

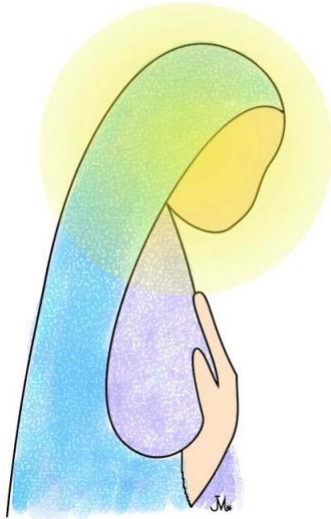


May 9, 2024

## May the Month of Mary, Our Blessed Mother

The tradition of dedicating the month of May to Mary, came about in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. This month is the time when spring is at the height of its beauty. Spring is also connected with nature renewing itself. In her way, Mary gave new life to the world when she gave birth to our savior Jesus Christ.

The link between Mary and the month of May become popular among the members of the Jesuit Order. Shortly after 1700, it was publicly celebrated in the Gesu Church in Rome. From there the practice of honoring Mary during the month of May spread throughout the rest of the Catholic Church.



Honoring Mary during this month has been especially promoted by the popes. Devotion to Mary is an important aspect of the Catholic identity. As our mother, Mary is an example of a committed “Yes” to the will of God. Because of the devotion to her many people invoke her help in the most difficult moments of their lives, as children do with their mother. ~ *Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation*

Mary receives an important role in Pope Francis’ *Amoris Laetitia* – The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family. Pope Francis says, “the treasury of Mary’s heart contains the experiences of every family, which she cherishes. For this reason, she can help us understand the meaning of these experiences and to hear the message God wishes to communicate through the life of our families.” Pope Francis reminds us that by honoring Mary, we honor Jesus and our families. ~ *Catholic Apostolate Center*

As we prepare to observe Mother’s Day on this Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, let us give thanks for our mothers – living and deceased. We thank God for their sacrificial love and ask the Good Lord to uplift them on their special day. We give thanks for the gift they are in our lives. In Your name we pray. Amen. ~ *Hallow*

# CABRINI Comes to Dobbs Ferry, NY



It's show time! Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> was a sensational day at Cabrini of Westchester! A special showing of the movie, "Cabrini" released in theaters on March 8<sup>th</sup> was shown to the residents of the nursing home, thanks to the movie's producers! There was excitement in the air as residents and their families gathered in Cabrini's chapel to watch this brilliant film about the life of Mother Cabrini.

Zachary DeCarlo, a member of the "Cabrini" movie team and a relative of the producer, Eustace Wolfington, spearheaded the efforts in bringing the film to the nursing home and coordinated with the Administration and Information Technology Departments to have a large screen, projector and

speakers delivered for the viewing.

He shared the story about how Mr. Wolfington was inspired to create the movie and his devotion to Mother Cabrini throughout the years.

"Eustace encountered Mother Cabrini as a 23-year-old man in Philadelphia. In his search for a church where he could attend Mass, he discovered St. Donato's Parish where the pastor was offering a novena to Mother Cabrini. Thus began his lifelong commitment to following her teachings which culminated in the production of this wonderful movie."



L-R. Richard Van Fossen, Bonnie Burke, and Zach DeCarlo pose with a beautifully framed poster for the "Cabrini" movie.

Heartfelt applause resounded throughout the chapel at the conclusion of the movie. Those who were unable to attend the showing in the chapel were able to watch the film in the comfort of their rooms via television.

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Fr. Ron Galt, Vice President of Mission and Pastoral Care, coordinated a "Post Cabrini Movie Conversation" where a number of residents and staff gathered in

the chapel to share their thoughts about how the movie impacted them not only as an individual, but as a member of the Cabrini family.



Sr. Xavier Hayden, MSC (l.) and Sr. Mary Lou Andes, MSC (r.) were thrilled to see the CABRINI film right in Dobbs Ferry, NY at Cabrini of Westchester.

“It was inspiring how courageous and smart Mother Cabrini was! She would not take “no” for an answer!” exclaimed resident, Justin Vaccaro.

“Watching her voyages back and forth to Italy reminded me of how my grandmother came to this country and what she had to endure on the ship that brought her here,” said volunteer and family member Joyce Devons.

Sr. Veronica Piccone, MSC, was in attendance to share her insight and provide background information to the events that took place in the movie. When asked what she would say to Mother Cabrini if she had the chance to speak with her today, she said, “I would say, Mother Cabrini, you bought this property here in Dobbs Ferry to care for orphans. Today, it’s a

beautiful nursing home where I’m sure you would be proud of the excellent care that the residents receive each and every day.”

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







# Lights! Camera! *Action!*

Cabrini Immigrant Services (CIS), Dobbs Ferry, NY, held a program for children in Grades 3-10. Sharing

Stories! Making Movies! was piloted in the Summer of 2023. It was such a success that we decided to offer the program in the Fall and the Spring.

Anne Marie Santoro created Sharing Stories! Making Movies! Through her company, From the Heart Communications, she designs educational media that nourishes the best in the human spirit.

The purpose of this program is to help children strengthen and expand their imagination and creativity and to deepen their enjoyment of reading, writing, and collaborating. As the students tell, write, storyboard and film their own stories, their confidence grows. On the last day of the program, the parents were invited to join the children at the 'premiere' of their movies. Each child stood up and welcomed everyone and then explained the story they wrote and filmed. Their movies were shown on the 'large screen' Smart Board. Some students filmed their stories with pictures and words, others used only pictures and sound effects, and some had all three components. After watching the movie, each child responded to audience questions and comments.

The parents were thrilled to experience the joy their children had sharing their creative expression. We have watched the children mature over this time as they became more confident in their writing, presentation and collaboration skills,

Thank you to the Carvel Foundation for their generous grant which has allowed us to offer this program. ~ submitted by Lorraine Campanelli, CIS Director



**Photo above:** These young brothers - future movie directors - take their story telling projects very seriously. Here they are reviewing one of their films.

**Photo below:** Parents of the movie-makers were invited to the premiere and are obviously delighted with the results!



# Cabrini High School Spring Traditions

## 2024 Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart Awards



Crowning Mary during the month of May is a much beloved rite of spring at Cabrini High School.

Springtime always brings a flurry of events and traditional activities at schools. At Cabrini High School in New Orleans, they recently held the May Crowning Mass where they announced three groups of awards to our school community members.

The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart Awards pays homage to five of our Missionary Sisters whose dedication and influence have touched so many at Cabrini High and who

have contributed so much to the development of our school as the outstanding academic institution it is today. **The Mother Christine Perazzoli Award, the Sister Catherine Garry Award, the Sister Victoria Dority Award, the Sister Alice Zanon Award and the Sister Catherine DeFranco Awards** are among the awards presented to deserving students.

The **Mother Cabrini and Little Violet Awards** are two of the most coveted awards presented annually. Any faculty or staff member or member of the senior class may nominate students for these awards.

The Mother Cabrini Award nominees are Coco Harris, Noelle Haydel, Marley Marsalis, Olivia Montecino, Bree Naquin, and Alex Rutledge.



Mother Cabrini Award nominees pause for a photo with Cabrini High School Principal Yvonne Hrapmann.



These students being congratulated by Cabrini High School Principal Yvonne Hrapmann are the recipients of the Little Violet Award.

excellence of themselves and encourage excellence in their colleagues. This award was given to Lisa Howley Dubus '81, Gwen Ryan, and Ann Smart.

The “Cabrinian Educator” honor is awarded to a teacher who embrace the

vocation of educating the minds and hearts of our students, and who model our core values of respect, excellence, and service by exhibiting sound moral and professional behavior, by demonstrating a passion for his or her subject matter, and by working as an advocate for the entire Cabrini community. This year’s recipient is Kasey Laird Dennies '08. ~ submitted by Kristen Nicholson, Cabrini High School

The Little Violet Award nominees received a statue of Mother Cabrini. The 2024 nominees are: Claire Buie, Sabine Noveh, and Maci Williams.

The “Co-Worker in the Vineyard” honor is awarded annually to teachers or staff members who demonstrate support of the Academic Program, who manifest professionalism in their areas of responsibility, and who demand



At Cabrini High School, faculty members are instrumental in forming their students in myriad ways. CHS Principal Yvonne Hrapmann (r.) congratulates (l-r) Lisa Howley Dubus, '81, Gwen Ryan and Ann Smart on their “Co-Worker in the Vineyard” honors.





## *From the Guadalupe Province Vocations Team...*

*The Spring 2024 edition of the HORIZON Journal of the National Religious Vocations Conference focuses on Latino cultural patterns. In this week's Update and in ensuing week's segments, we bring you an article that spotlights the Latino culture as it pertains to vocational call.*

### 'Must Knows' of Latino Culture

#### *Encountering Hispanics*



Meet Antonio, Jennifer, Jose, and Juliana. Both Antonio and Jennifer were born in the United States and are in their early 20s. Antonio's parents are from Mexico, but he feels closer to the U.S. dominant culture, while Jennifer feels closer to her Mexican roots. Jose is in his 30s, was born in the Dominican Republic, and migrated to the U.S. as a young adult. He speaks Spanish and is learning English. Juliana is in her 40s, was born in Brazil, and speaks Portuguese. She, too, is learning English.

Although all these individuals are Latinos and share some basic cultural traits, their individual cultural identities differ. These candidates may each need a slightly different kind of accompaniment. Some Latinos discerning religious life in the U.S. were born and raised here like Antonio and Jennifer, but others migrated to the U.S. as children or adults like Jose and Juliana. The acquisition of cultural self-awareness helps both the minister and aspirants to understand how their cultures influence their interaction and the outcome of the discernment process.

The image of an iceberg is a popular way to explore basic cultural categories. Culture is similar to an iceberg, which has an external tip that is observable, and a larger internal part that is not observable. The external part of culture involves observable aspects, such as food, dress, music, sports, architecture, and so on. The internal, unobservable aspects involve values, attitudes, and worldviews.

Even though the discerners described above may have different personalities, they are likely to share basic cultural traits with Hispanics who have similar backgrounds. At the same time, it is important to note that culture is dynamic and is influenced by many factors including education, friends, occupation, and environment. This is why even siblings assume slightly different cultural identities.

*Next week: Language*

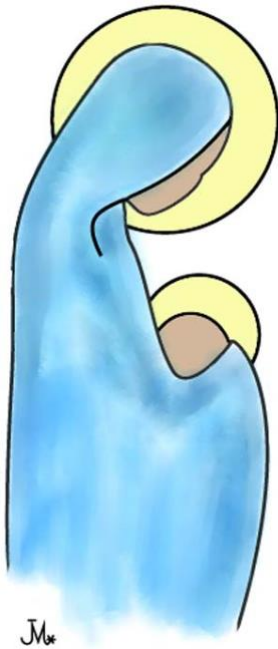
# Prayer Requests

## *For all mothers*

For all mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers and motherlike figures in our lives, may God bless them abundantly, we ask God's blessing upon them.

## *Sr. Lucille Souza, MSC*

Your prayers are invited for Sr. Lucille who continues to recover from recent surgery. Your prayerful accompaniment would be most appreciated.



## A Prayer for Mothers

"Almighty God, we ask Your blessing on each mother on Mother's Day. Fill their hearts with laughter and joy. Surround them with love from family and friends. Grant them health, peace, and fulfillment as they pursue their calling. Let them know their value and worth in Your eyes and ours. In Jesus' name, Amen."