



June 2026

Feast Day

Feast of the Sacred Heart, Friday 6/12

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, 6/16, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Training

Tuesday Tips & Training – Zoom

Tuesday, 6/16, 10 am – 11am

Training

Ozanam Orientation

Saturday 7/11, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, 7/14, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Meeting

District Council Meeting

Location TBA

Saturday, 7/18, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Training

Home Visit Workshop

Saturday 7/25, 11:30 am – 3:30 pm

St. Anthony, Oakley

Event

National Assembly

Wednesday – Saturday, 9/9 – 9/12

Hyatt Regency, Salt Lake City, UT

*For the complete calendar go to the Members section of www.svdpc-cc.org

Vincentian **Wisdom**
Quotes • Charism



Bob Liles Corner

West Region Seattle meeting – Rooted in Love, Delivering Hope

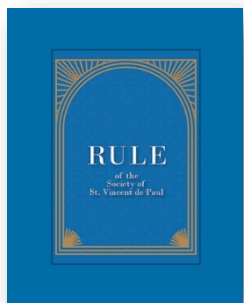
Here is a link to some of the talks. Try to read at least one. Topics include Governance, Spiritual Reflection, Recruitment, Advocacy, and more.

<https://www.ssvpwesternregionusa.org/regional-meetings/2026-west-region-annual-meeting>

Here is a tidbit from one of the meetings – A deacon who routinely visits homeless camps in Seattle came across a lady who came out of her tent and told him that she is just waiting to die. He told her that God loved her, he loved her and she has a purpose in her life. She prayed with him and then told him that she was going back into her tent to die. He visited her several times and counseled her to go to a hospital. Then he didn't see her for over a month. But the next time he visited the encampment she was there and she was different. Her hair was combed and she was dressed nicely. She said that she was so happy to see him. She took his advice and went to the hospital. She is much better now and telephoned her daughter that she hasn't talked to in over a year. Her daughter had a child, so she is leaving Seattle to live with her daughter and help her take care of the baby. Please note that if he had not returned that day and talked to her, he would have never known that she had turned her life around. How many times do we help someone and have no idea how our interaction with them might have affected their life?

Bob

RULE 7.5 A voice for the voiceless



The Society helps the poor and disadvantaged speak for themselves. When they cannot, the Society must speak on behalf of those who are ignored.

“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

West Region Meeting in Seattle - How to describe 20+ hours of contact with Vincentians – Ron Costanzo

There were roughly 25 sessions to choose from. I saw ~10. Besides the highlight of being with Vincentians that share our charism. Here are four sessions that stood out to me.

Title	Thoughts
Operation Nightwatch	Street chaplaincy: food, housing, prayer, love.... – through stories
Finding & Growing Servant Leaders	Concepts, ideas, models....to sustain and grow Conferences and Councils - encouraging leadership and growth of Vincentians
Intercultural Communication	Recognition of our differences. Described as an iceberg. Some of our culture is more visible while other parts must be explored.
Vincentians Are 1 st Responders	Views of Vincentian encounters effective and intentional. Our mission, our faith, the Gospels, our founders, and our mindsets.

It was a deep dive as “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.”

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY – Salt Lake City Sept 9 - 12



National Assembly 2025 Louisville

Registration is just around the corner, opening Monday, June 15th, for this year's National Assembly. If you have never gone before, please do yourself a favor and attend! Furthermore, Stipends are available for first time attendees from conferences who have not had stipends in the past five years.

Please Claudia Ramirez, c.ramirez@svdp-cc.org or 925-435-3219, for more information on how to apply for a stipend. More information on this year's National Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah will be posted at the link found below. It is such an experience, and we hope you consider it.

<https://ssvpusa.org/national-assembly/>

Tuesday Tips and Training
June 2026 SESSION
Tuesday, June 9, 10:00 am – 11:00 am



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

2ND TUESDAY- Grant Writing

Join us on Tuesday, June 9th when we are blessed to have Barbara Hunt, our SVdP Development Director, going over fundraising and grant writing so that our conferences can help build sustainable support for our neighbors in need.

Fundraising at the SVdP Conference Level

- 1. Why & How to fundraise**
 - a. We are not “selling” a cause**
 - b. We are inviting others into service**
 - c. Every donation represents hope for a neighbor in need**
 - d. Funding allows us to respond with dignity, compassion, and consistency**
- 2. What programs are available**
- 3. Where to find local funders**
- 4. Effective strategies - Communication is the Key, invite people to turn their compassion and desire to help others into ACTION**
- 5. Communication tools to utilize**
- 6. Partner with the District Council**

We ask that each conference send at least one Vincentian to represent your conference. These Tips and Training sessions are an important opportunity to stay connected as a Society and to grow together in our mission. Benefits of participating include gaining practical ideas and best practices from other conferences, strengthening your understanding of Vincentian spirituality and service, bringing back insights and resources to support your conference, and building relationships across our wider Vincentian community.

Your voice and experience are important. Whether you have something to share, a question to ask, or simply want to listen and learn, we encourage you to join us.

<https://bit.ly/TuesdayTipsTraining>
Meeting ID: 890 0345 5047 Passcode: Ozanam

Feast of the Sacred Heart – June 12

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been solemnly consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus since February 5, 1872. An Act of Consecration was drawn up at the request of the Society in 1872, and this act of consecration is renewed annually by all units of the Society. As we approach this Feast, we are invited to reflect on the depth of Christ's love for humanity. The image of the Sacred Heart reminds us that Jesus' love is not distant or abstract. His heart burns with compassion, mercy, tenderness, and concern for those who suffer. It is a love that reaches out, heals, forgives, and serves.

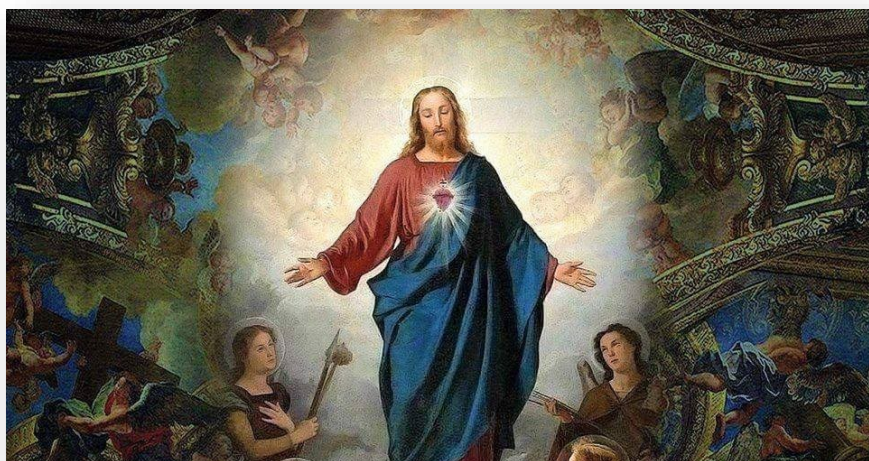
As Vincentians, this feast has a special meaning. Our ministry in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is rooted in the very heart of Christ. Every home visit, every meal shared, every listening ear, every act of charity is an opportunity to bring the compassionate love of Jesus to another person. Our Saints and blessed understood that serving those in need was not simply about providing material assistance. It was about encountering Christ Himself in those who are poor, lonely, forgotten, or struggling.

The Sacred Heart teaches us that charity begins with love. Sometimes we may feel overwhelmed by the needs around us or uncertain if our small efforts truly matter. Yet Jesus never asks us to solve every problem alone. He asks us to love faithfully. A kind word, a patient conversation, a prayer offered with someone, or a moment of genuine human connection can become a powerful reflection of the Heart of Christ.

The Sacred Heart is also a reminder that compassion requires courage. Jesus opened His heart completely to the world, even when it meant suffering and sacrifice. In our Vincentian vocation, we too are called to open our hearts — to be available, merciful, and willing to accompany others with dignity and hope.

As we celebrate this feast day, let us ask ourselves:
How is Christ calling me to love more deeply?
Whose burdens is He asking me to help carry?
How can I allow my heart to become more like His?

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus continue to guide our Conference and strengthen each Vincentian in the mission of serving our neighbors with humility, compassion, and joy.



HOW CAN WE ANSWER THE CALL TO
SEE THE FACE OF CHRIST IN ALL PEOPLE?



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN OZANAM ORIENTATION
JULY 11, 2026, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
500 FAIRVIEW AVE, BRENTWOOD

PARTICIPANTS **MUST** REGISTER BY JUNE 26, 2026, MAX. 30 PEOPLE

JOIN US FOR MASS AT 8 AM, SIGN IN AT 8:30 AM
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & LUNCH ARE INCLUDED

QUESTIONS? TEXT JOYCE OHANESIAN AT 925-475-9566

REGISTER AT:
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/OZANAMJULY11](https://bit.ly/ozanamjuly11)

OR SCAN QR CODE:



Helping Our Neighbors Through Challenging Times

CalFresh helps thousands of neighbors throughout Contra Costa County put food on the table and stretch their grocery budgets when times are difficult. For many, these benefits are not simply assistance programs — they are a source of stability, dignity, and hope during challenging moments in life.

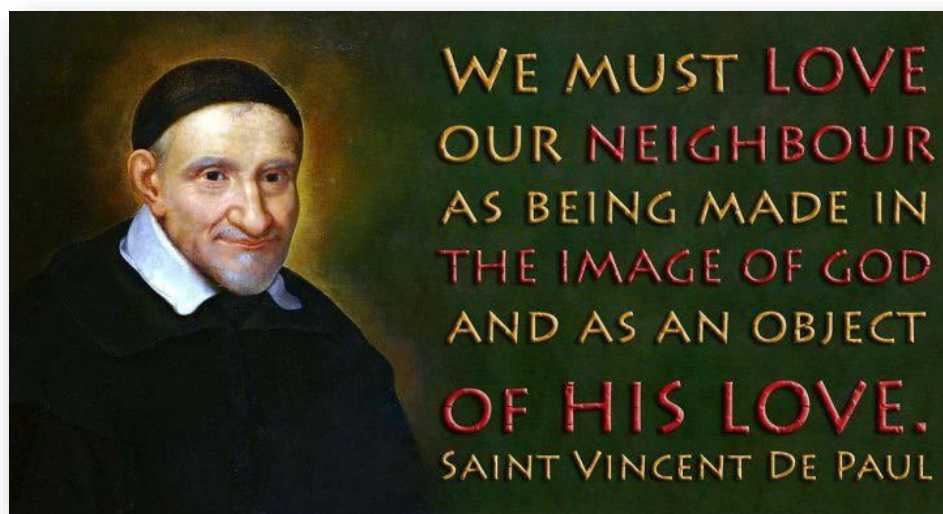
As Vincentians, we know that hunger is about more than food alone. Often, the neighbors we encounter carry burdens of uncertainty, stress, loneliness, or fear about how they will care for themselves or their families. Programs like CalFresh can provide important support that allows households to remain nourished and healthy.

Over the coming months, some CalFresh participants may experience changes to their benefits or recertification requirements due to recent federal policy changes to SNAP. While these updates may not affect everyone, they may create confusion and anxiety for community members trying to navigate the process and keep their benefits active. Some of the changes may impact:

- Adults ages 18 to 64 without dependent children under the age 14
- Individuals who may now need to meet monthly work, training, or reporting requirements to continue receiving benefits
- Some veterans, individuals experiencing homelessness, and former foster youth who were previously exempt from certain work requirements

In moments like these, the Vincentian call to serve becomes especially important. St. Vincent de Paul taught us to encounter Christ in those who struggle and to serve with humility, love, and respect for the dignity of every person. Our ministry is not only about providing material help, but also about walking alongside our neighbors so they know they are not alone.

As these changes continue to roll out, let us remain attentive to the needs around us. A simple conversation, a helping hand with paperwork, or sharing accurate information may ease a burden for someone experiencing food insecurity. You can also direct neighbors to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano's CalFresh Resource Page at foodbankccs.org/find-food/calfresh. Together, through faith, compassion, and service, we can continue to bring hope to our neighbors in need.





Saturday, July 25, 2026

Home Visit Workshop

WHEN WE SHOW UP...GOD ALWAYS SHOWS UP

PLEASE JOIN US AT:

ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

971 O'Hara Ave, Oakley, CA 94561

11:30 AM Light Lunch & Registration

11:30 AM - 3:30 PM Home Visit 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.

You must register to attend. Registration will close on Saturday, July 11, 2026



Click here <https://bit.ly/HomeVisitJuly25>
or scan the QR code

Questions? Text Joyce Ohanesian 925-475-9566