigrant Services, NYC, please click [here](#)**





## You're Invited!

*The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
& Cabrini Mission Foundation Board of Trustees  
invite you to celebrate the Spirit of Christmas at the  
Flatiron Room Thursday, December 16th*

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**When:** December 16th, 2021  
(Thursday) 6:30-9:30 p.m.

**Where:** The Flatiron Room  
37 W 26th St, New York  
(Between 5th & 6th Avenues)

**Enjoy:** Food, drinks, dessert, open  
seating, and more!

*Tickets limited to 100 guests.*





*Each week, during the season of Advent, one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLM) will offer a reflection. This week's reflection is by Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director.*

## First Sunday in Advent

Sunday, November 28, 2021

Another season of Advent has begun. It's hard to believe that we are ready to begin our preparation for the birth of our Lord and Savior. Advent, a time of sacred waiting. It seems like for the past almost-2 years, all we have done is wait. We continue to wait for the end of COVID-19, we wait to be mask-free, we waited for a vaccine. Although we continue to wait for an end to COVID, we have received the gift of a vaccine and also a booster. And now, as Christians, we are again asked to wait. We know who we are waiting for and we also know that at the end of Advent, Jesus will be born.



Our faith tells us that Jesus will be born on Christmas Day. It seems like the waiting is easier because we know the outcome. Our faith tells us that God is with us. Yet, waiting for things like the end of COVID seems to test our belief, our faith.



In Mark 9:24, the father of a child possessed by an unclean spirit cries out to Jesus and says, "I believe Lord, help my unbelief." Perhaps, this Advent, we can reflect on our reliance on God. Was my faith weakened during COVID? Did I trust that God was with me? As we pray the psalm response this Sunday, "To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul," let us also pray that as we lift up our soul, we ask the Lord to not only strengthen our belief but help our unbelief.

~ Lorraine Campanelli, CLM Director

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## Prayer Requests

### ***Richard (Dan) Eury***

Please unite in prayer for Richard (Dan) Eury, the father of Brian Eury, Chief of Staff, at Cabrini University. Mr. Eury sustained a nasty fall last evening. Brian and his family would be grateful for prayers of healing for his father and the strength to make decisions about his father's future well-being.

### ***Peter Matera***

Prayers are requested for Peter Matera of West Park, NY, who is intensive care and on a ventilator battling Covid. He is at Vassar Hospital in Poughkeepsie. Pete and his family all contracted Covid, but Pete's condition worsened and he needed to be hospitalized and his condition kept deteriorating. His wife, Jennifer, and two children are also in need of prayers as they are trying to handle all of this. Pete's family has been connected to the MSCs in West Park for a couple of generations.



# In Loving Memory

## *Adrienne O'Brien, PhD*

It is with deep sadness that we mourn the passing of Adrienne O'Brien, PhD. Dr. O'Brien, age 85, peacefully passed away on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Cabrini of Westchester in Dobbs Ferry, NY, after a courageous battle with anaplastic thyroid cancer. She was cared for by sister Madeleine O'Brien Guarnieri and her brother-in-law Bruno Guarnieri.

She was born on November 19, 1935, grew up in Manhattan, the daughter of the late John Robert O'Brien, Sr. and Regina Crescentia Murphy.

Adrienne attended Mother Cabrini Elementary School and as a scholarship student at Mother Cabrini High School in New York. She graduated from Hunter College. She completed two Master of Arts, one in Political Science and the second in Educational Administration at Villanova University. She pursued doctoral studies at the University of Southern California and completed her PhD at Syracuse University.

A former Missionary Sister, her students knew her as Mother Gregory. As a Missionary Sister, along with Mother Aloysius, Adrienne helped to found Cabrini High School in New Orleans. She taught at Mother Cabrini High School in New York and at Cabrini High School as well as Cabrini University in Radnor, PA.

For two decades, Dr. O'Brien shared the companionship and love of her late husband Dr. David Salten who passed away in 2006. She later befriended Donald Barton who passed away in October of this year.

A Memorial Mass will be planned for a later date in Canandaigua, NY

*~ written by Adrienne O'Brien, PhD*

Dr. O'Brien remained close to the Missionary Sisters throughout her life.

*May God wrap his loving arms around you and hold you in His love. Rest in Peace, Adrienne.*

Condolences contributions may be made to:

Finger Lakes Community College      OR  
3325 Marvin Sands Drive  
Canandaigua, NY 14424



Cabrini High School  
1400 Moss Street  
New Orleans, LA 70119