



# THE VISITOR

## News & Updates

Celebrating 60 Years of Service in the Sacramento Diocese

September 27, 2015

Sacramento Diocesan Council

[www.svdp-sacramento.org](http://www.svdp-sacramento.org) (916) 955-6758

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St. Joseph, Lincoln 9/26

Jesuit High School 9/27

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Yes, you can sign up at each Walk!

***Bienvenido, Papa Francisco!*** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul this week welcomes **Pope Francis** to the United States—and while far from Washington, D.C. (Tuesday/Wednesday), New York (Thursday/Friday), and Philadelphia (Saturday/Sunday), Sacramento, too, welcomes **Francis** in our hearts and via EWTN, Twitter, and other media. While there will be many messages heard and discussed over the week—and beyond! listen for the word, *encuentro!* *Encounter!* As Vincentians, we know this word, and its meaning. We are to *encounter* the poor, and there find the face of Jesus. “Members show their commitment through person-to-person contact. Vincentians serve in hope.” (Rule, art. 1.2, The Vincentian Vocation.) May the Holy Spirit guide the Society and its members as we continue to serve in hope.—**Paul Starkey**, Sacramento Diocesan Council President



**“See with Vincentian Eyes,” Sister Paule Tells Attendees at Fellowship Breakfast.** [Sister Paule Freeburg](#),

Daughters of Charity (DC), (pictured), Western Region Co-Spiritual Advisor with **Deacon Gene Smith**, was our featured speaker at the Sacramento Council’s First Annual Fellowship Breakfast held Saturday, September 12 at St. James, Davis. Describing the richness of the Vincentian Family and its traditions and sharing illustrative stories about the founding works of St. Vincent de Paul, **Sr. Paule** related how, in our encounters with the poor, we must “see with Vincentian eyes so that we can form Vincentian hearts.” The morning concluded with a special ceremony during which cloth napkins were distributed to attendees with the



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specific instruction—from the words of St. Vincent de Paul himself— to “place the napkin on the tray,” with the symbol of the cloth napkin serving to remind us to treat the poor we serve with respect and dignity as “our masters.” (See [more event photos on our facebook page.](#)) Our deep appreciation to **Sr. Paule**, and thanks to the St. James Conference team and Conference President **Kevin Roddy**, and Yolo-Delta District Council President **Dave Burmester**, for hosting this inspiring event.

**Vincentians and the “Year of Mercy.”** On December 8, 2015, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, **Pope Francis** opens the [Holy Year of Mercy](#). We understand Christ’s mercy through Mary at the foot of the Cross, [Pope Francis writes in Misericordiae Vultus](#). (Para. 21.) As Vincentians, we understand that Mary models for us the Vincentian spirit of listening to the Word of God, accepting it in faith, and acting upon it. In the months ahead, we will have many opportunities to put our faith into action.



**Bishop’s Hour Radio Interview.** Topics: Walk for the Poor, St. Vincent de Paul disaster relief efforts. Click the “mike” to hear the podcast or select <http://ihrarchive.org/archive/sbh-20150917.mp3> (Download takes a minute or so, then go to the 40:10 mark for interview.)

**SVdP Disaster Relief; #Butte and #ValleyFire – Update:** In recent days, the Sacramento Council has been coordinating with districts and conferences, as well as the Diocese of Sacramento, concerning immediate and long-term relief efforts. Sacramento Council Board Member **Phil Niederberger** heads the Sacramento Council’s Disaster Relief team, has been in contact with SVdP National, and is coordinating communications for the Sacramento Council. The impact is real and local. Solano District President **Joe Alves** has been fielding calls in his district. **Kevin Darr**, Conference President at St. Katherine Drexel, reports the conference there is dealing with the impact of the fires in the area: “We are helping as usual through our help line but expanding for those displaced for any needs such as clothes, medications, etc. We will also consider calls from outside of this county, Calaveras to be exact.” Adds **Kevin**, “We have also contacted Red Cross and are in touch with them at the evacuation centers for any help we would normally provide as well as any spiritual/ friendly conversation that may be asked for.”

**Council and Conference News.** ♦Formal organization of the Sacramento Council’s Youth and Young Adult (YYA) team, under the leadership of Sacramento Council Board Member **Tiffany Madrid** and team members including **Andrea Spence**, **GiGi Bellocchi**, and **Keegan Smith**, is underway. Please show your support of our Vinnies at the Jesuit Walk on Sunday, September 27. ♦At its 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Celebration Dinner on Saturday, September 19, the Roseville Conference recognized **Fred and Pauline Wight** as [“Volunteers of the Year”](#). [Editor’s Note: We welcome your news items and photos!]

### **SVdP CALENDAR**

- ▶ September 26, [Walk for the Poor](#), Lincoln
- ▶ September 27, [Walk for the Poor](#) @ Jesuit High School, Sacramento
- ▶ September 27, Feast of St. Vincent de Paul
- ▶ October 1, Start of New Vincentian Year
- ▶ [Confirmed!] December 6, Top Hat Dinner

**Voice of the Poor (VOP).** Information about the Society’s social justice efforts can be found at [www.wrvop.org](http://www.wrvop.org)

**Need a Special Gift?** Remember to visit [The Catholic Store](#), 1928 Broadway, Sacramento and stop by [our SVdP kiosk](#).



***Seeking Charity & Justice***

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