



September 2025

Vincentian **Wisdom**
Quotes • Charism



Event

Bocce Tournament
Martinez, Bocce Courts
Saturday, 9/13
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting
Family Resource Center
Tuesday, 9/16
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

District Council Meeting
Good Shepherd, Pittsburg
Saturday, 9/20
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Feast Day

Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul
09/27

Event

Friends of the Poor Walks
Saturday, 9/27
Concord, El Cerrito, San Ramon
Scan to support a walk or walker:



Bob Liles Corner

WE NEVER KNOW THE LIFE THAT OTHERS HAVE LIVED

By Bob Liles

Last month I was working our food pantry and a lady was filling out our application for financial assistance. I told her that it might be easier if she filled it out at home, take a picture of it and emailed it to us. She told me that she doesn't have email and so she has to give us the forms.

Then she told me that she is 73 years old, probably as the reason she doesn't do email. I exclaimed that was great and that we were the same age. To which she replied, "But you weren't a homeless drug addict for forty years." We never know the life that others have lived.

One of the first rules for helping people is don't do anything for them that can do for themselves. The hard part is determining what they are capable of and what they really cannot do. Too often I expect them to be able to complete tasks that seem very simple, but for them are impossible.

Bob

"We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings and wretchedness of other people, and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion which is truly the spirit of God."

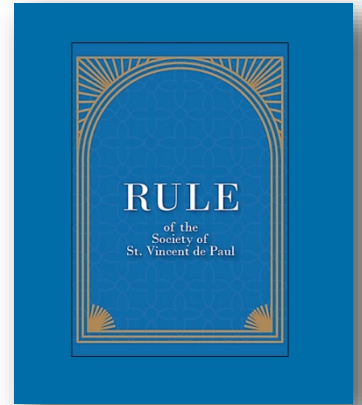
St. Vincent de Paul

UPDATED STORE VOUCHER POLICY

The policy for vouchers and the vouchers themselves have been updated, and there is a new sample voucher document. These can be found at the DC website, <https://www.svdp-cc.org/store-vouchers-and-car-donation/>. Be sure to check them out and put them by your voucher books. If you need new voucher books, please contact Marco Ceballos at m.ceballos@svdp-cc.org, and if you need training, contact Monica Perez at m.perez@svdp-cc.org

THE RULE 6.4 **ECUMENICAL AND INTER-FAITH** **MEMBERSHIP**

Conferences and Councils should establish a dialogue with their counterparts in other Christian churches or ecclesial communities and other faiths, with regard to cooperation in charitable work, wherever this is appropriate



MEETING AGENDA - The Rule, Part 3, Statute 7:

Old business – Exactly what it says. If you were talking about an issue at the last meeting and want to talk some more about it, now is the time to discuss it.





The mosaic of Bl. Frederic Ozanam at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC

Feast Day - September 9



Blessed Frederic Ozanam was schooled in law, literature, and philosophy and taught at the universities in Lyon and Paris. Challenged by a detractor of the faith to demonstrate the good he was doing socially in France, Frederic and six companions founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul on April 23, 1833. On June 23, 1841, Frederic married Amelie Soulacroix, and their only child, Marie, was born in 1845. He succumbed to ill health and died on September 8, 1853. Pope John Paul II beatified Frederic Ozanam in Paris on August 22, 1997.

St. Vincent de Paul was born at Pouy, France on April 24, 1581. He was ordained a priest on September 23, 1600. Vincent devoted himself entirely to the alleviation of the sufferings of the poor, and to that purpose established the Confraternities of Charity, later known as the Ladies of Charity, in 1617.



In 1625 he founded the Congregation of the Mission, his community of priests and brothers. With Louise de Marillac, he co-founded the Daughters of Charity in 1633. Vincent died in Paris on September 27, 1660 and was canonized in 1737. Pope Leo XIII declared him patron saint of all works of charity.

Go to <https://www.svdpc-cc.org/tuesdays-with-vincent/> to learn a lot more about these two great people who are major figures in the Vincentian family.

SEPTEMBER 2025 SPECIAL SESSIONS



We have been hosting these virtual gatherings for a while now, and attendance has been limited. We will continue with these, but starting in October, we will meet only once a month for RESOURCES for our Neighbors.

SEPTEMBER 2025 SPECIAL SESSIONS

2ND AND 3RD TUESDAY

RESOURCES FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Join us on Tuesday, September 9 or Tuesday, September 16 for an informative session on the Measure X Funds that SVdP of Contra Costa County has received as a Homeless Prevention Grant.

The District Council has been awarded a substantial (over \$300,000) grant from the County from Measure X funds (the extra 0.05% Sales Tax that was adopted in 2020) to use for homelessness prevention. In the past, large grants like this were administered by the Hope conference due to reporting and other requirements. Because of the special requirements of this grant, we have a new and special process for our neighbors to be able to get help through this funding. The presentation will include the procedures required and FAQs. **We strongly encourage you to attend** so that you can learn how to help our neighbors in imminent danger of homelessness stay housed!

<https://bit.ly/TuesdayZoomForum>

Meeting ID: 925 439 5060

Passcode: Ozanam

MEET OUR NEW VINCENTIAN SERVICES COORDINATOR

We are blessed to have hired Marco Ceballos as our new Vincentian Services Coordinator. He started on August 25, then got on a plane to go to Louisville for the SVdP National Assembly. Talk about diving into the deep end of the pool! Marco is settling into his new role, already reaching out to conference leadership and learning the inner workings of the District Council. Please join the staff and board in welcoming our new team member!

Marco wrote a brief message to introduce himself:

Hello fellow Vincentians!

My name is Marco Ceballos, and I am your new Vincentian Services Coordinator. During my time with The Society of St. Vincent De Paul, I've had the pleasure of meeting some of you, and to those that I haven't, I look forward to it! I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you all a little about myself.

It was about four years ago when I first heard of The Society of St. Vincent De Paul. I was in a bad place and had asked God what it was he wanted from me. I soon felt compelled to volunteer at my local parish, which happened to be Church of the Good Shepherd in Pittsburg. I called the parish office asking for any volunteer opportunities and that's when I was informed about the Good Shepherd's SVdP conference recently put out in the parish bulletin that they were in real need of volunteers. I've been there ever since.



When I started, I was welcomed with open arms and, over the course of my four years there, have developed life-long friendships with many of the Vincentians there. What I am most grateful for, however, was the building of my relationship with God. At first, it was all just volunteer work. It felt good dedicating time to help those in need, but as time went on, God had revealed himself to me. It was through St. Vincent De Paul that God showed me how He participates in our lives, which was huge for me because I had a hard time wrapping my head around how I can come to love God who I can't physically see, hear, touch, etc.

I feel so blessed by the opportunity to work for the Society of St. Vincent De Paul. I look forward to growing in holiness alongside you all, building life-long friendships as we live out our faith by building a more just world through our growing personal relationships with and service to people in need.

Marco can be reached at the Family Resource Center, 925-439-5060, ext. 28 or at m.ceballos@svdp-cc.org



Saturday, September 27, 2025
Home Visit Workshop

WHEN WE SHOW UP...GOD ALWAYS SHOWS UP

PLEASE JOIN US AT:

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

2051 M. Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596

8:30 AM Mass

9:00 AM Continental breakfast & Registration

9:30 AM-12:30 PM Workshop

This interactive workshop will help you see how BLESSED ROSALIE RENDU taught our founders TO SEE THE FACE OF CHRIST IN THOSE WE SERVE.

Use the link or QR code below. Registration will close on Wednesday, Sept. 24



<https://bit.ly/HomeVisitSep27>

Questions? Contact Shawwna Costanzo, 925-200-5952