



St. Vincent de Paul Sacramento Diocesan Council

Serving in Hope and Mercy



Monday Morning Memo



Next weekend at St. Dominic's we will say farewell to our pastor Fr. Jerome Cudden. After 6 years he is moving on to a parish in Menlo Park. As a Dominican priest, pastors serve at parishes for 3 to 6 years. Sound familiar? Much like our servant leaders. Fr. Jerome has been a true friend and supporter of SVdP and will be missed. We all hope that the new pastor will be as supportive. However, relationships with pastors don't just happen. The relationship you have with your pastor is critical to the success of the conference and its mission and must be nurtured.

Probably the very first and most important thing to do as a Conference President is to introduce yourself to the pastor and let him know who you are and what we do. Not all pastors are familiar with our work and it is important that he knows we are there to help minister to the needs of the poor within the parish and the local community. We are there to help him. And we are truly blessed by the backing and encouragement we receive every day from the many pastors throughout the diocese.

Have a blessed week and thanks for all you do,

~ Judy

Solano District Council Sponsors Bus

Last year the keynote speaker at the Dinner for the Poor was Sr. Suzanne Jabro, founder of the Get On The Bus program. It is a non-profit organization uniting children with their parents in prison by providing free transportation and visiting support.



Joe Alves, Solano District President, invited a representative from the organization to speak at one of our district meetings about this program. After hearing all the details, the conferences voted to pool their resources and sponsor one of the buses. The money helped with the bus expenses particularly the cost of gas. A thank you note was recently received from GOTB letting the District Council know that it went towards a bus going to the California Institute for Women (CIW) in Corona on Good Friday.

This is just one of the many ways our District Councils and Conferences can make a difference by working together on projects that benefit the most vulnerable in our communities. If you want to know more about GOTB, visit their [website](#).

International Twinning

At a Conference Meeting last year, a member of St. Dominic's in Benicia talked about the Dominican Mission work in Mexico. He asked that the conference consider donating to the Missions and was quickly reminded that according to the Rule we are not able to provide funds outside of SVdP.

The Dominican Missions provide aid to some of the poorest areas in Mexico. The need of course is great and there was much discussion on how the conference could go about helping these missionaries in their work. In any case, since this would be an international donation, the treasurer contacted National to find out options. Elizabeth Martinez,

International Twinning Coordinator, worked to find some connection to SVdP so our donation would be allowable under the Rule. It was discovered that a hospital which was founded in 1969 by the Dominican Mission was transferred to SVdP Daughter's of Charity in 1976. Finally a connection was found! The funds were actually termed a grant and with the help of Elizabeth the conference's \$1,000 was given to the Hospital San Carlos in Chiapas, Mexico.

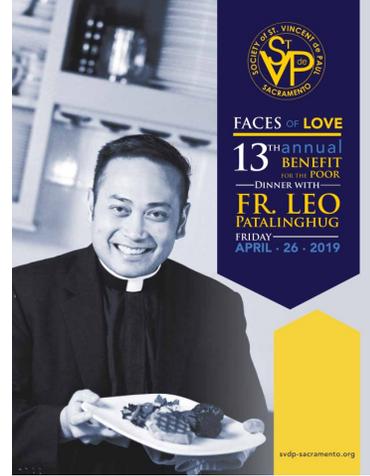
A thank you letter was recently received from the hospital and was translated by Vincentian, Yolanda Wallace, at our last meeting. It was quite a long letter giving some history of the area, which primarily serves the low-income indigenous population in the region. It was a beautiful, heartfelt letter which expressed gratitude for the much needed funds. Anyone fluent in Spanish who would like to read the letter themselves can [find it here](#). As always, "no work of charity is foreign to the Society."

Dinner for the Poor ~ one last thing . . .

Each year the Dinner for the Poor produces a program for the annual event. It is something we are very proud of and for those of you who have not seen you can [view it here](#). Along with the valuable information about our work and our sponsors, you can meet our Benefactor of the Year, Crumley & Associates and learn more about their business and this beautiful family.

As for the advertisers, please take a look and patronize these businesses whenever you can. These are our

supporters and we should show our appreciation in turn by supporting them.



"Jesus. though you hide yourself behind the unattractive disguise of the irritable, the exacting, and the unreasonable, may I still recognize you"

~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

"A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need."

~ Mission Statement

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Sacramento Diocesan Council**

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