



The Vincentian

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Fall 2023 →

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Vincentian Mission House Blessing and Dedication

Event begins a new era in Vincentian vocations and formation



🕒 Fr. Patrick McDevitt, C.M., and St. Louis Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski address the crowd during a ceremony to bless the new Western Province Vincentian Mission House in St. Louis.

Under a bright blue sky and in blessedly cool weather for the season, the Congregation of the Mission Western Province celebrated its new Vincentian Mission House with a Mass and blessing and dedication ceremony Aug. 19, presided over by St. Louis Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski.

The day began with a 10 a.m. outdoor Mass on the front lawn of the Dominican Priory next door to the new Mission House on Lafayette Avenue in Midtown St. Louis. With a capacity congregation of more than 150, the Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Rozanski and Fr. Patrick McDevitt, C.M., Provincial Superior for the Western Province, as well as by Bishop Mark Rivituso, of the St. Louis Archdiocese, and Bishop Michael McGovern, of the Belleville, IL, Diocese. Also in attendance were Fr. Thomas Greene, S.J., St. Louis-area Jesuit Provincial; Fr. Thomas Nairn, OFM, St. Louis-area Franciscan Provincial; and Sister Teresa George, DC, Daughters of Charity Provincial, St. Louise Province.

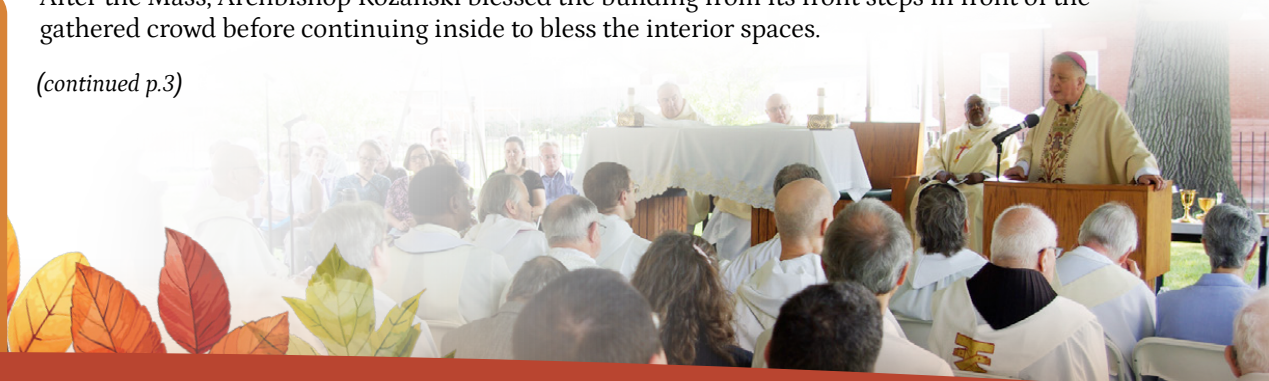
The ceremony included the formal introduction of the Western Province's new Director of Formation, Fr. Jeff Harvey, C.M. Along with recently appointed Vocations Director Fr. Toshio Sato, C.M., Fr. Harvey will lead a redesigned vocations and formation program for the Province, of which the new house will serve as the centerpiece, including as a residence for seminarians and discerners, as well as a place for vocations and formation events and other activities.

After the Mass, Archbishop Rozanski blessed the building from its front steps in front of the gathered crowd before continuing inside to bless the interior spaces.

(continued p.3)



Listen
to Fr. McDevitt's
radio interview
on the VMH.





Dear Friends,

I am happy to present this issue of *The Vincentian* newsletter and the *Annual Mission Impact Report* for 2022-23. You will see the new beginnings at DePaul University in Chicago with new President Rob Manuel. These are challenging and exciting

times for higher education, and Dr. Manuel is providing a vision and a plan to grow the Catholic Vincentian mission at DePaul. You will also get a glimpse of the good ministry our Vincentians are providing at DePaul.

Our cover story and a page of photos is devoted to the blessing and dedication of our new Vincentian Mission House in St. Louis, which heralds a new era in vocation and formation in the Western Province.

The Annual Mission Impact Report brings together the partnerships of our friends and donors and some of our new missions in the province. These mission initiatives would not be possible without you—our valued friends and donors.

I invite you to read the Annual Mission Impact Report as a collection of stories weaved together by common values and a united mission.

On behalf of all the Vincentian priests and brothers of the Western Province, thank you for everything you do for this sacred mission of service and evangelization of the poor. God bless you and your families.

Sincerely in St. Vincent de Paul,

Fr. Patrick McDevitt, C.M.
Provincial Superior



Scan
to watch a message
from Superior
General Fr. Tomaž
Mavrič, C.M.



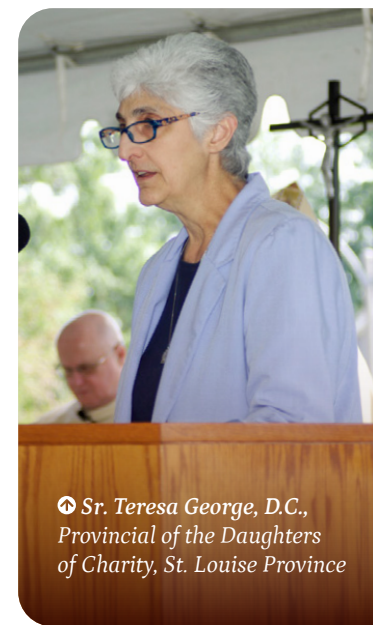
Archbishop Rozanski celebrated the dedication Mass



(continued from cover)

Vincentian Mission House Blessing and Dedication

“The establishment of the new formation house in our ancestral home of St. Louis is one major way we are creating a culture of vocations,” Fr. McDevitt said. “It will be a place of welcome, hospitality, discernment, formation, and vocation commitment.”



Sr. Teresa George, D.C., Provincial of the Daughters of Charity, St. Louis Province



The Dominican Brothers of the St. Dominic Priory performed the “Thanksgiving Song” after communion



Provincial Superior Fr. Patrick McDevitt (left) and Seminarian Mark Buehrle



Learn While Doing

'Fr. Memo' says Vincentians are everywhere at DePaul

Fr. Guillermo Campuzano, C.M., has served as Vice President of Mission and Ministry at DePaul University in Chicago for over three years. Generally known as Fr. Memo, he came to the Vincentians in 1983 in his native Colombia at age 18, hired to clean a chemistry lab over Christmas break. Introduced to St. Vincent de Paul by the Vincentians there, he became "passionate about the guy" and asked about joining.

"I was looking for a community," Fr. Memo said. "My first attraction was to community life, and the second was to social justice and service of the poor. I was very passionate about both."

In February 1984, he entered the seminary with just a box of his clothes and was ordained nine years later, after which he formed Vincentians and was part of a national project of justice and peace when in March 1999 he was forced to flee Colombia to the U.S. as a refugee because of political persecution.

In the ensuing years, he earned a master's at DePaul and was later able to return to Colombia and recover his identity. He directed a diocesan seminary in Brazil before returning to the U.S. in 2007, where

he served in a few roles at DePaul and at several other assignments, including CM Representative to the UN for five years before beginning his current role.

Fr. Memo bluntly notes that, "At one time there were 50 Vincentians at DePaul. Today, there are three."

In the next breath, he enthusiastically talks about the future of the Vincentian charism and identity at the 125-year-old school.

"We are using a distributive model of leadership, which means you learn the mission by working with us in mission integration, and you become mission ambassadors," he said, stating there are mission ambassadors already in place among the vice-presidents, deans, faculty, and students. "There is a deep and profound mark at DePaul—Vincentian. Everyone at DePaul is comfortable with that and proud of it."

Fr. Memo is developing two projects, the first of which is a Vincentian management program, in which all faculty and managers are educated in Vincentian principals.

"There are lay Vincentians, often not even Catholic, who are so passionate," he said. "They call themselves Vincentians because they embrace those values, which are universal."

This is a synodal model that is inclusive, invites other voices, and seeks consensus. The second project is the merger of the campus and St. Vincent de Paul Parish, which is currently in the planning stage and would have to be approved by the Western Province Provincial and the DePaul President before being implemented.

"The idea is to create a concrete space where the synodal model can be visible and led by lay people, women, and young people through a Vincentian ministry focused on systemic change, equity, and environmental sustainability," he said, indicating the project would, if approved, be slowly implemented starting in June 2024. "We are going to use the Vincentian model—learn while trying it—so people in the parish and students are involved in the project, exposed to the Vincentian charism, experiencing what the church means in the 21st century, and they will learn by doing it, too."

A Strong Rudder

Manuel says Vincentian charism key to guiding the future of DePaul University

A little over one year ago, Dr. Robert Manuel took office as the 13th President of DePaul University, only the second lay president in the institution's 135-year history and, as an Episcopalian, the first non-Catholic.

Dr. Manuel came with 30 years of experience in higher education, many of them at the administrative level at institutions like NYU, Georgetown, and, most recently, as president of the University of Indianapolis, a Methodist institution.

"I love urban education and faith-based education, and I was drawn to DePaul's connection to its Catholic Vincentian roots," he said. "I felt it had that understanding of itself."

At a time when some are questioning the value and relevance of higher education, Dr. Manuel said that DePaul's well-established Vincentian identity will be key to answering that question.

"I think the core of that is the Catholic Vincentian charism," he said, "which is really a roadmap for the question of the societal good and also the relevance to the larger community and addressing the needs of marginalized communities."

A current project, Design DePaul, brings the community together to imagine the DePaul of the future. The first report was due out in August after a year of discussions and work, and it will take another year to build strategic plans from it.

"I'm grateful there is already a strong rudder in the water," Dr. Manuel said, "and it's important that, whatever we do, it is tied back to that rudder."



See Yourself in It

Bro. Mark Elder, C.M., uses art to create connections



Bro. Mark Elder, C.M., said he wanted early in life to be part of a group that provided service. He attended St. Vincent's Seminary in Cape Girardeau, MO, as a minor seminary student and at a Halloween party with the major Vincentian seminarians in 1970 decided this was the group that he wanted to be a part of. He took vows in 1983.

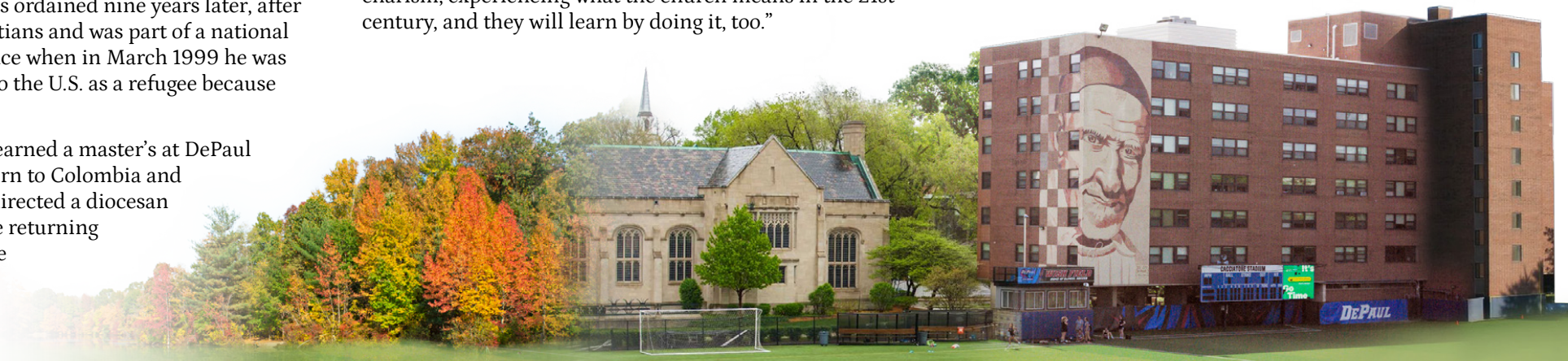
His interest in art and painting took hold later, and he earned an MA and MFA in art in 1991 and 1994 and began teaching art at DePaul not long after.

"One thing I could offer the university is that I knew how to paint murals," he said. "It was that avenue that led to the notion that we could do a portrait of Vincent that features real people at DePaul."

Today, that mural, on the side of a building overlooking Wish Field, is one of the iconic landmarks of the university. The piece is composed of thousands of rubber stamp portraits of students, faculty, and staff representing DePaul's diverse population.

Bro. Mark's work adorns other areas on campus, including a recently completed project on the pillars under the Fullerton L station, representing the university's history. The Vincent portrait, he said, will be there long after his retirement.

"You could walk up to it and see yourself in it," he said. "It really taught me that an art piece could bring people together and find common values."



'I have loved every job'

Fr. Joe Williams reflects on his ministerial life

In more than 35 years as a Vincentian priest, Fr. Joe Williams, C.M., has done a bit of everything. Currently pastor at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Chicago, the Kansas native has spent a significant portion of that time as a pastor and associate pastor in places like southern Missouri, St. Louis, and in the mountains of Colorado.

He also served as a hospital chaplain in Pueblo, CO, and was Assistant Provincial for the Congregation of the Mission Western Province for seven years just prior to his current assignment, which also includes being superior of the DePaul Vincentian Residence. He spent a few years in campus Catholic ministry at DePaul University and began his career teaching at St. Vincent de Paul High School Seminary in Lemont, IL.

"My first assignment after I was ordained was probably my favorite place, emotionally speaking," Fr. Joe said.

He explained that he had an opportunity early on to help some young people who were going through a very difficult time in their lives.

"Fr. Frank Gaydos (C.M.) and Fr. Paul Golden (C.M.) were there and really helped me," he said. "It was the hardest thing and the best thing, a lowlight and a highlight in my career."

Fr. Joe started as Pastor at St. Vincent's in Chicago in August 2021 with the pandemic very much in full swing, and though the Covid restrictions have eased, attendance has not rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, something Fr. Joe fears is the new normal. Additionally, the surrounding neighborhood has changed over time from older and working-class to younger and professional. Fr. Joe says part of the job is engagement and outreach to the parish population as it is with social media, events, and other things.

"It doesn't change the way I do my work," Fr. Joe said. "We look for ways to bring people together. There is a lot of challenge but also some really wonderful opportunities."

As a Vincentian parish, he says, another vital component is outreach to the poor and abandoned. The parish has maintained a food pantry, soup kitchen, and other programs, and Fr. Joe said he thinks there are opportunities for collaboration and doing even more.

"I do think it is important for me as pastor to make sure people who



come to church here have an opportunity to serve the poor in some fashion," Fr. Joe said. "We collect different categories of goods each month. That's one way our community can stay engaged in service."

Fr. Joe says he feels parishioners are used to him now and he is happy to be there and committed to the parish. Looking back, he can say the same about every stop in his journey.

"I have loved every job I've had in a different way," he said. "I've been very happy in all of my assignments."

Truth, Goodness, and Beauty

Bob Beatty ties together music, liturgy, and community at St. Vincent's



Bob Beatty said a love of music has been with him since his early childhood in Binghamton, NY, particularly in a church setting, where he was first exposed to it.

"I knew I wanted to be an organist," he said. "I really had a passion for the instrument and for the liturgy. I was playing at a local church when I was in junior high."

Bob initially came to Chicago to work for the senior liturgical advisor to Joseph Cardinal Bernardine. At that time, he became the assistant organist at Holy Name Cathedral. He expanded his work to also include nonprofit direct marketing. He started as organist and music director at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in 1996 and over the last 10 years moved into the position of director of community development.

"As an organization's needs change, you adapt, and the best you can do is learn and grow with that," Bob said. "That is exciting because there is a tremendous potential there if you trust the process."

Bob said the ways we come to know God are truth, goodness, and beauty, and he believes the beauty of music and the beauty of the church are connected and an essential part of the liturgical experience.

"In music, you develop a theme," Bob said, "and by the time you get to the end, it comes to a conclusion and is completely transformed. That is like life. The process in between is what shapes us."

The Relationships You Build

Bob Mazzoni has devoted two decades to St. Vincent's Food Pantry

In the 20 years Bob Mazzoni has volunteered at the St. Vincent's Parish Food Pantry, much has changed in the make-up of the neighborhood, arrangements with the Chicago-area food distribution organization, and most recently, the way the operation works in the Covid era.

What hasn't changed is his commitment to the pantry and the people it serves. As a copy editor at the *Chicago Sun Times* for 30 years and a longtime parishioner, Bob learned of the food pantry from another parishioner and saw it as an opportunity to be of service.

Bob and the two other pantry volunteers, Teresa Budasi and Mary Finn, manage the inventory, organize it into bags, and give it out on distribution days. Over the years, he has grown to know the poor he serves, many of which come as much for the conversations as they do for the food.

"We have a relationship with them," he said. "One woman, who has since passed away, used to come to get some human connection every Tuesday. She lived on her own. She would sometimes come because she just wanted to visit."

After this many years, he said he is motivated by the commitment of the other volunteers and by the clients and those relationships.

"I've learned a ton—people from different cultures," he said. "While I do think there is something to be said in helping the less fortunate, if you're open to it, you can get as much from them as you give."





42,400

Families Served with Parish Missions in U.S.



34

Current Seminarians in the US and Kenya



EACH OF THE 19 U.S. PARISHES THAT THE VINCENTIANs SERVE from New Orleans to Alaska operates programs and components to fulfill the Vincentian mission of caring for the poor and abandoned, including food pantries, soup kitchens, clothing assistance, help with housing and utilities, and much more.

"I had already been involved in community services and helping out people in need before I came to the USA. My inspiration is my mother who loved helping out people and always taught me to be the giver. I wanted to carry forward her kindness and keep doing good deeds."

Deepanjan Dinesh Rane
Kitchen Coordinator, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Chicago, Illinois

2022-2023
Mission Impact



50+

Senior Vincentians Receiving Assistance

FR. BERNIE QUINN, C.M., AND FR. RAY VAN DORPE, C.M., serve, respectively, as Provincial Director of the Daughters of Charity, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Province in California, and Chaplain of the Daughters of Charity, St. Louise Province in Evanston, IN. The Vincentians and the Daughters of Charity have been linked since their founding by St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac, who were themselves contemporaries and important collaborators.

"I have been pleased to have served the Daughters of Charity of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Province during the past nine years as their Provincial Director and provide them support in their varied ministries to the poor and underprivileged, all the while reminding me to strive to continue to know, love, and serve those who were and are loved and served by Christ and so too by the Daughters of Charity."

Fr. Bernie Quinn, C.M.
Provincial Director
Daughters of Charity,
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Province



IN THE VICE-PROVINCE OF KENYA, clergy and seminarians conduct a wide range of services for the poor and community, including building and running schools, digging wells, running agricultural programs, providing housing assistance, training craftsmen and small business operators, and providing food, medicine, education, and clothing assistance.

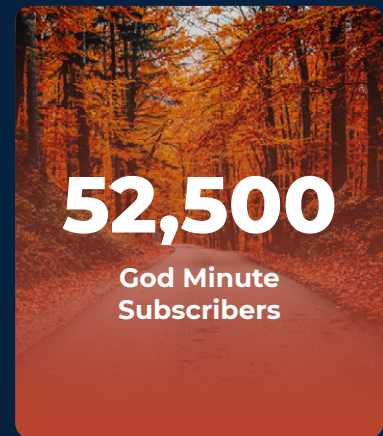
"The need for support for the vulnerable and poor is always growing. The impact of covid, the harsh economic times, and the rising cost of living in Kenya makes it easy for low-income earners and the poor to slide into further poverty. Supporting children to attend school, empowering the families to be resilient and building their capacities are the ideal projects that will be central to the mission in Kenya."

Lucy K. Monari
Development Officer, Vice-Province of Kenya



15,200

Families Served in 19 U.S. Parishes



52,500

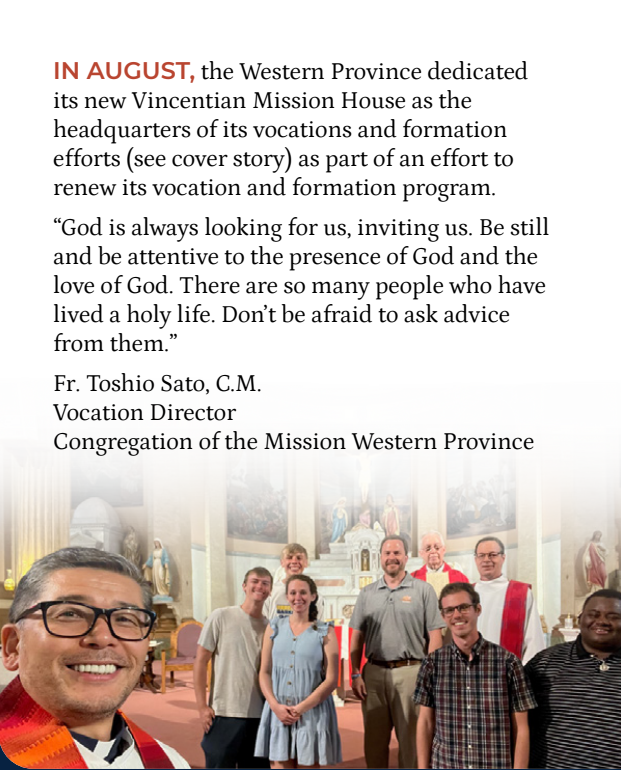
God Minute Subscribers



IN ADDITION TO THEIR WORK ON BEHALF OF THE POOR, the Vincentians serve in more incremental ways in their communities as teachers, counselors, scholars, and advisors.

"Over the past couple of years, I took on someone who asked me to mentor her. In the past five months she got out of a toxic personal relationship and a toxic job and was hired to a life-giving job, which she turned into a promotion she designed. When we met last week to celebrate with lunch, I said, 'Congratulations!' She told me, 'You did this—all of the great things that have been happening to me are because of your mentoring.'"

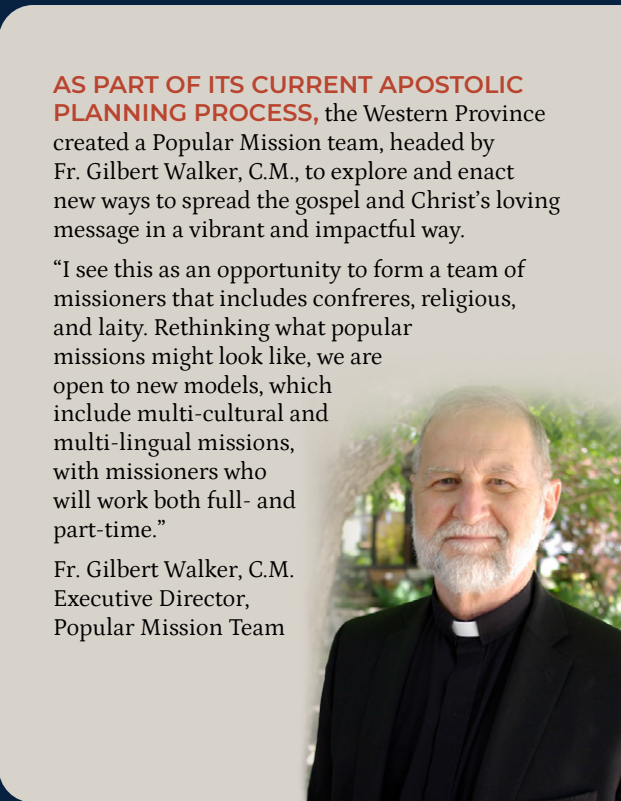
Fr. J. Patrick Murphy, C.M.
Values Director, DePaul International



IN AUGUST, the Western Province dedicated its new Vincentian Mission House as the headquarters of its vocations and formation efforts (see cover story) as part of an effort to renew its vocation and formation program.

"God is always looking for us, inviting us. Be still and be attentive to the presence of God and the love of God. There are so many people who have lived a holy life. Don't be afraid to ask advice from them."

Fr. Toshio Sato, C.M.
Vocation Director
Congregation of the Mission Western Province



AS PART OF ITS CURRENT APOSTOLIC PLANNING PROCESS, the Western Province created a Popular Mission team, headed by Fr. Gilbert Walker, C.M., to explore and enact new ways to spread the gospel and Christ's loving message in a vibrant and impactful way.

"I see this as an opportunity to form a team of missionaries that includes confreres, religious, and laity. Rethinking what popular missions might look like, we are open to new models, which include multi-cultural and multi-lingual missions, with missionaries who will work both full- and part-time."

Fr. Gilbert Walker, C.M.
Executive Director,
Popular Mission Team



THIS SPRING, Vincentian Marian Youth SEMO, based in Ste. Genevieve, MO, took its annual mission trip, Operation Overhaul, this time to New Orleans with the support of a Walking with the Poor Grant from the Congregation of the Mission Western Province. There, young people and adults spent a week performing home repairs and landscaping for individuals in need.

"My faith has grown so much on this trip and brought forward a part of me that I didn't know was there. I learned that there is so much more to our relationship with God that I hadn't realized."

VMY SEMO
2023 Operation Overhaul Participant



THIRTY "RETIRED" VINCENTIAN PRIESTS AND BROTHERS currently reside at the Apostle of Charity Residence in Perryville, MO. These men are still active in ministry, even in "retirement," while receiving needed medical care and attention.

"After years of teaching in seminaries and universities, I find the Apostle of Charity residence the perfect place for me. Our staff is very helpful and really cares for us. I pray for the donors who continue to support us in our retirement."

Fr. Paul Golden, C.M.
Senior Confrere in Residence, St. Mary's of the Barrens, Perryville, Missouri



40,000

Individuals Served Each Month in Kenyan Parishes

Thank you! Your generosity has been so important in the lives of those in need, not only in the U.S. but in Kenya. We are ever grateful for your prayers and gifts. Our priests and brothers will remember you in prayer.

Gifts received between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023

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(\$10,000+)

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“ I have found that evangelizing with the Vincentians takes me out of my comfort zone. I feel such grace as I apply the Vincentian mission spirit to my tasks each day. ”

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The Hand of God

Fr. Binh Nguyen recounts his journey from 1970s Vietnam to the priesthood

Fr. Binh Nguyen, C.M., grew up in Vietnam and attended the Vincentian high school seminary. Initially, he didn't know the difference between an order priest and a diocesan one, but he liked the atmosphere and eventually entered the novitiate. Over the next few years, he finished his philosophy studies and was well into his theology studies when things changed.

In 1975 the Viet Cong army was advancing on Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City). The seminary was evacuated, and the students were sent home to their families. Fr. Binh knew that his father was in the hospital but was uncertain about the rest of his family.

"When I later connected with my family, I didn't want to leave them," he said. "But my mother told me to go and finish my studies for the priesthood. So, with her blessing, I left Vietnam."

His parents were from North Vietnam and knew that the seminary would likely be closed permanently and the Church suppressed. On April 30, 1975, the day Saigon fell to the Communists, Fr. Binh found some fishermen who were organizing a trip out of the country, so with his brother and another seminarian, they went to sea, looking for the U.S. Navy.

The Navy had already left the area for the Philippines, so for many weeks to come, this band of three journeyed to Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore, looking for assistance. They finally made it to the U.S. Navy base at Subic Bay in the Philippines. Along the way, Fr. Binh and the others did their best to help the other refugees.

"We helped to birth two babies on the boat," he said, "the other seminarian and I, all by ourselves!"

Once at the refugee camp in the Philippines, they discovered that the policies concerning refugees were in constant flux. They spent 10 months in that refugee camp. Finally, a Daughter of Charity who was working there discovered the two Vincentian seminarians. An Irish bishop there also knew the Vincentians of the Eastern Province. These two seminarians were eventually granted visas and were able to enter the U.S. (Fr. Binh's brother came later).

Since he was not yet a priest or even a vowed member of the Congregation, Fr. Binh studied English and finished his theological studies at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Northampton, PA. Knowing there was more work to be done with Vietnamese people in California, he went to the Vincentian community there. He took permanent vows in 1979 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1982.

Of the six children in his family, Fr. Binh and his brother were the first to come to the U.S. One year later, two sisters and another brother escaped to Malaysia and later settled in the U.S. Only his oldest brother remained behind.

The risky passage from Vietnam to the United States and his spiritual trek to becoming a Vincentian priest—it was quite the amazing journey.

"Throughout everything, I saw the hand of God was with me," he said.



“ I have been associated with the Vincentians for most of my life. My uncle, Rev. Francis J. Hynes, C.M., was a priest for 50 years. My mother was a graduate of DePaul University and is active in the alumni association. Through them, I encountered many priests, and I feel their mission remains the same today as it did all those years ago: to be faithful to Vincent DePaul's teaching and direction. ”

Vince Meade, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Chicago, Illinois

Grateful for More than A Few Good Men

By Mary Lou Frank

I was raised Catholic. But, like many young adults do, I fell away from practicing the faith. (Trying to be a decent wife and mother seemed religion enough for me.) I was 35 when, thanks to St. Therese of Lisieux, I experienced a dramatic conversion of heart. She and Mother Teresa of Calcutta became my spiritual heroes.

Suddenly, I wanted to live out their brand of humility; their deep concern for the poor; their simple, quiet lives of faith.

Some 10 years later, in 2012, I was introduced to the Congregation of the Mission through its Association of the Miraculous Medal (AMM) ministry. From the very start, I began discovering in the Vincentian priests and brothers the same virtues I admired in those holy women.

I met Father Ray Van Dorpe, then Provincial — the top guy in the Western Province. I respected Fr. Ray's humility and amiable demeanor. You never felt like he was lording any authority over you. I remember thinking, "Here's a down-to-earth leader, a good man."

I next met the late Father Oscar Lukefahr. "Fr. Luke" was a respected author of numerous books about Catholicism and Mary. One by one, I devoured those works. I thought, "Here's another good man."

In Father John Gagnepain I discovered a forthright, straight-from-the-hip shooter about the truths of Catholicism. I love Fr. John's deep confidence in and love for Our Lady. One more good man.

During COVID my elderly father moved into a Vincentian parish and needed rides to Mass. "I like that guy's homilies," he told me of Father Jim Cormack, pastor at St. Catherine Labouré at the time. I began taking him; he was right. Add one in the "good guy" column.

On it went. Frs. Bob and Dick Gielow, Fr. Patrick McDevitt, Fr. Toshio Sato, Fr. Ron Hoye, and others — in meeting each, my own spirituality seemed to grow. These men impressed me as wholly devoted to building up God's children and kingdom in a manner marked by humility, simplicity, and persevering fortitude. Much like the saintly women warriors who got me on a better path back when.

I'm grateful for the Vincentian priests and brothers. And with today's world in desperate need of more than a few good men, it became an easy decision to start making regular gifts in support of their ministries and retirement needs.

Mary Lou Frank is a lifelong St. Louisan. She and her husband have four children and two grandchildren. In addition to contributing monthly, Mary Lou offers a few hours each quarter to assist the development efforts of the Congregation of the Mission.

📍 *With her daughters in Missouri's beautiful Ozark country, Mary Lou says her greatest desire for her family is for each to find and live by God's truth. She works to share with them the Vincentian spirit of charity and humility.*

Western Province Taking Over Mission in Alaska

Starting this summer, the Congregation of the Mission Western Province will begin ministering to a set of five parishes in Alaska, taking over the Vincentian international mission in the 49th state that has been in place since 2014.

Fr. Patrick McDevitt, C.M., Superior of the Western Province, said Superior General Fr. Tomaž Mavrič, C.M., asked him in the fall of 2020 to consider taking on the Alaska mission. After a detailed feasibility study, the Province agreed to take on the mission.

Fr. David Nations, C.M., will be attached to the canonical house of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Anchorage, Alaska, and will serve as pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Wasilla, overseeing four additional parishes: Our Lady of the Lake in Big Lake, Saint Christopher in Willow, Saint Bernard in Talkeetna, and Saint Philip Benizi in Trapper Creek.

The International Mission was initiated to serve Spanish-speaking communities who had recently migrated to Alaska looking for work. Fr. Nations will join Fr. Hank Grodecki, C.M., of the Western Province, and Fr. Humberto Aristizabal, C.M., from the Province of



📍 Fr. David Nations, C.M.

Colombia, as well as Archbishop Andrew Bellisario, C.M., who serves as the Archbishop of Anchorage-Juneau.

"The Daughters of Charity of the Province of St. Elizabeth Seton (West) have been serving in Anchorage for 24 years, since 1999," said Fr. McDevitt. "In addition, The Society of St. Vincent DePaul has served the poor in the cities of Anchorage and Juneau for many years. There are great opportunities for collaboration with the branches of the Vincentian family."

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to minister in an area where there are immigrant populations who are in need of service," said Fr. David. "The next challenge is to acquaint myself with the Filipino culture and Tagalog language to go with my abilities in Spanish language and Latin American cultures."



📍 Sacred Heart Church in Wasilla, Alaska



Vice-Province of Kenya Ordains Three New Deacons



The Congregation of the Mission Vice-Province of Kenya recently celebrated the ordination of three new deacons, Allan Kamugisha, C.M., Alex Odie Otieno, C.M., and Anthony Muthoka, C.M. On May 27 at DePaul Centre Nairobi Kenya, Archbishop Hubertus Matheus Maria Van Megen, the Apostolic Nuncio to Kenya and South Sudan, presided.

“Let us keep praying for the newly ordained deacons as they go out on the mission and as they continue to prepare for their priestly ordination,” said Fr. Edwin Mugwe, C.M., Visitor for the Vice-Province.

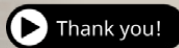
13 Houses Program Provides Homes to the Poor in Kenya

Earlier this year, the Vice-Province of Kenya celebrated the completion of its 13 Houses project. They presented the keys for five new homes to families in need in Nairobi, such as Margaret, who is raising her seven grandchildren, whose parents perished in post-election violence in 2007. The project was supported by the 2022 Western Province Parish Appeal.

Nearly 400 years ago in Paris, St. Vincent de Paul received an endowment from Louis XIII and used it to build 13 houses to care for abandoned children, house people living in the streets, care for war refugees, and more. Today’s 13 Houses initiative by the Famvin Homeless Alliance has built more than 2,200 houses in 55 countries.



Scan this QR code to watch a thank you video from Fr. Edwin Mugwe, C.M., Visitor for the Vice-Province of Kenya.



www.vincentian.org

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