



Society of
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
SACRAMENTO
DIOCESAN COUNCIL

St. Vincent de Paul
Sacramento Diocesan
Council

Serving in Hope and Mercy



Monday Morning Memo



We may not be experiencing the same sort of Memorial Day weekend as in years past, but hopefully we can still share a backyard barbecue or enjoy a walk in the park all while practicing social distancing. Most importantly, let's not forget the real meaning of Memorial Day which is honoring the ultimate sacrifice so many have made in service to our country.

This year, as we pray for those who have fought to preserve our freedom, let us also remember all the heroes we have met and seen at work everyday during this pandemic. They too continue to fight for us; they are those who provide essential services – our healthcare workers, police and firefighters, first responders, current military personnel, delivery drivers, grocery store employees, and many more. We thank them for their courage and service today, along with our military heroes who laid down their lives for us in the battle for liberty.

Let us pray . . .

Prayer for Those Who Have Fallen in Battle

All Powerful God, we honor today, those men and women, our sons and daughters, husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, who have laid down their life for their country.

Whether they were weary or emboldened, quiet or defiant, vulnerable or ready when You called them home, their sacrifice is too humbling for words except those uttered in prayer.

Loving Lord, bless them forever in Your eternal peace. Cherish their spirit, honor their commitment, send them our love, and we will never forget the service that they gave. Amen.

Have a blessed week and thanks for all you do,

Judy

Spiritual Reflection ~ May 2020

Sr. Paule Freeburg, DC ~ Western Region Spiritual Advisor

WORDS OF ST. VINCENT THAT TELL US WHO WE ARE

For the next few Reflections, we will focus on five of Vincent's "words."

I will always welcome joyfully any opportunity that comes my way to be of service to you.

~ St. Vincent V.4, Letter 1231

Joyfully. We are joyful. When that call comes to meet the needs of the poor at an inconvenient time – we are at dinner ourselves, the football game is in the 4th quarter, we took the last two calls, where is everyone else? We all know that sometimes, we'd just rather stay home. But we also know that the joy comes when we actually meet our brother or sister who places such hope and trust in us to help them. Joy has nothing to do with balloons and grins. Joy has to do with our awareness that God lives deep down inside us. This is the God who said, "I have come that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete." John 15:11. It is in that joy that that we will welcome joyfully any opportunity to serve our sisters and brothers living in poverty.

Pope Francis tells us in his encyclical the "Joy of the Gospel" that without God's Spirit leading us, we risk becoming "sourpusses." paragraph 85, He urges us to live in the joy of the Gospel and to share that Gospel with everyone we meet.



Sister Rosalie Rendu became a mentor to the founding members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. She taught them how to make home visits and met with them after those visits. During one of those visits, she said to them, "Love the poor. Remember that the poor are more sensitive to your behavior than to what you bring them."

Jesus calls us in Luke's Gospel to bring "Good News to the Poor." No matter what we take to the Poor or can't take, we can take the Good News of joy.

What does this mean for us and our service?

Peace and Grace.

Sister Paule Freeburg, DC
Western Region Spiritual Advisor ([Find a printable copy to share here](#))



RAFFLE TICKET UPDATE

As a reminder, the Raffle Ticket sales are extended through July, with the winning ticket for the Hawaiian trip being drawn **July 25th**. John Murphy, who is this year's coordinator for the raffle, reports approximately \$5,300 has been collected, meaning 530 tickets sold. Conferences receive 50% of the amount sold therefore if you sell \$2000 in tickets your conference receives \$1,000. The other half of the revenue is distributed to the District Councils.



500 books of 10 tickets each were printed and distributed. That means there is a possibility of taking in \$50,000! Yes, we are living in difficult times. For many of us we been sheltering-in-place for more than

two months, but there appears to be an end in sight as California begins the process of reopening. Let us begin selling – to friends, family, other Vincentians, and raise funds so we can have the means to help those who are in critical circumstances and in need of our help.



If you are holding any ticket sales (cash and/or checks) please write a conference check for the amount and mail it along with the ticket stubs to:

John Hallissy
608 University Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825
ATTN: John Murphy

✉ Any questions can be emailed to **John**.



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*"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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