



CONGREGATION
of the **MISSION**

THE VINCENTIANS
WESTERN PROVINCE

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Congregation of the Mission Provincial Office Moving to St. Louis

St. Louis, Mo.— The Provincial Office for the Congregation of the Mission Western Province, a Catholic Vincentian organization dedicated to programs for the materially poor, will move July 28, 2021, from Earth City in West St. Louis County to the Aquinas Institute of Theology building at 3701 Forest Park Ave. in Midtown St. Louis, next to Saint Louis University.

The Western Province will begin leasing space in the building and is pursuing the sale of the Earth City building. An opening event will be held in December to introduce the community to the new facility.

“This move will enable us to have a stronger voice for the poor in St. Louis and a better opportunity to develop relationships and partnerships in mission with the local church and other religious communities,” said Provincial Superior Rev. Patrick McDevitt, C.M. “Moreover, the move will provide many opportunities to share mission with the Dominicans in education and formation of the clergy and laity.”

McDevitt further noted that the new office will also be closer to one of its apostolates, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, as well as the Daughters of Charity and the St. Louis conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, both members of the Vincentian family, as well as other Catholic organizations.

The province’s office has been at the Earth City location for more than 25 years, prior to which it was in St. Louis at Pennsylvania Street and Cass Avenue.

McDevitt said the new location not only allows the province to fulfill its mission more practically but also signifies a new era in its long history.

“I believe deeply that this move symbolizes a new path of openness, creativity, and connection with the Catholic community in St. Louis and society at large,” McDevitt explained, “particularly the poor who, as our founder said, are our chief duty.”

The Vincentians have a long history in St. Louis. The first bishop of the diocese of St. Louis, Rev. Joseph Rosati, C.M., was a Vincentian. The congregation also established the first seminary west of the Mississippi and for 177 years was principally responsible for the formation and education of new priests at Kenrick Seminary and Cardinal Glennon College, where they taught hundreds of priests for the archdiocese.

The Congregation of the Mission was founded in 1625 in France by St. Vincent de Paul. The U.S. Western Province was established in 1818 and is headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., and includes ministries, parishes, and apostolates throughout the western U.S. and Kenya, as well as sponsorship of DePaul University in Chicago. The Vincentians are dedicated to serving the materially poor, to education, and to the formation of new priests in accordance with the teachings and philosophy of its founder.

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