



# St. Vincent de Paul Sacramento Diocesan Council

Serving in Hope and Mercy



## Weekly Update for Board Members, District Presidents, and Conference Presidents



In January, I was privileged to be on Fr. Michael Kiernan's TV show, *Catholic Viewpoint: Faith, Hope and Love*. Also being interviewed that morning was Fr. Paul Mark Schwan, Abbot of the Abbey of Our Lady of New Clairvaux, Trappist-Cistercian Monastery. Afterwards we all went to lunch and I got to learn all about the abbey at New Clairvaux in Vina, CA and the story of how the new church and altar was built and finally dedicated earlier this year. It was a very long journey beginning with the stones from a Spanish Monastery brought to the U.S. in the 1930's by William Randolph Hearst to the time the abbey took possession of the stones and began rebuilding it into the magnificent church and altar that graces New Clairvaux today.

On Wednesday, I finally got to visit this wonderful place and it was the highlight of my week. If you have never visited, make it a "have to" destination. Oh, and did I mention it was a winery as well, with a tasting room! The wine was delightful and we came home with several bottles to enjoy and remember

our amazing experience at the abbey.

Here is a link to the site so you can read more about [New Clairvaux](#).

~ Have a blessed week and thanks for all you do.



## St. Joseph's Lincoln Hosts Spiritual Retreat Presented by the Placer District Council



*Above:* The Saturday morning Spiritual Retreat began with mass celebrated in the Parish Hall by the pastor, **Fr. Eric Lofgren**, who is also the conference's spiritual advisor.

*Below:* 47 Vincentians came together for this first ever District Council event.



*Above:* **Rita Spillane** was the speaker; the theme was Tending Your Garden.

*Below:* We were treated to a warm video welcome from **Bishop Francis Quinn** who also read the Gospel of Matthew, ch. 13.



*Above:* District President **Ron Morin** and his terrific team! Thank you for a wonderful morning of food, prayer, songs, and reflection.

*Below:* **Rita Spillane** with Sacramento Diocesan President **Judy Dietlein**.



## WESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE

The Western Region Newsletter is published quarterly. Guadeloupe Valencia is the editor. The **October** 2018 edition is now available. Please share it with your conference members.



Since we were together at the Annual Meeting in San Diego, I have had the opportunity to make visits to Fresno and San Francisco. There currently is not a Council in Fresno although there are resident conferences doing tremendous work in their local communities. Our Growth and Revitalization chair person, Craig Shaw and I, traveled to Fresno in September and met with conference presidents to explore the possibility of having a Diocesan Council. Those discussions are ongoing.

On October 13, I traveled to San Francisco and was honored to attend their District Council Meeting (see attached photo) led by Council President Martha Albouze. The District Council discussed moving forward with implementation of the tax-exempt status change.

John Hallissy, past-president of the Sacramento Council is currently Vice-President of the Western Region. The U.S. is divided into eight regions and our region in the west is the largest in the country made up of 10 states.

## Top Hat Dinner Update



### PHOTOS WANTED!

Each year during the dinner there is a slideshow of photos depicting Vincentians at work or sharing fellowship. Please submit one or two from your conference with a brief caption. They can be emailed to Bob Dietlein at [rwdi@att.net](mailto:rwdi@att.net) no later than November 15, 2018.

As mentioned last week, 29 Vincentians will be recognized with **Ozanam Awards** at the annual Top Hat Dinner on December 2, 2018. Also being recognized are:

**St. Joseph's Conference in Redding: Blessed Sister Rosalie Rendu Award**

**Joe Alves, Solano District President: St. Louise de Marillac Award**

**Kevin Darr, past-president of St. Katherine Drexel Conference, Sacramento East District: The Top Hat Award**

**Jim Toner, past-president of St. John the Evangelist Conference, Sacramento East District: The Emmanuel Bailly Award**

Please join us on December 2nd as we recognize these 3 dedicated servant leaders and this outstanding conference for their exemplary work in service to the poor.

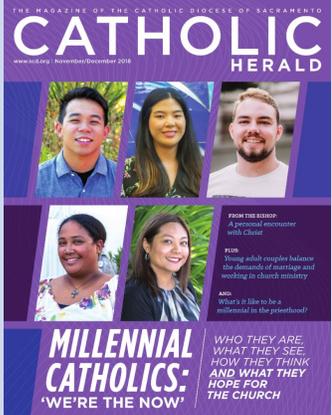
**REMINDER:** The deadline to submit your list of dinner attendees, accompanied by a conference check for the dinners is due by November 15th. Conferences who meet this deadline will be able to reserve tables in advance for their members.

Mail your check with list of attendees to Mildred Wong, 8593 Alissa Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Thank you!

## Look Who's on the Cover of the November/December Issue of the Catholic Herald

Our very own Venus De Coy!

Read all about Venus on page 24. She is



the District President of the Yolo/Delta District and parishioner at Our Lady of Grace in West Sacramento. You should be receiving your copy of the Catholic Herald in the mail this week but if you prefer, you can read the article about Venus and other millennials **online** today.

## It's News to Me . . .

An application for aggregation was submitted to National and returned because the conference listed too many active members. As a reminder, active members are those who attend meetings regularly and participate in conference activities. If a member does not attend meetings, they are considered associate members.

Here's what we received from National:

***"The policy in the USA is that the maximum number of active members to be included in a Conference is 40 (Mail of 13th November 2017 of David Barringer)."***

Are your members properly identified and entered in the National database accurately?

*"If we are faithful in small things, God will entrust us with those that are greater." ~ St. Vincent de Paul*

*"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."*

- *New Mission Statement as of April 2018*

Visit our website



St. Vincent de Paul  
Sacramento Diocesan Council

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