



# THE VISITOR

## News & Updates

March 25, 2015

**Sacramento Diocesan Council**

[www.svdp-sacramento.org](http://www.svdp-sacramento.org) (916) 955-6758

*Celebrating 60 Years of Service in the Sacramento Diocese*

**Our Spring Renewal.** April is a month of celebration and renewal for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul: We celebrate the birthdays of both our patron, St. Vincent de Paul (April 24, 1518), and our principal founder, Bl. Frederic Ozanam (April 23, 1813). We also celebrate the founding of the Society (April 23, 1833). Traditionally, the fourth Sunday of April (April 26) is “Ozanam Sunday,” when we re-commission our conferences, through its members, to serve in hope in the year ahead. Conferences may ask to receive a “sending out” blessing during Mass that weekend. April is an appropriate time to initiate new active members into the conference and to renew Vincentian commitment of members. (For more information, see *Manual*, p. 20.) Commissioning and initiation ceremonies are available at “Vincentian Materials” [online](#) or through the Diocesan Council. May we be renewed in our Vincentian zeal to find “the face of Christ” in the poor. (Rule, art. 1.8.)

–**Paul Starkey**, Sacramento Diocesan Council President

**Annual Dinner: Hear Rudy on Catholic Radio!** Our annual charity dinner keynote speaker, **Rudy Ruettiger**, interviewed on the Bishop’s Hour on March 18, 2015. With host, **Bob Dunning**, Rudy talked about the importance of “character” in overcoming difficulties. [Hear the show at this link](#). On March 31, 2015, Diocesan Council President **Paul Starkey** will be heard on the Bishop’s Hour to discuss the annual charity dinner and the work of the Society (11 a.m., repeat at 9 p.m., Immaculate Heart Radio, 1620 AM). “Hawai’i trip” raffle ticket sales continue. A big *mahalo* for promoting this additional fundraising effort. Questions? For table sales and other information, contact **Tom Aguer**, (916) 599-0546, [tom.aguer@avisonyoung.com](mailto:tom.aguer@avisonyoung.com) or visit our website CALENDAR section [www.svdp-sacramento.org](http://www.svdp-sacramento.org).

**Bundle Sunday Updates.** Last weekend, March 21-22, Our Lady of Grace Conference, West Sacramento held a successful Bundle Sunday collection drive for the Thrift Store. (Photo: Vincentians work to fill the big truck.) Thanks to **Mike McFeely** for coordinating this effort. Conference President **Michael Carroll** reports, on March 28-29, St. Mary Conference, Sacramento holds its Bundle Sunday in coordination with its “Fifth Sunday” collection. These Bundle Sunday collections help bring conferences together, act as a sign of witness for the poor in our communities, and greatly help our fundraising through the Thrift Store. Thanks to the many conferences that, throughout the year, help us to help others.



**Council and Conference News.** ♦On March 20, 2015, Our Lady of Grace Conference hosted Vincentian Stations of the Cross. A special thank you to **Maureen Girard** for organizing this prayerful event. ♦Many

thanks to **Keegan Smith**, who has joined the Diocesan Council communication team as webmaster. With **Gene Trinca**, of Our Lady of Assumption Conference, **Keegan** is also coordinating participation in the 2015 Friends of the Poor™ Walk. ♦The **North/Central District Council** has adopted the working name “**Metro District Council**,” recognizing its emphasis on service and charity at the central city core. **Fr. Michael Kiernan** has kindly agreed to serve as the Spiritual Advisor to that council. ♦The Sacramento Diocesan Council is working through the Thrift Store to help Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services with relocation of a refugee family. Thanks to Store Manager **Martha Leandro** for leading on this effort.

## SVdP CALENDAR

- March 25, Annunciation of Our Lord
- April 5, Easter Sunday
- April 8-10, **Mid-Year Meeting**, St. Louis
- April 17, Annual **Charity Dinner**
- April 18, **Rendu University**
- April 23, Birthday of Bl. Frederic Ozanam
- April 23, Anniversary of the Founding of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- April 24, Birthday of St. Vincent de Paul
- April 26, **Ozanam Sunday**

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Can we donate our conference funds to a very worthwhile local charity effort?

**A:** Conference funds must be used in connection with actual, personal service by conference members.

**FROM THE RULE:** “The funds of the Society shall be used for the works of the Society, including Vincentian twinning and collaboration in payments for people we serve. However, no matter how worthy the cause, funds shall not be diverted in the form of donations or contributions to other organizations or charities, except, occasionally, for other branches of the Vincentian Family. The Treasurer is charged as the responsible officer to ensure adherence after consultation with the Conference or Council.” (Rule; Part III, Statute 26.)

**FROM THE MANUAL:** “Funds donated to the Conference must be used only for works that involve

the personal service of members of the Society. (Manual, Funds of the Conference, p. 27.)

### RESOURCE CORNER

[www.svdpusa.org](http://www.svdpusa.org)

- For conference and council presidents, instant access to the Rule, Manual, sample bylaws for a conference, and more. See “[Governance in a Box](#)”
- Need materials for [conference secretaries and treasurers](#)?
- [Vincentian Reflections](#) for use at conference meetings are linked to Sunday readings

### In Fond Remembrance

†*Thomas Lee Bamford*

We note with great sadness, the passing of Tom Bamford, a longtime Vincentian and Conference President, St. Joseph Conference, North Sacramento, who was called to the Lord on March 12, 2015. Our deepest sympathy and prayers remain with Tom’s family and the St. Joseph parish community. Eternal rest grant unto him.

*Well done, good and faithful servant.  
Matt. 25:23*



**Seeking Charity & Justice**

*Help Us Help Others SVDP Thrift Store, 2275 Watt Avenue, Sacramento (916) 972-1212*