

Hello everyone, today we will celebrate the mystery of our Lords presence in the poor that we hear all across the gospels.

St Vincent de Paul would say that “the poor are your masters, they are your kings, listen to them”, for a world drowning in materialism these words are foreign, to the Christian, they speak of life and refer to the second greatest commandment. St Vincent’s way of charity reminds us that the true hierarchy of heaven is from the bottom up not the top.

From our gospel we hear of the Vincentian model of mission, its much more than doing good, but an actual encounter with another human being cast in his image and likeness. When a Vincentian visita another person you’re not just delivery something, but you’re entering a sacred scriptural place. You’re all doing what the saints call the sacrament of a brother.

St Vincent taught us that leave prayer to take care of a person in need, that’s to go serve the God of the poor. Your efforts in prayer aren’t lost or forgotten but found in human respect and basic decency.

All of you members may find your work hidden, you see the distressed others don’t, you witness the desperation of the worlds forgotten. The mission for you is to be the hands of our Lord tangible to the less fortunate, and showing them, Christ hasn’t and will never forget them.

St Vincent also told us, that the poor can discern between an interaction, and a relationship. The orders charity to look at another human being in the eye, witnessing the dignity that God gave equally to all of us, no matter the income or household.

Today 2 graces are available to you Vincentians, the grace of zeal to be able to not grow cold, tired or indifferent of doing the Lords work for the poor, and to see with St Vincents eyes the needs in our community, parish family and area. Then to respond with sacrificial love given by the Holy Spirit himself.

With St Vincents intercession you will be like him, who lived Christs gospel message of love your neighbor as yourself.