

April 2010

# **Our Lady of Charity**

Lancaster/Quartz Hill Conference  
**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**



**45058 Trevor – Suite B**



**44721 Trevor**

## **Quips and Quotes**

It is better to have a rich soul than to be rich.

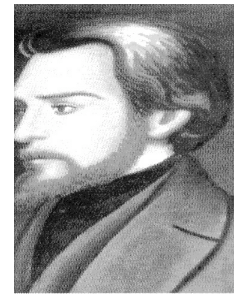
Olga Korbut

Our Lady of Charity would like to thank AmericMAC Office Products for providing the printing and the supplies of this newsletter.

## WHO WE ARE

For those of you who do not know us, we are Vincentians. Our founder pictured here, is Blessed Frederic Ozanam. In the spring of 1833, Frederic found himself challenged by fellow students to **“show us your good works today”**. Frederic was deeply troubled by this challenge because he realized that it was true, people always talk about doing good for others but rarely do anything about it. Frederic promptly set out with some friends to change the way things were. They located a simple charity run by Sister Rosalie and began their new mission by taking bread tickets to the poor. A local baker would redeem them for a loaf of bread. Later that same year, they started their own charity, naming it after St. Vincent de Paul.

**Who are we?** We are your neighbors, your friends, your fellow workers, your priests. We are Christians who love to aid the poor in many different ways. And, yes, we still do things the **old-fashioned** way, just as Frederic and his friends did it 176 years ago. We still take food to the poor families in need. We also comfort and care for the poor homeless who gather at our door, serving them a hot meal and giving them clean underwear, coffee, and a shoulder to cry on. Before they eat, we start our day with a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord. If you'd like to help us in some way, come and join in. If you can't, you can still be a Vincentian at heart just by sending us a check so that we can continue to do our Lord's work. A few people have even given us their cars. Not one of us receives even a penny. **“Love thy neighbor as thyself”**.



## **Officers**

### **President**

Don Willey

### **Chairman of the Board**

Joyce Willey

### **Vice President**

Kathy Wetzel

### **Secretary**

Teresa Matay

### **Treasurer**

Sue Ortega

### **Financial Advisor**

Martha Son

### **Trustee**

Celine Williams

Arthur LaRiviere

## **Chairpersons**

### **Spirituality**

Teresa Matay

### **Garage Sales**

Tish Morris

### **Food Pantry**

Celine Williams

### **Boutique**

Kathy Clark

### **Thank You**

Susan Bohnstedt

### **Auto Sales**

Harold Rehm

### **Newsletter**

Joyce Willey with

Martha Son

### **Youth Group**

Deacon Ron Routolo

### **Fr. Serra Rep.**

Susan Ortega

### **Detention Ministry**

Vince Interrante

### **Editor**

Martha Son

### **Senior Program**

Greg & Tina

Halamicek

### **Haircuts**

Diane Jones

# APRIL 2010

## Calendar and other St. Vincent de Paul events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Miriam Group	2	3 FAAAV
4 Easter 	5 Marie B.	6	7 Kathy W.	8 Hugo	9	10 Open
11	12 Lisa Meeting 6:00 p.m.	13	14 Sacred Heart School	15 Open 	16	17 Latinos \$\$ Garage Sale \$\$
18	19 K of C 3 <sup>rd</sup> Deg	20	21 Tina M. Nancy	22 Fr. Serra	23	24 Holy Cross
25	26 K of C 3 <sup>rd</sup> Deg Meeting 6:00 p.m.	27	28 Sacred Heart	29 Fr. Serra	30	



### April Birthdays



15 Peggy Reust 15 Alison Kapusta 16 Frank Cacciola  
20 Mary Hughes 27 Charles Beckman

## *A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR*

We've had lots of rain this year, making the hills wonderfully green and alive. As the rains nourish the earth, the journey through Lent is designed to nourish and water our spiritual lives. Through prayer, fasting, almsgiving and other Lenten practices, our Lenten lives are watered, and through such nourishment, the celebration of new life at Easter is actually realized in our spiritual lives. Easter Sunday is a joyful day, a day of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

As a child, I recall receiving special Easter clothes so that what was supposed to have happened on the inside (in my spiritual life) happened on the outside in my attire. It's all about new life. Jesus brings it and shares it. Hopefully we've used Lent well and have newness in our spiritual lives. Hopefully we receive with joy, gratitude and openness God's wonderful gift of new life and forgiveness.

Thank you for all the work you do to serve the poor and needy in this area, particularly your hard work for this Easter celebration. I am extremely proud of the tremendous works of service and community building you do as members of St. Vincent de Paul.

I hope that whatever Lenten practices you did brought the new life they are meant to produce. May God's victory and the new life we celebrate in the Easter Season continue to be manifest in your everyday lives. Happy Easter to you all.

**Peace.**  
**Fr. Tom**

### *Prayer Corner*

This month we are starting a prayer corner. Anyone who wishes to add names can contact me at [marty191@msn.com](mailto:marty191@msn.com) or SVDP at [svdp@rpmwin.com](mailto:svdp@rpmwin.com). We would love to hear from you and hope that all our fellow Vincentians will lift these people in prayer. The following people need our prayers this month: Walt Schmitt, Leon Reuter and Don Willey. I would also like to include our clients whether they are homeless or in our low income program.

## **A Letter from your President**

Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> was a very busy day for us here at St. Vincent. Not only was it pick-up Sunday for our food drive after all Masses but also a day when Teresa Matay would be commissioned as our Conferences Spiritual Advisor in Los Angeles. .

We had the honor of taking Teresa and Lisa to the Cathedral in Los Angeles. Joyce, Reggie, Lisa and I were witnesses for this special event. We were privileged to have Cardinal Roger Mahoney celebrate the Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels. Afterwards we went to the meeting hall for the Annual Los Angeles Meeting, which included a fabulous meal. It was there that the Cardinal Commissioned Teresa and other spiritual advisors.

There were many outstanding honors presented to special Vincentians. We were privileged to see many old friends from the Los Angeles Council and reacquainted ourselves with people we hadn't seen for a long time.

At the same time here at our Conference others were doing the hard work of collecting the food for our pantry from all Masses. They were pushed beyond human endurance. It turned out that this was the biggest food drive ever, so said our chairman Celine Williams, she should know because she has been the chairman for many years. We sincerely appreciate all the donations and the efforts of everyone that came and helped sort and put away the food. This food was not only for Easter but will have to last until we have our next food drive in November.

We sincerely thank Fr. Leo and Fr. Tom for allowing Susan O. and Kathy W. and Armando O. the time to announce our needs from the altar after all masses. We truly believe it made a difference.

### **Quote from the Late Great John Paul II**

**Recall the time when Jesus saw the hungry crowd gathered on the hillside. What was His response? He did not content Himself with expressing His compassion. He gave His disciples the command. "Give them something to eat yourselves" (Mt 14:16). Did He not intend those same words for us today, for us who live at the closing of the twentieth century, for us who have the means available to feed the hungry of the world?  
Happy Easter to all!**

**Yours in Christ,  
Don**

## *A Message from Joyce*

As you read this letter, we will have completed our Easter food baskets, which we give to the poor and needy in our area each year. The list of recipients is compiled from people who come to us for assistance during the year.

Our Home Visit Program is our number one program that is required all over the world. St. Vincent and Frederic Ozanam, our founder, were our examples from the beginning of the Society. This program is unique because we get to know our friends and neighbors as people, not just someone with a number to whom we give food over a counter. We are all obliged to make Home Visits from the highest office holder to the most recent newcomer.

We are always in need of volunteers to join the Home Visit Program. Our procedure is always to send two people out together... an experienced Vincentian paired with a newcomer. I myself have gone out on many Home Visits. From my own perspective, I can tell you that it is the only way to get to know our brothers and sisters on a friendly basis. When they call on the phone, they might say something like *we need food*. When we actually go out to meet them, we find they need a lot more than food. Consistently, they all need a friendly person with whom to talk. We always carry informational flyers to refer them to agencies, which can help in many ways. An example, Kathy W. and Mercy H. went out on a call and found the single mother needed clothing for her whole family. They did not have a car so Kathy and Mercy went shopping at our Site 2 location for the children and the mother. The joy that was spread there was wonderful. There were many other things that we helped the family with but that is just a sample of the type of help we can give to people. We would not have known the full extent of the problem if we had just handed them food over the counter.

It has been a truly busy month preparing for Easter and all that is included with that program. Now we will settle down and go back to business as usual which in itself it demanding.

We invite you to answer the call. Come over to help with any number of things...assisting with our morning meal, Home Visits, sorting clothing, and the hardest part, cleaning our areas.

I guarantee you will be accepted with joy, and the rewards are eternal!

**Joyce**

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# Garage Sale

Saturday April 17 - 8 am to 1 pm

44352 Kirkland Avenue, Lancaster

(Located on the corner of Ave J and Kirkland, east of Division)

**\*\*If it rains on Friday 3/5 - there will be no garage sale on Saturday)**

## WE NEED HELP TO

- Load truck at Stor-Rite on Friday - 3:30 pm
- 1209 East Ave I (next to the drive thru dairy past 10<sup>th</sup> St East.)
- Unload truck on Saturday morning at 7:30 am
- Work during the day on Saturday till 12:30 pm
  - Re-pack the truck at 12:30 pm

Call the center if you can help. Any bit really helps

Please bring all paper bags and plastic bags to the garage sale Saturday morning. We were very short handed for our last sale.

Please, please help!

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<p><b>Sacred Heart Church</b></p>
<p><b>Our Lady of Charity Society of St. Vincent de Paul</b> 45058 Trevor Ave. – P. O. Box 412 – Lancaster, CA 93584 Phone 661-942-3222</p>

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