

# VETERA MONIMENTA

A. P. Chanam

**February 2026**

## **Feast Day**

Blessed Rosalie Rendu  
Saturday, 2/7

## **Training**

Tuesday Tips & Training  
Tuesday, 2/10  
10:00 AM – 11:00AM

## **Training**

SA Formation & Training  
Tuesday – Thursday, 2/10 – 2/12  
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

## **Training**

Home Visit Workshop  
Saturday, 2/14  
9:00 AM – 12:15 PM  
Queen of All Saints, Concord

## **Meeting**

Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, 2/17

## **Event**

Vincentian Lenten Retreat  
Saturday, 2/21  
9:15 AM – 12:30 PM  
St. John Vianney, Walnut Creek

## **Training**

Treasurer Training  
Saturday 2/28,  
10 AM – 12 PM  
St. Jerome, El Cerrito

Vincentian **Wisdom**  
Quotes • Charism



## **Bob Liles Corner**

### **TOUGH LOVE**

Steve Krank would constantly tell me something an old priest once told him: “A mother’s love has killed more alcoholics than alcohol.” How many times have you seen someone enable a neighbor with a substance problem or being fiscally irresponsible rather than enabling them to improve themselves? Unfortunately, I have seen very little from SVdP on tough love. After all, if you see the face of Christ in the person you are helping, how can tell the neighbor that you are not going to help them in the way that they want to be helped? But isn’t it required in some situations? I have given tough love to our neighbors that I have visited, but I don’t know if I could do it with my own daughters. My sister knows two families whose children got hooked on drugs and they finally gave up on paying for their rehab stints. One gave their daughter a bus ticket that was good for any trip and told her that once she was ready to change that they would welcome her back home with open arms. The other family had money and a lot of land, so they built a tiny house in their backyard for their son. He was banned from their house, but he could do whatever he wanted in his own house. They figured it was safer for him to use drugs there than in a homeless camp. After several years, the daughter returned home and got clean. I don’t know the fate of the son. I am not sure which method is best, and it probably depends upon the individual. But I have seen a lot of times when tough love was the answer, and Steve has a lot of examples. But are we prepared to do it?

**Bob**

## **THE RULE - 7 RELATIONSHIP WITH CIVIL SOCIETY WORK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**



### **7.1 The Society gives immediate help but also seeks mid-term and long-term solutions**

The Society is concerned not only with alleviating need but also with identifying the unjust structures that cause it. It is, therefore, committed to identifying the root causes of poverty and to contributing to their elimination. In all its charitable actions there should be a search for justice; in its struggle for justice, the Society must keep in mind the demands of charity.

There is no act of charity that is not accompanied by justice or that permits us to do more than we reasonably can.

St. Vincent de Paul

## **STATUTE 7 – MEETING AGENDA – CLOSING PRAYER**

If you did not do it during the opening prayer this is a time to pray for the intentions of the Vincentians present and especially for the neighbors in need that you are working with.

## **WEST REGION AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES**

It's not too early to start planning on attending the West Region Meeting from April 30th to May 2nd in Seattle and the National Assembly from Sept 9th to Sept 12th in Salt Lake City.

If you think it will be just a waste of time, find someone who has attended them and get their input. You might be amazed at how it has changed some people's lives and enriched their Vincentian vocation.

**Tuesday Tips and Training**  
**February 2026 Session**  
**Tuesday, February 10, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**



*Our Monthly meeting, designed to share **RESOURCES** for our Neighbors.*

**Measure X Homelessness Prevention**

**Join us on Tuesday, February 10, to share resources with fellow Vincentians.** After close to 50 families assisted with this program, members from our Measure X Homelessness Prevention Committee will be presenting updated information about this program to help our neighbors in need. Have a neighbor with a notice of or in the process of eviction? Uninhabitable household? Come and learn more about how this program can keep our most vulnerable neighbors housed.

<https://bit.ly/TuesdayTipsTraining>

**Meeting ID: 890 0345 5047      Passcode: Ozanam**





## FEBRUARY 7TH – FEAST OF BLESSED ROSALIE RENDU



As Vincentians, we joyfully celebrate the feast day of **Blessed Rosalie Rendu** on **February 7**, a woman whose life embodied the very heart of our Vincentian mission.

Born in France in 1786, Blessed Rosalie became a Daughter of Charity at a young age and spent more than fifty years serving the poor in the streets and slums of Paris. She was known for her deep compassion, fearless advocacy, and unwavering trust in God's providence. During times of political unrest, violence, and extreme poverty, Rosalie remained steadfast — feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, sheltering the homeless, and defending the dignity of every person she encountered.

She did not simply offer material assistance; she offered **presence, respect, and love**. Blessed Rosalie saw Christ in the poor and helped others do the same, forming young people and future leaders — including Frédéric Ozanam — in the spirit of

charity rooted in faith. One of her most well-known quotes reminds us of the posture we are called to take in our service:

**“But be kind and love, for love is your first gift to the poor. They will appreciate your kindness and your love more than all else you bring them.”**

Blessed Rosalie teaches us that Vincentian service is not about efficiency alone, but about **love that is personal, patient, and courageous**. Her life calls us to serve with open hearts, trusting that when we encounter the poor with humility and compassion, we encounter Christ himself. May her example continue to inspire us to live our Vincentian vocation with joy, simplicity, and deep charity.

For those interested in learning more about her life and Vincentian legacy, you can find more on the official website of the Vincentian family, [Famvin.org](http://Famvin.org), as well as on our Tuesdays with Vincent section on our SVdP website under the Members tab.



*Blessed Rosalie Rendu, pray for us.*

## **SPIRITUAL ADVISOR FORMATION AND TRAINING** **NATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**

For Spiritual Advisors, Associate Spiritual Advisors, or those thinking of becoming Spiritual Advisors – join us for this three-part training and formation program. Whether you are new or experienced, if you have never previously attended, please register and attend this program led by Tim Williams, Senior Director, Formation & Leadership Development.

Over three evenings, about 2 hours each session, you will learn about Vincentian Formation, the role of the Spiritual Advisor, tools, resources, and reflections you can use, and Vincentian Discernment and Consensus.

We also encourage attendance by Conference and Council Presidents, who have “a special responsibility for promoting Vincentian spirituality.”

This is a three-part workshop, and you can register for all three nights at the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/1xOatnQbSd6lVYTtbYyZ7A>

Part I – Tuesday, Feb. 10, 6:30-8:30

Part II -Wednesday, Feb. 11, 6:30-8:30

Part III -Thursday, Feb. 12, 6:30-8:30

For those not able to attend these three sessions, Tim Williams will be coming to Contra Costa County in mid-August to present an in-person Spiritual Advisor training and a Spiritual Retreat. Watch for more details in upcoming issues of the *Vetera Monimenta* newsletter

## **TREASURER’S TRAINING**

Treasurers, Assistant Treasurers, or anyone interested in becoming a Treasurer, please join us **February 28<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM at St. Jerome, 308 Carmel Ave, El Cerrito, CA 94530 .**

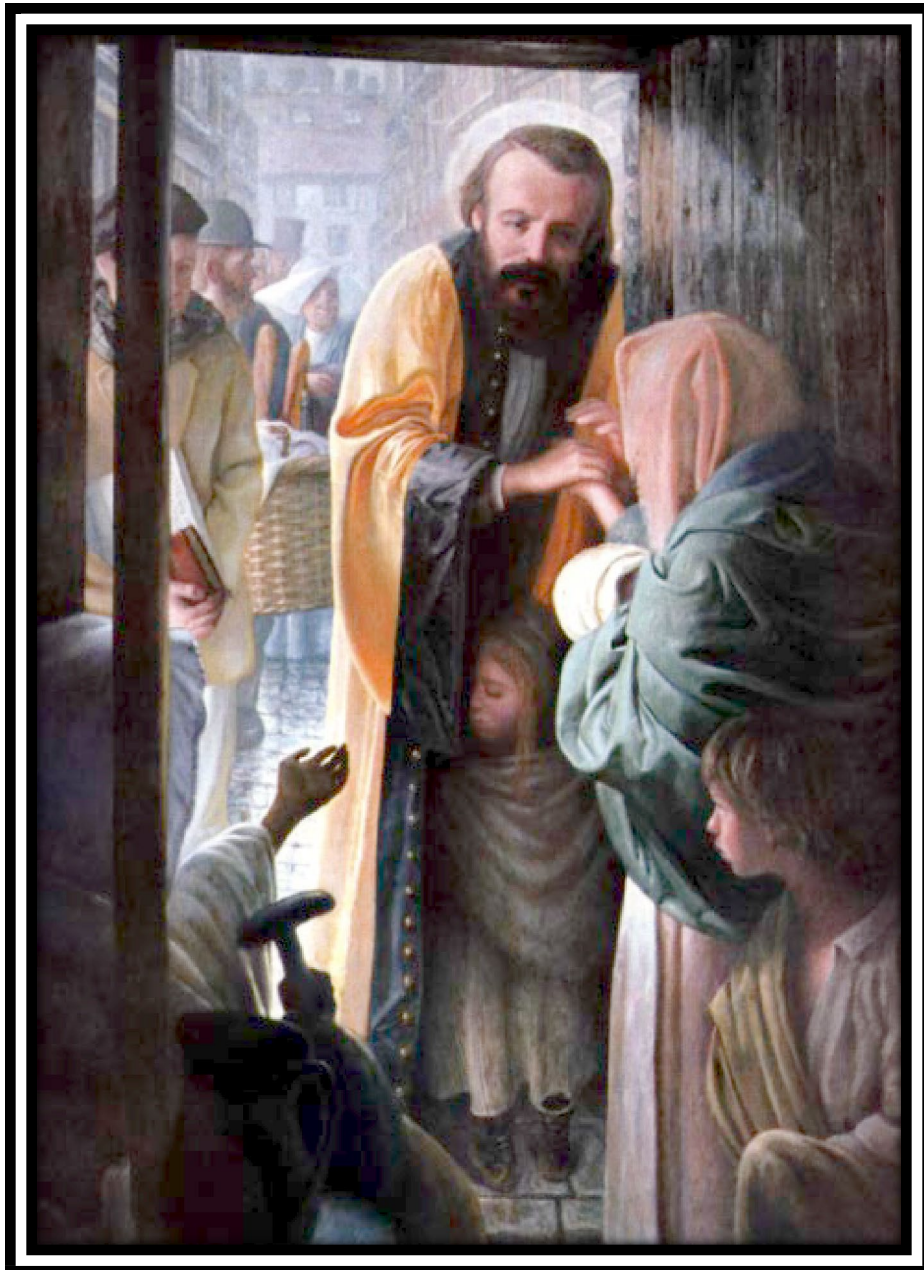
**We will be sending registration information directly to all Treasurers, Assistant Treasurers and Presidents the week of February 9 but mark you calendars for this session on Saturday, February 28.**

I AM NOW COMPLETELY CONVINCED THAT WHEN ONE DOES A  
DEED OF CHARITY ONE NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT WHERE THE  
MONEY WILL COME FROM: IT WILL ALWAYS COME.  
— FRÉDÉRIC OZANAM

**Saturday, February 14, 2026**  
***Home Visit Workshop***

***WHEN WE SHOW UP...GOD ALWAYS SHOWS UP***

PLEASE JOIN US AT:  
**QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS**  
**2390 Grant St, Concord, CA 94520**



9:00 AM Registration  
9:15 AM-12:15 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.

**Questions? Contact**  
**Shawna Costanzo, 925-**  
**200-5952**

**Click on the link or QR code**  
**below to register.**



**Registration will close on**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 11**

**<https://bit.ly/HomeVisitFeb14>**



# **Vincentian Lenten Retreat**

## **Saturday, February 21, 2026**

### **Lent begins February 18 — Ash Wednesday**

We begin Lent with a ritual that may seem to set us apart as sinners. Yet Lent is not about shame or proving ourselves worthy.

Often, we believe that if we work really hard during Lent, God will approve of us. We spend time deciding what we will give up, hoping our efforts will make us “good enough.”

But the **readings for Ash Wednesday offer a different, uplifting vision.**

They remind us that before anything we do—or fail to do—**God already tells us who we are.**

**Let's explore Ash Wednesday and the journey of Lent together.**

Sr. Paule Freeburg, D.C., our West Region Spiritual Advisor, will gently guide us through reflections that take us from the readings of Ash Wednesday through the Lenten Season.

***Saturday, February 21***

***St. John Vianney Catholic Church***

***1650 Ygnacio Valley Rd., Walnut Creek, 94598***

Please join in the Mass that is offered at 8:30 AM to center yourself for the day's reflection. Our retreat will be held at Mullen Commons at the parish and begin with registration and breakfast at 9:15 AM and end by 12:30 PM.

**Click here to register**

**<https://bit.ly/LentenRetreat2-21>**

**or scan the QR code**



**RSVP:** Please register by 2/18/26 to ensure we have space and refreshments for all participants. For questions or more information, contact Marco Ceballos, Vincentian Services Coordinator, at [m.cebалlos@svdp-cc.org](mailto:m.cebалlos@svdp-cc.org)