



# St. Vincent de Paul Sacramento Diocesan Council

## Serving in Hope and Mercy



## Monday Morning Memo



We had a Board Meeting last Tuesday that John Hallissy, Western Region VP, attended and in which he shared some of the past history of our Sacramento Council. Next year, 2020, the Council will celebrate its 65th Anniversary. Thinking about this upcoming event I began to realize how much change has occurred over the last six plus decades; how we have grown from something small and simple to what we are today. Comprised of 55 conferences, our work has become diversified as we move into serving areas of poverty we hadn't considered in 1955. Our conferences still assist with needed food, clothing and financial aid, but we now have our prison re-entry mentoring program and are deeply involved in disaster relief and long-term recovery. Conferences in every part of the diocese are dealing with our most critical problem which is widespread homelessness. And so we continue to take to heart that *"No work of charity is foreign to the Society."* Rule Part 1, 1.3

Our Society is a living, breathing organization which changes with the times and serves where it is most needed. Even the issues of advocacy have changed as we deal with prison reform, immigration issues, and payday loans. One thing that never changes is the need to help the poor and our mission to meet them person-to-person. Our home visits and personal encounters are what make us different from other charitable organizations and will be the one thing that will never change.

*Have a blessed week and thanks for all you do,  
~ Judy*

## Ozanam Resource Center

You may remember reading about Linda Hamilton a number of months ago. Linda is the Program Coordinator for the Ozanam Resource Center (ORC) which is located in our Sacramento Thrift Store. In this past year Linda has logged 342 volunteer hours while being instrumental in helping 115 of our neighbors.



Many of the calls or e-mails she receives asking for assistance are referred to one of our local SVdP conferences. But, Linda herself has done "home visits" right in the store when a needy person walks in the front door. Most can be helped with clothes, blankets, or sleeping bags, and leave having been personally assisted by Linda.

If you live near the Watt Avenue Store and have 2 or 3 hours a week to volunteer at the ORC, Linda would love to hear from you. You can **email Linda** to find out what she does and how you can become part of the ORC Team.

## Spotlight on Holy Spirit Conference Sacramento

On a cold January morning, on the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento, Holy Spirit Conference and Helping Hearts Ministry provided lunch and warm clothing to our neighbors in need. More than 700 clothing items were distributed, which included 57 jackets, blankets, socks, hats and other necessities we often take for granted.



Dot O'Connor, Holy Spirit Conference President, shared that "our friends were so very grateful. The many generous donations that were received will help to change the way our homeless deal with the cold and often wet winter weather this year. Our neighbors especially appreciated that we gave them a sense of personal control by letting them make their own clothing selections." This was definitely a way to provide warmth for both body and soul; this is the Vincentian way.





## Registration is Open for the Western Region Meeting

Our Western Region, one of eight SVdP regions in the U.S., is comprised of 10 states which include Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. John Hallissy, past president of the Sacramento Council, is now Western Region Vice-President.

This year's annual meeting will be hosted by the Phoenix Diocesan Council on **May 23 - 25, 2019** and held at the Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, AZ. It is a wonderful opportunity to attend workshops and meet the many Vincentians throughout the Western Region who are doing the same work that you are doing locally with your conferences.

Registration is now open and you can find all the details and information about the meeting **right here**. Deadline to register is May 3, 2019.

**2019 Western Region Meeting and Workshops**  
**Seeing Christ in the Faces of the Poor**  
 Phoenix, Arizona - May 23-25, 2019

Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, AZ

Meeting Registration: \$125.00 per person (refer to Registration Form attached)  
 Hotel Registration: \$129.00 per night + \$14.95 hospitality fee (hotel amenities)

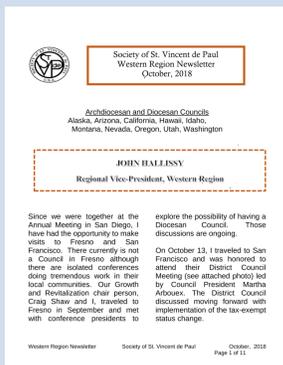
**Deadline: Wednesday, May 3, 2019**

**Register Online**  
 Register online at: [www.az.vincentiansofusa.com/tempe-mission-palms.com/2019](http://www.az.vincentiansofusa.com/tempe-mission-palms.com/2019)  
 Group ID for online registration is: 2d8f9m

**Register by Phone**  
 OR call the Mission Palms hotel for reservations: 480-994-1400  
 Note you are with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Western Region Meeting

Upon arrival at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport, you can travel to the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel on the airport shuttle every 1-2 hours (5:00 am - 10:00 pm daily) or take the Phoenix Metro Light Rail from Skyport station to the SkyTrain Link station 1/2 block from Hotel. Driving directions provided with Registration Confirmation.

## Western Region Newsletter



Each quarter the Western Region publishes a Newsletter highlighting the work that is going on in the Councils and Conferences in our region. The last edition, **October 2018**, can be read here. My apologies for not getting this out sooner to you. In the future I will share them on a more timely basis!

This edition focuses attention on our brother and sister Vincentians from Alameda County and their Kitchen of Champions training program. A worthwhile read!

Newsletter Editor Guadalupe Valencia is always looking for articles from Conferences and District Councils that would be of interest throughout the Western Region. Here is **her email** so you submit your articles.

*"Take every day as a ring which you must engrave, adorn, and embellish with your actions, to be offered up in the evening at the altar of God."*

*~ Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton*

---

*"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*

---

[Visit our website](#)



**St. Vincent de Paul  
Sacramento Diocesan Council**

**Call Us: (707) 315-3368**  
[www.svdp-sacramento.org](http://www.svdp-sacramento.org)