



Spotlight Lesson 3  
Saint Helen's Grades 5-8  
Social Justice/Mother  
Cabrini

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# Welcome and Rules for Livestream

- ▶ Have Fun!!
- ▶ Learn something from this event
- ▶ The chat room is to be used sparingly. You are welcomed to greet each other but during the session we request that it not be used unless we ask you to use it.
- ▶ Chat will be monitored by Saint Helen's staff
- ▶ Please like this video and subscribe to our channel. Also forward this to someone who may need this in their lives.

# Intro Video

Live from the Shrine

# Opening Prayer

## Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

God of life and love, In every time and place you call your people to serve you. No one is too young to praise you; no one is too old to respond to your call. Help us answer your call with all of our hearts, turning away from sin to follow Christ's example. Show us how to share the Good News with others in our words and in our deeds.

Through Christ Our Lord,

Amen

(Liturgy Training Publications - Celebrating the Lectionary for Junior High Year C)

# Today's Lesson

- ▶ Today we will challenge you to think beyond your family, school and community.
- ▶ Some of the terms and concepts are big and can be difficult to understand.
- ▶ Parents, we ask that you watch and help explain some of these ideas/concepts with your child post lesson.
- ▶ Go deeper by looking up Catholic Social teaching from Catholic websites such as the USCCB, Ascension Press, Our Sunday Visitor or visit the Mother Cabrini website <https://www.mothercabrini.org>

## Goals of the Lesson

- ▶ R.O.C.S. - The life of St. Frances (Mother) Cabrini
- ▶ Learn about Catholic social teaching on compassion for all people and all stages of life.

# R.O.C.S. - St. Frances Cabrini

## Mother Cabrini

### Who is Frances Cabrini?

The youngest of thirteen children, Frances Cabrini was born on July 15, 1850 in a small village called S'ant Angelo Lodigiano near the city of Milan, Italy. She grew up enthralled by the stories of missionaries and made up her mind to join a religious order. Because of her frail health, she was not permitted to join the Daughters of the Sacred Heart who had been her teachers and under whose guidance she obtained her teaching certificate.



# Mother Cabrini

- ▶ In 1880, with seven young women, Frances founded the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She was as resourceful as she was prayerful, finding people who would donate what she needed in money, time, labor and support. She and her sisters wanted to be missionaries in China; she visited Rome to obtain an audience with Pope Leo XIII. The Pope told Frances to go *“not to the East, but to the West”* to New York rather than to China as she had expected. She was to help the thousands of Italian immigrants already in the United States.

# Mother Cabrini

- ▶ In 1889, New York seemed to be filled with chaos and poverty, and into this new world stepped Mother Frances Cabrini and her sister companions. Cabrini organized catechism and education classes for the Italian immigrants and provided for the needs of the many orphans. She established schools and orphanages despite tremendous odds.
- ▶ Soon, requests for her to open schools came to Frances Cabrini from all over the world. She traveled to Europe, Central and South America and throughout the United States. She made 23 trans-Atlantic crossings and established 67 institutions: schools, hospitals and orphanages.

# Mother Cabrini

- ▶ Her activity was relentless until her death. On December 22, 1917, in Chicago, she died. In 1946, she was canonized a saint by Pope Pius XII in recognition of her holiness and service to mankind and was named Patroness of Immigrants in 1950.
- ▶ Today the Missionary Sisters, their lay collaborators and volunteers work as teachers, nurses, social workers, administrators and members of institutional boards of trustees. They can be found on six continents and 17 countries throughout the world – wherever there is a need.
- ▶ <https://www.mothercabrini.org/who-we-are/mother-cabrini/>

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“Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ, and therefore, is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family. ”

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# Catholic Social Teaching

- Promote and Defend Human Dignity
- Attend to the Whole Person
- Care for the Poor and Vulnerable Persons
- Promote the Common Good (**the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily**)
- Act on Behalf of Justice
- Steward Resources
- Act in Communion with the Church
- ▶ Catholic social teaching is based on and inseparable from our understanding of human life and human dignity. Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ, and therefore, is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family.

# What is Immigration?

- ▶ Immigration is **the process of moving to a new country, with plans to live there permanently**. People who move to a new country are called immigrants. But from the point of view of the old country, those same people are called emigrants—people who move away permanently.
- ▶ What are 3 reasons for immigration?
- ▶ People may choose to immigrate for a variety of reasons, such as **employment opportunities, to escape a violent conflict, environmental factors, educational purposes, or to reunite with family**.
- ▶ Sometimes people must leave their home country because of war and move to a new safer place. But they may not always be welcomed by the people who live there.

# Questions for Today

1. How do we respond to the teachings of today's lesson?
2. Talk to your parents/grandparents about their lives. Did anyone from your family come from a different country? What were their struggles or successes?
3. As a middle school student, how can you be like Mother Cabrini?
4. Can you help someone with homework or learning a sport?
5. Can you help collect goods to help families who need school supplies or childcare products like diapers or toothpaste/brushes? (This will be our December Project!)
6. How can you treat new people with respect and dignity?
7. Have you ever been the stranger in a new school or joined a new team? What was that like? Did everyone make you feel welcomed?
8. Have you ever traveled outside of the United States? Where did you go? What was that like?
9. Have you ever had to take care of someone who is sick? Was it hard or easy to do?
10. How can you support kids that have had to leave their home countries and are here in the USA?

# Wins and Spins

- ▶ Think about one really-good thing that happened to you today. (A Win)
- ▶ Type your “Win” for the day in the chat or talk with your parents about it.
- ▶ Think about one thing that did not go your way today or a mistake you made or something that made you feel sad, anxious or just not right.
- ▶ Talk about what did not go right for you and see if you can Spin the bad situation into something positive or what you can learn from that situation. Think of a bible story or something Jesus did to help you with this.
- ▶ TIP - Use the term “What Would Jesus Do” to help you when making suggestions to each other. Also think about a piece of scripture that may help someone with their situation.

# Announcements

- ▶ Thank you to everyone who came out to our GAIM Time mass and youth day! Thanks to all the PM and to Patti Gardner for all their help.
- ▶ Next Spotlight is 12/4
- ▶ Next Large Group is our Trivia/Advent session. (12/12-14) One parent needs to attend. All students are asked to bring diapers size 3 to 6 and or baby wipes. All the products I will bring to Mercy House in Newark.
- ▶ Next GAIM Mass is 12/18
- ▶ Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

# Closing Prayer

Prayer to Mother Cabrini, Patron Saint of Immigrants:

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini,  
woman of God, disciple of Christ,  
you offered the people you met the gifts of life and love  
by responding to their physical, emotional  
and spiritual needs in practical and creative ways.  
Inspired by your confidence in God  
and your compassion, love and sense of justice,  
we ask you to accompany us as we work  
to respond to the urgent needs of our sisters and brothers  
fleeing their home countries in search of refuge and peace.  
Teach us. Pray for us.

Amen.

—Sr. Sharon Casey, MSC, Cabrini Health



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