

VETERA MONIMENTA

A. P. Chanam

September 2022

Vincentian Wisdom
Quotes • Charism



"Evictions Spiking Throughout Contra Costa County" Ok, what do we do now, and how do we do it?

Vincentians know through our experience, "It is much more effective to keep someone housed than to find them a new home" *More on helping keep people in their homes: page (5).*

Event

Tuesdays with Vincent
St. Louise de Marillac: Sr. Paule Freeburg
Tuesday 9/6, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (ZOOM)

Event

Bocce Tournament
Saturday 9/10, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday 9/13, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

District Council Meeting
Saturday 9/17, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Training

Home Visit Workshop
Tuesday 9/20, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Event

Friends of the Poor Walk
Saturday 9/24, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Event

Feast of St. Vincent de Paul
Saturday 9/27, ALL DAY

Event

FY 2012-2022 Ends
All Conferences

Bob Liles Corner

WATCH OUT FOR SCAMS

Recently a couple of the staff at the District Council received this email:

From: Bob Liles <officemail589233@gmail.com>

Greetings,

Hope you're doing well today? I have an assignment I need you to do for me immediately. Let me know if you are available.

*Bob Liles
President*

And here is one that Claudia received earlier this year:

*From: Bob Liles, Society of St Vincent de Paul Contra Costa County, 2210 Gladstone Dr, Pittsburg, CA.
<churchonline012126@gmail.com>*

Hello Claudia, do you have a moment? I have a request I need you to handle discreetly and quickly. I am going into a meeting now; no calls so just reply to my email.

Here's what I want you to do for me because I'm very busy right now. I have been working on incentives and I aimed at surprising our Administrative and Thrift store staff with gift cards this week. This should be very confidential, that is just between you and I alone, until they all have the gift cards as it's a surprise and you will also keep one for yourself too.

Can you do this? and how soon?

Unfortunately, neither emails were from me. They have also received phony emails supposedly from Claudia. I am sure that most of you are aware of this type of scam and are very

Bob Liles Corner Cont. - WATCH OUT FOR SCAMS

careful when you receive an email like this, but it is becoming harder and harder to tell the real from the phony. Sometimes you can tell it is a scam by double-checking the email address. In the two examples above, the email address is not correct. However, I have seen somewhere that the person could make it appear like it came from a valid email address and was even able to intercept emails sent back to the supposed sender. Sometimes there are links in the email that looks real, but when you click on them, they take you somewhere else. Some give a number to call if you have a question, but that also takes you down the wrong road. The bottom line is that if anything about an email doesn't look right or asks you to spend money, call the person directly or email them with a completely new email instead of hitting reply and double-check that the email address you are using is the correct one.

People requesting assistance are sometimes also scammers. One person sent me a forged letter from the housing authority. Another one could not wait for us to do the home visit with her, so she created a fake letter from us to her landlord that said we would pay her deposit. Unfortunately, he believed the letter and let her move in without confirming it was real.

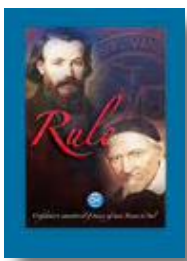
Our Conferences in Action

Denise DalColletto, President, SVdP Conference at St. Agnes, Concord

St. Agnes Conference in Concord has been extremely busy lately. Due to a jump in Hotline callers from 5 to 15 per week, our Home Visit teams have been scrambling to keep up, but so far, we have been able to help each caller with something, even if that's sitting and talking. We have distributed shelter funds, food and gas cards, clothing, vehicle care, and repairs, working on the principle that no charity is foreign to the Society.

We also recently put on a FUN fundraiser, with a delicious barbeque, dancing to live music, and lots of social interaction for our community. Then we made everything neat and tidy after everyone went home. I never realized we had so many talented chefs, bakers, and plumbers; we won't even go there, this has to be short! September will also be productive, with first Bundle Sunday, then our FOP Walk.

We are swamped and joyful, for we know God loves us all and He is Good.



RULE 2.5 The Spirituality of St. Vincent

Having been placed under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul by the founding members, members of the Society are inspired by his spirituality, manifested in his attitudes, his thoughts, his example, and his words.

For Vincentians, the critical aspects of St. Vincent's spirituality are:

- To love God, our Father, with the sweat of our brow and the strength of our arms;
- To see Christ in the poor and the poor in Christ;
- To share the compassionate and liberating love of Christ the Evangelizer and Servant of the poor;
- To heed the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Our Vincentian Home Visit

by The Contra Costa County
Spirituality and Formation Committee

Reprint from June 1, 2022 – Presentation at Christ the King (Part II)

We are here tonight to present to you Our Vincentian Home Visit.

Home Visits in the Vincentian Tradition

Unpublished work by Fr. Robert Maloney CM, “Home visits in the Vincentian Tradition,” affirms the ongoing cultivation of the Vincentian heart through the home visit encounter.

Vincent de Paul insisted:

When you visit them, rejoice and say to yourself, “I am going to these poor people to honor in their person the person of Our Lord. I am going to see in them the Incarnate Wisdom of God.”
CCD: X:103.

A little history about home visits from Vincent's life.

Two by Two ... for 400 Years

In 1617 when he founded the

Confraternities of Charity, Vincent directed members to go two by two to the homes of the sick and disadvantaged.

In 1625 when he founded the Congregation of the Mission, Vincent wrote: “We ... always go out two by two” during missions to visit the homes of the marginalized.”

In 1633 when Vincent and Louise de Marillac founded the Daughters of Charity, He placed a significant emphasis on visits to the sick and poor. Such visits were among the most striking characteristics of this new community of sisters.

The SVDP Contra Costa County
Spirituality and Formation Committee





"Evictions Spiking Throughout Contra Costa County" Ok, what do we do now, and how do we do it?

1) **Do the Home Visit**

- 2) Assess their Needs
- 3) Assess their Resources
- 4) What is their (our Neighbors) plan or help them develop one
- 5) Share the Case with your Conference
- 6) What Conference Resources are available
 - a) What local Resources are available
 - i) Parish
 - ii) Twinning
 - iii) Other Ministries
 - b) What County Resources are open for Housing
(This is the order in which you should apply for assistance)
 - i) Shelter Inc.
 - ii) Season of Sharing
 - iii) Catholic Charities
 - iv) Hope Solutions

Lastly, as a resource of last resort, please apply to the Hope Conference.

7) **Hope Conference**

- a) Complete the Application
- b) Release of Information
- c) W-9
- d) Landlord Tenant letter
- e) Documentation
 - i) Proof of Crisis
 - ii) Proof of Income (sustainability)
 - iii) Past Due Notice
 - iv) Signed Lease Agreement
 - v) Section 8 (Inspection report if applicable)

8) **Vincentians & Conferences need to submit complete, readable applications and support documentation.**

- a) You will receive notice when your complete, readable applications with support documentation have been received.
- b) Understand the submission dates: The Hope Conference meets every other week to review the cases submitted by Wednesday of the previous week. For September 2022, submission dates: Deadline 9/7/2022, Funding Meeting Date is 9/14/2022, Submission Date Deadline 9/21/2022 Funding Meeting Date 9/28/2022.

Please understand that submission is not a guarantee of funding. Hope Conference funding takes place only after a review of each case.

How does the Hope Conference help our other conferences serve our neighbors in need?

City	2020-2021		2021-2022	
	# Adults	# Kids	# Adults	# Kids
Antioch	30	30	57	35
Bay Point	25	21	11	7
Brentwood	14	14	20	15
Byron	2	0		
Clayton			1	0
Concord	48	42	50	16
Crockett			2	0
Danville			1	0
Dublin	1	0		
El Sobrante	1	2		
Hercules	4	2		
Homeless	1	0	3	1
Kensington	1	1		
Lafayette	3	0		
Martinez	2	0	2	2
Oakley	11	27	10	6
Orinda	5	2		
Pinole	6	0	3	3
Pittsburg	54	40	45	29
Pleasant Hill	2	4	2	2
Richmond	66	37	29	17
Rodeo	1	0		
San Pablo	13	11	13	11
San Ramon	19	13	15	11
Walnut Creek	8	9	1	0
Grand Total	317	255	265	155

Look at how many were helped by collaborating our conferences with the Hope Conference.

See where they live in Contra Costa County.

<i>Donations and grants received by Fiscal Year</i>				
2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Grand Total
\$1,000.00	\$262,325.00	\$615,750.00	\$426,790.52	\$1,305,865.52
<i>Assistance provided by Fiscal Year</i>				
2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Total
\$8,856	\$222,329	\$419,808	\$556,979	\$1,207,972
<i>Neighbors Supported by Fiscal Year</i>				
2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Total
23	448	747	791	2,009

How has the support of the Hope Conference impacted our neighbors in need in the past five years? (Please note that the 2021-2022 data is through mid-August.)

Here is a synopsis of the spiritual reflection that Kathy La Cross from Christ The King, Pleasant Hill, gave at this month's Conference meeting to kick off the month. Thank you, Kathy La Cross.

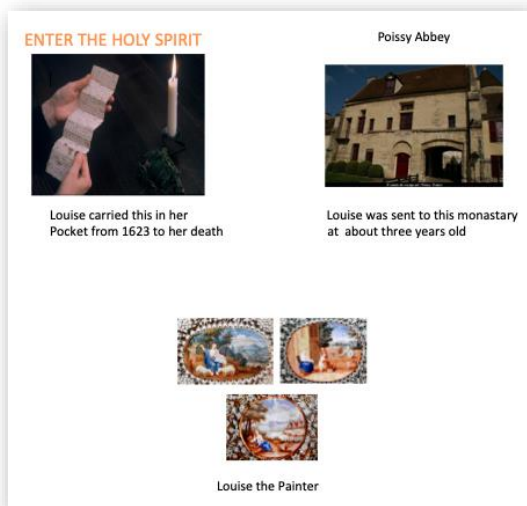
ST. LOUISE DE MARILLAC - Co-Foundress of the Daughters of Charity (1591-1660)

Born in France in 1591, Louise de Marillac was raised and educated by her widowed father, who passed away when she was 15. She was left in desperate social straits and felt the need to marry a gentleman named Antony Le Gras. It was a happy marriage, though regrets secretly plagued her that she had suppressed a religious vocation.

Her husband passed away while Louise was still young, and at that point, she looked for a sign of a vocation. It came as an introduction to Father Vincent de Paul, who became her spiritual director and guided her throughout the remainder of her life.

Father Vincent had organized an extraordinary range of charitable projects by the time they met. One included a circle of aristocratic ladies who worked together in the Parisian slums among the sick and destitute. Louise committed herself to this work but, over time, realized that the needs of the poor completely overwhelmed the part-time efforts of these well-intentioned women. She and Vincent formed the idea of a community of women wholly committed to service to the poor, and thus the Daughters of Charity was born.

The Daughters were not at first intended to be a religious congregation but a group that would work on the streets and in the hospitals and homes of the poor. Louise drew girls and widows from the lower classes and trained them in Paris. Their dress was the garb of peasant women. Their mantra was that the poor were their masters and that they would encounter the face of Christ in them. Whenever summoned by those in need, they would drop everything and serve.



The numbers and works of the Daughters expanded quickly, and soon their communities spread throughout France and other parts of Europe. They could be found administering hospitals, orphanages, and schools for the poor, as well as ministering to prisoners and galley enslaved people, visiting the poor in their squalid hovels, and caring for the victims of the plague.

The Daughters of Charity eventually was recognized by the Vatican as a religious congregation, with their members annually renewing vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Such recognition of a community of women living outside an enclosed convent and engaged in apostolic work in the world was a novel and remarkable achievement. Still, in her later

years, Louise worried about her group's future, afraid that the Sisters would lose touch with the radical spirit of service in the world and become "institutionalized" like so many other religious communities. So she would forever remind her Sisters to be "diligent in serving the poor....to love the poor, honor them.....as you would honor Christ Himself."

Louise died on March 15, 1660, at the age of 69. She was canonized in 1934 when the Sisters of Charity numbered more than 50,000 worldwide.

"Tuesdays with Vincent de Paul,"

Greetings,

Tuesday, September 6, 2022, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. our "Tuesdays with Vincent de Paul," the area of study and Interchange will be on the person of Louise Le Grass [St. Louise de Marillac] (August 12, 1591, through March 15, 1660). Our primary source of study for the month is based on the book *St. Louise de Marillac - A Light in the Darkness* by Kathryn B. LaFleur, S.P.

Our host and moderator for the evening on 9/6/22 will be Sr. Paule Freeburg D.C., who is first a "Daughter of Charity." Sr. Paule is also the Spiritual Advisor for the Western Region of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Sr. Paule is no stranger to The Daughters of Charity or St. Louise de Marillac D.C. As a Daughter of Charity, she will provide this intimate evening on the life and person of St. Louise de Marillac. Starting as Louise Le Grass on August 12, 1591, we follow our Saint's life path and God's formation to become St. Louise de Marillac D.C. Saint and co-founder of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

To help provide some background, below is a [Link to YouTube Video](#) by our friend and previous Tuesday with Vincent de Paul presenter Louise Sullivan, DC, Ph.D.

Link: <https://youtu.be/zZnXrk8W0JI>

· If you are interested in a deeper study, we have *Saint Louise de Marillac: A Bibliography to Present Day* edited by our friend Fr. John E Rybolt, C.M., DePaul University.

The Zoom Link for Tuesdays with Vincent de Paul will open at 5:45 PM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87211598430?pwd=QnVOZG9Nc2R3N1VWamd2aDZsSm9wQT09>

Meeting ID: 872 1159 8430

Passcode: 927838



This painting of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Called the Lord of Charity
Painted by St. Louise de Marillac
It hangs in the Mother House of the Daughters of Charity in Paris France

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CATHOLIC FUNERAL
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September

10

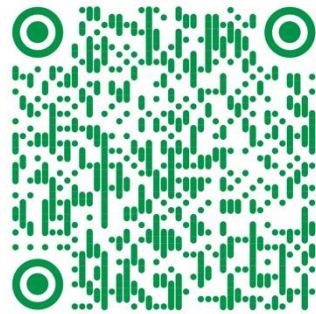
10:30 AM - 2:00 PM

**Martinez Bocce Federation
Joe DiMaggio Way
Martinez, CA**



**THE BIG
LA BOCCE 2022
Bocce Ball Tournament**

SCAN QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS



This event benefits:

St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County and **Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa**
and our safety-net programs to help our most vulnerable neighbors in Contra Costa.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
of Contra Costa County



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