

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

Our Lady of Charity

Lancaster/Quartz Hill Conference

THE VINCENTIAN TRUMPET



Artwork used with permission of St. Andrew's Abbey,
Valyermo, California.

WHO WE ARE

We are Vincentians. In 1833, our founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, was challenged by fellow students to “show us your good works today.” Frederic knew that people often talk about doing good for others, but rarely do anything about it. With friends, he set out to change the way things were. They began, with the guidance of Blessed Sister Rosalie Rendu, by taking bread to the poor of Paris. Later that same year, they started their own charity, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Who are we? We are your neighbors, your friends, your fellow workers, your priests and deacons who aid the poor by volunteering our time and talent without receiving even a penny for our services. We still do things the old-fashioned way, by delivering services one on one and face to face remembering to **“Love your neighbor as yourself”**.



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Diane Jones

Greeter

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February 2018

Calendar and other St. Vincent de Paul Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Miriam Sisters	2	3 Robin
4	5 Soo	6	7 Women of Grace/SHS lunch bags	8 Jane K.	9	10 K of C #73
11	12 OPEN Meeting 6-8 p.m.	13	14 Ash Wednesday/ Janet C.	15 St. Serra	16	17 Hispanic Ministry
18	19 K of C	20	21 Mary M. SHS lunch bags	22 St. Serra	23	24 Holy Cross
25	26 K of C Meeting 6-8 p.m.	27	28 Johnny M.			

Subsidiarity—The Catholic Whistle

While governments are necessary to keep peace and watch for the common good, the principle of subsidiarity states that governments must enable smaller organizations and individuals to deal with problems as close to the source as possible. Lord, grant me the wisdom to see where I may put my talents to work to address needs in my very own backyard.

NOTE:

If you have any questions or would like to prepare a meal for the homeless, please check the calendar for open days and call the Center at (661) 942-3222 on M-W-Th-Sat from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Our mailing address is PO BOX 412, Lancaster 93584.

REFLECTIONS

MARCH 1992

LENT

Jesus says, "Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps."

St. Vincent de Paul lived by an exhortation which he proclaimed to his followers: "Let us love God, let us love God, but let it be at the expenses of our arms and in the sweat of our brows." He explained that affection for God in prayer, though good and desirable in itself, is questionable when it is not translated into practical love.

St. Vincent de Paul lamented the fact that some people can speak like angels about their experience in prayer but are nowhere to be found when it comes to working for God, to suffering, to taking care of the poor, or to instructing children in the faith. He said "The Church is compared with a great harvest which demands laborers, but what is needed is laborers who labor."

Words are not love; actions are. During the penitential rite of the Mass we express sorrow, not only for what we have done, but also for what we have failed to do. To form good Lenten resolutions, we need to reflect on what we leave undone. The answer leads to love God at the expense of our arm and in the sweat of our brows.

Fr. Werner, O.S.B.
St. Andrew's Abbey
(1914 – 2008)

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear Vincentians:

As Our Lady of Charity Conference reaches its 30th year of serving the homeless and needy families in Lancaster and Quartz Hill, it is a blessing to realize that throughout its 30-year history willing volunteers stepped up to share their time and talent. For example, did you know that we have a Barber Shop?

For the last 20 years, Diane Jones has volunteered her time to cut hair on Mondays at St. Vincent's. Diane is a professional beautician who has told me that she will continue to provide this service to our needy brothers and sisters until she can't. She began this service once her youngest child was in school and was thinking about the Homeless Shelter as a place to volunteer. Susan Brasket, a friend and Vincentian, suggested that she offer her services at St. Vincent's. Over the years, she has partnered with other barbers to provide this service. Her warm and caring personality has built trusting relationships with many of the homeless and needy families we serve. In fact, I remember one particular incident when I first began volunteering. She came to me, near tears. The man whose hair she was cutting, told her he was going to kill himself. We sat with him and, in fact, he had a plan, a method. We contacted his social worker and the PET team came to care for him. Diane's continuing love and concern for our brothers and sisters is a blessing to Our Lady of Charity Conference, enhancing the services we can provide. Thank you, Diane, for all you do.

Susan Ortega

Lent is not just to "give up something", but more important to "give something to the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.



Prayer Corner

Anyone who wishes to add names can contact SVDP at stvincentdepaullancaster@frontier.com. We would love to hear from you and hope that all our fellow Vincentians will lift all people in prayer. Please pray for Tony McLoughlin, Mitch Kraft, Bob Wetzel, Pat Cadena, Bill Hoffman, Lester Gilbert, adopted son of Roberta and Walt Schmidt, Johnny Marchany, and Joyce and Don Willey. Please pray for the repose of the souls of all our deceased brothers and sisters. **Praise God for all our success and ask him for healing for our people still in need of our prayers as well as all our Vincentians who so generously give of their time and talents.**

PLEASE HELP!

In April, Our Lady of Charity Conference will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary. As I read the old "Quips and Quotes" Newsletters, I came across names of Vincentians who gave of their time and talent; for example: Pauline Dofman, Mary Unverferth, Toni and Bill Sterling, Vince Interrante. If you know these folks or others who were Vincentians in the early years and have information about them, please have them contact us or let us know how to contact them so that we may invite them to our celebration, *April 20*. Our phone number is (661) 942-3222.

Thanks, Susan

To date this year, through your gifts, Our Lady of Charity Conference was able to assist 84 families, providing 148 bags of food, \$849.00 for utility, rent and other bills. God Bless You!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 06 Roberta Schmitt
- 11 Margarita Hoffman
- 14 Susan Ortega
- 17 Vince Interrante
- 22 Diane Jones
- 23 Frank Brazil

March 2018

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18	19 K of C	20	21 OPEN SHS lunch bags	22 St. Serra	23	24 Sts. Constantine & Helen
25	26 K of C Meeting 6-8 p.m.	27	28 Johnny M.	29 St. Serra	30	31 FAA/AV

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

05 Pat Cadena

23 Fr. Gerald

GARAGE SALE

The first garage sale of the year will be held Saturday, February 10, 2018, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. This time we will be at Site 2, 44721 Trevor, and will set up at 7 a.m.

Again, many thanks for your dedication to volunteer to help so many others!

Tish

SOME SCRIPTURAL QUOTES ON PRAYER

“So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”
Mark 11:24

“Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”
Matthew 26:41

“Now during those days, He went out to the mountains to pray; and He spent the night in prayer to God.”
Luke 6:12