



THE VISITOR

News & Updates

May 15, 2015

Sacramento Diocesan Council

www.svdp-sacramento.org (916) 955-6758

Celebrating 60 Years of Service in the Sacramento Diocese

Come Holy Ghost! Throughout the Easter season and especially on the eve of Pentecost, we are regularly reminded in the readings of the rapid growth of the new Christian communities through the power of the Holy Spirit. Those early communities were founded in Christ's love and example, met regularly in prayer and fellowship, and cared for each other and the poor. Sound familiar? In our conference life, we model the example of those first Christians: prayer, fellowship, and service. As Vincentians, we call upon the Holy Spirit to be in our hearts, to guide us, and to lead us to encounter Christ in the poor. As we celebrate the 170th anniversary of the Society being in the United States (and over 60 years in the Sacramento Diocese), we pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to renew us in our conference life together as Vincentians. —**Paul Starkey**, Sacramento Diocesan Council President



Rendu U. Some 20 Vincentians, from as far north as Chico and south, Vallejo, participated in our April 25 Rendu U. training in West Sacramento, which focused on theme of “serving charity and justice” with discussions about why and how we serve the poor. Conference presidents attending were: **Barbara O'Brien**, Our Divine Savior-Chico, **Charmaine Ferraz**, St. Basil-Vallejo, **Peter Carisetti**, St. Joseph, Rio Vista, **Kevin Roddy**, St. James-Davis, and **Ritamarie Sargent**, Our Lady of Grace-West Sacramento. [A “report out” from the half-day training is available on our website.](#) Many

thanks to our presenters: **Maureen Girard**, on the Spiritual Advisor team at Our Lady of Grace Conference, led the reflection and discussion. For the topic, “Moments of Truth: Asking the Hard “Why” Questions During Home Visits,” we had home visit leaders and trainers, **Mike McFeely**, former conference president of Our Lady of Grace, and **Craig Shaw**, president of St. Mel Conference and Sacramento Council “Formation” trainer. For our training on “How to Organize a Walk for the Poor (or “How I Raised Over \$1,000 for My Conference!”),” **Gene Trinca**, of Our Lady of the Assumption, explained the Sacramento Council's Walk event. Many thanks for the hospitality of Our Lady of Grace Conference, especially **Kathy Vilhauer** and **Mike and Pacing McFeely**.

June 28 - First Annual Vincentian Family Picnic. Everyone's invited to join us for our first annual Vincentian Family Picnic on June 28 at Art Guerrero Park in Sacramento. The focus of our “family picnic” is: Spirituality (mass); fellowship, bringing everyone together, including family members and especially our young Vincentians; having fun; celebrating the memory of **Art Guerrero** (a wonderful man and Vincentian); witnessing to the community; and holding our “kick off” for the Walk for the Poor. Find [more details on our web page.](#)



Council and Conference News. ♦The Sacramento Council has negotiated a three-year lease renewal for [the Watt Avenue Thrift Store](#), which locks in rent savings. The Store also reports increased earnings over the last quarter. Store Manager **Martha Leandro** reports, “We had the privilege of having this beautiful youth group from Immaculate Conception Parish helping us this morning! Thank you **Raul Ramirez** and the lovely students of PAHIES [photo] for your wonderful service!”



Ending Poverty. The U.S. Council has ending poverty through systemic change as a national priority. In Sacramento, **Chelsea Becker**, who is helping to lead the Sacramento Council’s “change advocacy efforts,” provides this important update: The St. Martin Conference-Esparto hosted its first Bridges Out of Poverty training, with 24 people attending. Conference President **Michael McDonald** and **Elizabeth Ehnat** have completed the Getting Ahead Facilitator training. According to **Chelsea**, “Our goal is to have our first Getting Ahead cohort in the Fall of 2015.” Adds Sacramento Council President **Paul Starkey**, “Congratulations to **Michael** and **Elizabeth**, and many thanks to **Chelsea** for moving ahead on this initiative.”

Annual Charity Dinner Report Out. For more stories, pictures and videos, please continue to visit our website at www.svdP-sacramento.org. Also, see and LIKE [the Catholic Herald article on facebook](#).

SVdP CALENDAR

- ▶ 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!**
- ▶ July 18, Rendu U. at St. Clare, Roseville
- ▶ August 15, **Vincentian Half-Day Retreat**
- ▶ September 27, **Walk for the Poor** @ Jesuit High School, Sacramento (tentative date)

1928 Broadway
Sacramento, CA 95818
P. (916) 457.1970
thecatholicstore@gmail.com
www.catholicstoreinc.com

Mon-Fri 10am-6pm Sat 9am-5pm

[Editor’s Note: We welcome news items! Contributors this newsletter: **Chelsea Becker** and **Martha Leandro**.]

[The Catholic Store](#) offers a Vincentian “space” for our members and associates. Please stop by to browse and shop and to take advantage of the SVdP kiosk.

