



# THE VISITOR

## *News & Updates*

April 26, 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*

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**Ozanam Sunday.** On April 23 and 24, we mark the honored birthdays, respectively, of Bl. Frederic Ozanam, the Society's principal founder, and St. Vincent de Paul, the patron saint of the Society—and of all charities. It is fitting then that the Society looks to the last Sunday of April as “Ozanam Sunday,” and asks that we reflect and use this special weekend as a time of renewal. In that spirit, through the intervention of Bl. Frederic and St. Vincent, I ask for the continued blessings of the Holy Spirit on our Society, on our Council and its District Councils, on our Conferences, and on each of you, our members, our associates, and our benefactors. May the Lord bless us as we “seek to do a little good”—quoting Bl. Frederic— in the days and months ahead. —**Paul Starkey**, Sacramento Diocesan Council President

**Annual Charity Dinner Highlights.** In a word, wonderful!

At our annual charity dinner on April 17, 2015, we honored our Benefactor of the Year, **the Most Rev. William Wiegand**, Bishop Emeritus of the Sacramento Diocese (photo courtesy of *The Catholic Herald*) and were cheered with the “can do” message of our guest speaker **Rudy Ruettiger**, of Notre Dame football fame and the movie, “Rudy.” The dinner gave us “a big stage” to share the Society's story and the work of our conferences on behalf of the poor. Much thanks to event organizer, **Roelof van Ark**, our advisory board, the dinner event team, and the many, many volunteers, especially our raffle organizers, **Jim Floyd** and **Inez Reyes**, and all who worked so hard to make this an event to be remembered. For more stories, pictures and videos, please continue to visit our website at [www.svdp-sacramento.org](http://www.svdp-sacramento.org). Also, see and LIKE the [Catholic Herald article on facebook](#).



**On Spanish Radio.** On April 21, 2015, **Manuel Garcia** (photo), conference president of Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference, National Shrine, led the conversation, along with **Ignacio “Nacho” Flores**, **Fr. Rodolfo Llamas**, pastor and conference spiritual advisor, and Council President **Paul Starkey** during an interview on Spanish radio, [Radio Santísimo Sacramento](#), with host and radio station general manager, **Lorena Albarran**. During the hour-long program on the morning program, *Café, Pan y Fe*, the guests talked about the mission of the Society, and what SVdP does locally and throughout the Diocese, with special focus on the good works of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference.

*Gracias a Radio Santisimo Sacramento!*

**Thrift Store: Command Central.** More than a store, our Sacramento Thrift Store is a hub of operation and integral to who we are, and what we do. Our Store may be the first contact for help, and Store staff connect those in need with the appropriate conference or resources. Our Store coordinates our Bundle Sunday and mattress programs and serves as a vital central point for all donations. Through our Store, the Council continues to coordinate with the Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services to help relocate refugee families. Notes Store Manager **Martha Leandro**, "While providing affordable items, our Store offers an inviting atmosphere to our patrons while demonstrating the mission of the Society and its good works throughout our community." Thanks to **Martha** and the wonderful Store staff for all that they do. You can show your appreciation: Please visit and [LIKE our Store on facebook](#).

**Council and Conference News.** ♦Back from the mid-year meeting in St. Louis on April 8-10, Council Secretary **Danny Camarena** reports: "A resolution was passed that Conferences, Councils and National will support good governance using the *Standards of Excellence* process" and a resolution was passed "to establish a bequest policy to honor both the desires of the donors and the Councils and Conferences for proper distribution." ♦Holy Family Conference has received a Council grant to assist with its program to provide beds to those in need. ♦**Gene Trinca** and **Keegan Smith** lead the organizing of the Council's 2015 Friends of the Poor™ Walk, for September 27 (tentative date) at Jesuit High School in Sacramento. The Walk again this year will involve our Youth & Young Adult Vincentians. ♦A big thank you to **Kathy Vilhauer, Mike and Pacing McFeely**, and Our Lady of Grace Conference for hosting our informative April 25 Rendu U. A "report out" of the sessions will be circulated to conference presidents. [Editor's Note: We welcome news items! Contributors this newsletter: **Danny Camarena** and **Martha Leandro**.]

### **SVdP CALENDAR**

- ▶ April 26, **Ozanam Sunday**
- ▶ May 15, **Rendu U. @ St. Mary**
- ▶ May 28-31, Western Region Conference
- ▶ June 27, **Rendu U. @ St. John Vianney**
- ▶ June 28, **Mass and Vincentian Family Picnic**, Art Guerrero Park – **date confirmed!**
- ▶ **August 15, Vincentian Half-Day Retreat (tentative date)**
- ▶ **September 27, Walk for the Poor @ Jesuit High School, Sacramento (tentative date)**

**On the Web.** [Our SVdP website](#) has been updated! Learn about the Sacramento Council, its programs and services, and news and photos with a simple click of the mouse. Many thanks to **Keegan Smith**, our webmaster. We welcome suggestions and content.

**Our New Catholic Store Connection.** Looking for a good read about St. Vincent de Paul? Check out the new SVdP display at [The Catholic Store](#). In collaboration with the owners, the Perez family, the Council has created a Vincentian "space" at the store for our members and associates. Please stop by to browse and shop.



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**Seeking Charity & Justice**

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