



THE VISITOR

News & Updates

August 14, 2015

Sacramento Diocesan Council

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

Celebrating 60 Years of Service in the Sacramento Diocese



Our Marian Devotion. We, Vincentians, hold Mary dear to our hearts. This Marian devotion is part of our Society's tradition: Blessed Frederic Ozanam, the principal founder of the Society, had a strong, deep devotion to Mary. (See, *Apostle in the Top Hat*.) As it happens, Blessed Frederic's feast day is the Feast of the Birth of Mary, September 8. From the beginning, conferences have looked to Mary as a model of Vincentian virtues. In the tradition of St. Vincent de Paul, [we celebrate the mysteries of the Immaculate Conception](#) (our Society's patron saint, see Statute 9), the Annunciation, and the Visitation. (See, [Manual 3.4](#).) It is our custom to pray the Hail Mary at every conference meeting. (See, [Statute 7](#), Meeting Essentials.) December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, is a special feast of the Society. It is more than coincidence then that Pope Francis will open the [Holy Year of Mercy](#), on December 8, concluding November 20, 2016, the Feast of Christ the King. We understand Christ's mercy through Mary at the foot of the Cross, [Pope Francis writes in Misericordiae Vultus](#). (See, Paragraph 21.) With the model of Mary at the forefront of our prayer, fellowship and action, join us this [Saturday, August 15](#), the Feast of the Assumption, as we gather to reflect upon Mary, as model and disciple. **Deacons Dave Lehman and Mark Hronicek**, along with **Fr. Michael Kiernan** will guide our morning of Holy Mass, prayer and reflection. [Information about our annual "retreat,"](#)

[is available on our website.](#) All are welcome to attend. "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you."--**Paul Starkey**, Sacramento Diocesan Council President

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 the Annual Fellowship Breakfast on September 12. **Sr. Paule** regularly presents workshops on behalf of the Western Region and is known as an informative, highly inspiring and entertaining speaker. In fellowship and celebrating our September feast days—St. Vincent de Paul (September 27) and Blessed Frederic Ozanam (September 8), the Yolo/Delta District Council hosts our first annual Mass and Fellowship Breakfast at St. James in Davis. Thanks to District President **Dave Burmester** and St. James Conference President **Kevin Roddy** for coordinating this event. [Details about the breakfast](#) are on our webpage. Space is limited. RSVP to [Dave Burmester](#).

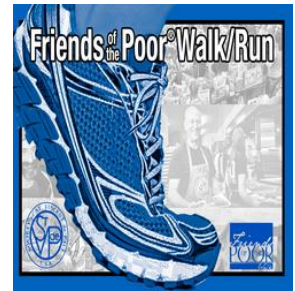
**MASS & BREAKFAST
SEPTEMBER 12**





Every Mile Counts! Join the Society's National Friends of the Poor™ Walk.

The Sacramento Council again this year hosts its Walk event at [Jesuit High School](#) on Sunday, **September 27**. All districts and conferences, especially our Young Vincentians, are invited to participate. Through this national Walk, we show our solidarity with Vincentians throughout the United States and with the poor we serve, we witness to the needs of the poor in our communities, and we raise needed funds for our charitable aims. Placer District President **Ron Morin** (pictured) shows off this year's shirt for the Lincoln Walk, which will be held on Saturday, **September 26**. [Online registration is available](#) at www.svdpnnet/fop.



Council and Conference News. ♦On July 25, **Paul Starkey** and **Craig Shaw**, of the Sacramento Council, met in Redding to discuss formation and extension issues with North State leaders, District President **Brendan Butler**, and conference representatives **Jan Garrigus**, **Carolyn Hewes**, **Ryck Kramer**, and **Susan D'Amato**. ♦See our "60th anniversary" promotion (p.17) and our updated Council listing (p.84) in the new 2015 Diocese of Sacramento Directory. For more Council and Conference updates, be sure to visit our [Council web page](#) for "News." [Editor's Note: We welcome news items!]

SVdP CALENDAR

- ▶ August 15, [Vincentian Half-Day Retreat](#)
- ▶ September 8, Feast of Bl. Frederic Ozanam
- ▶ September 12, [Annual Fellowship Breakfast](#), St. James, Davis
- ▶ September 27, [Walk for the Poor](#) @ Jesuit High School, Sacramento
- ▶ September 27, Feast of St. Vincent de Paul

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Does the Conference Vice President have to later serve as Conference President?

A: No. As to officer succession, it is not required that the vice president or any of the other officers succeed to the president's role (it often happens, of course!). Our conference bylaws, the [Rule](#) and tradition provide that the conference president is elected by secret ballot

by the conference every three years. (**Note:** Our Vincentian year begins on October 1.) A president may serve two consecutive terms, for a total of six years. After being elected, the conference president selects his/her officers, and they serve "at will," meaning the president can replace an officer at any time (not likely to happen, but may be needed during the president's term of office). The president asks the conference to approve the other officers. If the president leaves office for any reason, the vice president becomes acting president until a new president is elected from among the conference members (this should occur within 3 months of the vacancy).



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