



THE VISITOR

News & Updates

August 28, 2015

Sacramento Diocesan Council

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Celebrating 60 Years of Service in the Sacramento Diocese

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SVdP and Social Media. Like us on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter! We see those taglines everywhere! Social media is part of the cultural fabric, and it is here to stay. While we may not want to embrace it, we cannot ignore it. Social media, for good or bad, is shaping the way we communicate with one another, and perhaps the way we understand

one another. The challenges of social media then become our challenges as Vincentians. Is social media a legitimate way for us to connect with one another in Vincentian fellowship? Is it possible to find the face of Christ on line? How do we use social media to invite others, especially those of a younger generation, to learn about and participate in the work of the Society? While steeped in tradition, the Society is forward looking. We know from recent experience that new technologies—cell phones, computer programs, quick access to information via Internet, electronic payments, apps, virtual meetings and Skype—all can be used, directly and indirectly, to help us to better serve our masters, the poor. In the 21st Century, we are still guided by the Holy Spirit in all things. With appropriate use, and after prayer, reflection, and discussion, social media can be an effective tool for us to do, as **Blessed Frederic** might have said, *#svdp #alittlegood*.—**Paul Starkey**, Sacramento Diocesan Council President

Vincentians and the Year of Mercy.

December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, is an important feast day in the spiritual life of the Society. It comes as a sign to us then that Pope Francis will open the [Holy Year of Mercy](#), on December 8, 2015. [Pope Francis writes in Misericordiae Vultus](#), we understand Christ's mercy through Mary at the foot of the Cross. (Para. 21.) As wonderfully explained by **Deacon Dave Lehman** and **Fr. Michael Kiernan** at our recent Day of Spirituality retreat experience on August 15, at Holy Family in Citrus Heights, we keep Mary, as "first disciple," at the forefront of our prayer, fellowship and action. She models for us the Vincentian spirit of listening to the Word of God, reflecting upon it and accepting it in faith, and acting upon it. In the months ahead, in coordination with events planned by the Diocese of Sacramento, we will have many opportunities to reflect and pray about the works of corporal and spiritual mercy, and to bring our faith into action.



Participants at Day of Spirituality 2015 at Holy Family, Citrus Heights, enjoyed in fellowship a time for prayer, reflection and discussion



Council and Conference News. ♦At the conclusion of this year's Day of Spirituality, **Deacon Dave Lehman** was recognized for his many years of service as Spiritual Advisor to the Sacramento Council (pictured, from left, Sacramento East District President **Marion Bishop**, **Deacon Dave Lehman**, and **Michelle Lehman**). **Deacon Dave**, who served under three Council presidents, has enriched the spiritual life of the Council and its many conferences. ♦**Ron Morin** has resigned from the Board, effective immediately, to focus on his duties as Placer District President. **Ron** served on the Board for over seven years, and was instrumental in bringing grants to the Council. Immediate Past President of the Sacramento Council

John Hallissy commented on these transitions, "Both **Ron** and **Deacon Dave** were important, hardworking members of the Board during my tenure as Council President. I want to take this opportunity to thank them for all they did on the Board furthering the important work of the Society in the Sacramento Diocese."

**MASS & BREAKFAST
SEPTEMBER 12**

**Sister Paule Freeburg, Daughters of
Charity to Present Keynote at Annual
Fellowship Breakfast, September 12.**

[Sister Paule Freeburg](#), Daughters of

Charity (DC), (pictured) who is Western Region Co-Spiritual Advisor with **Deacon Gene Smith**, is our featured speaker at our Annual Fellowship Breakfast on September 12 at St. James, Davis. **Sr. Paule**, who presents workshops throughout the Western Region, is known as an informative, highly inspiring and entertaining speaker. [Details about the breakfast](#) are on our [webpage](#) and [Facebook](#). *Space is limited.* RSVP to [Dave Burmester](#).



SVdP CALENDAR

- ▶ September 8, Feast of Bl. Frederic Ozanam
- ▶ September 12, [Annual Fellowship Breakfast](#), St. James, Davis
- ▶ [new] September 19, Roseville Conference [Annual Benefit Dinner](#)
- ▶ September 26, [Walk for the Poor](#), Lincoln
- ▶ September 27, [Walk for the Poor](#) @ Jesuit High School, Sacramento
- ▶ September 27, Feast of St. Vincent de Paul

Join Us for the Society's National Friends of the Poor™ Walk. See our [Facebook page for details](#). Online registration is available at www.svdnet/fop.

Need a Special Gift?

Remember to visit [The Catholic Store](#) at 1928 Broadway, Sacramento and stop by [our SVdP kiosk](#).



Voice of the Poor. Updates on SVdP social justice efforts can be found at www.wrvo.org.

[Editor's Note: We welcome your news items.]



Seeking Charity & Justice

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