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## Newsnotes

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## Newsnotes Publications

*The Evangelizer of the Poor. Saint Vincent de Paul* is the title of a translation into English of the 1975 Vincentian Week held in Spain. Fathers Rolando Dela Goza, C.M., and Reginald McDonald, C.M., edited the work, finished in 1985. The book has sixteen articles, divided into three major sections: I. Vincent de Paul as Seen by Abelly. II. Evangelization of the Poor in the Seventeenth Century and Today. III. The Vincentian and the Daughter of Charity in the Contemporary World. It is available from Sister Maria Pesino, D.C., Adamson University, 900 San Marcelino Street, Manila, Philippines, for a price of \$9.50.

Among many catechetical resources, the French now have a well-produced life of Saint Vincent in comic book format. *Vincent de Paul et la journal de la tendresse chrétienne* is a 48 page large-format book in full color, and is a new version of a comic book life of Saint Vincent produced in the late 1950s. In addition, the "Journal of Christian pity" is a series of brief articles in newspaper format on aspects of Vincent's life and times, as well as some contemporary aspects of the work of his Double Family. Parts of it could easily be adapted for use in English. Available: Editions of Fleurus, Department Univers Media, 11 Rue Duguay - Trouin, 75006 Paris. Price 36 francs, about \$7.00.

The Association of Ladies of Charity of the United States produced a twenty-fifth anniversary history of the group, entitled *Twenty-Five Years in Review* by Diane Ruth Downey. Although this 88 page volume treats the period 1960-1985 only, it also brings the history of the Ladies of Charity back to the time of Saint Vincent, as well as to its founding in the United States in Saint Louis, 1857. Inquiries can be addressed to Miss Diane Downey, 355 South McCarty Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212. A contribution of \$5 will help defray the costs.

The complete publication for the first time of the original rule of the Daughters of Charity (without its editorial additions) was done by Fathers Luigi Mezzadri and Miguel Pérez Flores, in *La Regola delle Figlie della Carità di S. Vincenzo de Paoli*, Milan: Jaca book, 1986, 147 pp. Father Pérez Flores provided a detailed historical study of the rule, and Father Mezzadri edited the texts, and introduced the work. This significant work is available

from Editoriale Jaca book, via A. Saffi 19, 20123 Milano, Italy. Cost about \$7.00.

Father Mezzadri also collaborated on a history of spirituality, covering the period of 1517 to 1699, and deals briefly with Saint Vincent. His contribution appears in a larger work by C. Brovotto, et al., *La Spiritualità cristiana nell'età moderna*, in the series *Storia della spiritualità*, Vol. 5. Rome: Edizioni Borla, 1987, 30,000 lire (about \$25.00.)

For Spanish-speakers, Father Vicente De Dios of the Mexican Province has prepared *San Vincente de Paul. Biografía y Espiritualidad*, Mexico, 1986, 144 pp. Originally prepared for the Josephine Fathers (Padres Josefinos), founded by Father José María Vilaseca, at the time a Vincentian, this photocopied book relies on recent studies of Saint Vincent, and deals especially with his particular charism and spirituality. Available from Vicente de dios, C.M., Seminario Vicentino, Avenida Cipreses, 71, Apartado 34, 45010 Ciudad Granja, Jal., Mexico.

#### Review of Literature

The Vincentian confreres of the Near East (Province of the Orient), have published a special year-end edition of *Annales Vincentiennes du Proche Orient* (No. 8, 1987), 202 pp. Of particular interest is a report on the toll taken among Vincentians by the war in Lebanon. Two confreres died as a result of the war, and significant property damage has been sustained. In addition, there are reports on the life of the province scattered in several near eastern nations, as well as some Vincentian studies written in French and Arabic. It is available from the Provincial, Father Naoum Atallah, Lazaristes, Sioufi, Achrafieh, Beirut, Lebanon.

The 1987 issues of *Annali della Missione*, published by the Roman province, contained several items of wider interest than just to Italian Vincentians and Daughters of Charity. The first issue, numbers 1-2, presented the acts of the 10th annual Vincentian studies meeting, which dealt with the theme "I was sick." The principal topic was the Vincentian concept of care for the sick. Articles discussed Saint Vincent and suffering; Saint Louise de Marillac; Saint Joan Antide Thouret; and the meaning of suffering in its present-day manifestations. The third issue covered the 250th anniversary of the canonization of Saint Vincent, and



the final issue featured an article by Father Luigi Mezzadri, C.M., on the Congregation of the Mission and the popular missions -- a topic he has researched in great depth.

The Autumn 1987 issue (No. 16) of *Colloque* (the journal of the Irish Province of the Congregation of the Mission) offers an array of articles on matters Vincentian. "The articles in this issue were not written around any unifying theme, yet a certain consistent thread may be perceived running through some of them. The image of St. Vincent as a man of enormous activity always needs to be corrected by the reminder that there was a real contemplative dimension to him. Benet of Canfield was one of the great contemplatives of his day and his influence on St. Vincent is being more and more investigated. Benet and Vincent both taught the importance of spiritual direction, and the third article looks at developments in this area. The homily deals with this aspect of ministry in Maynooth." (From the Editorial.) Other articles deal more specifically with Irish issues.

MEGVIS, the publication of the Middle-European Group for Vincentian Studies, in its issue number 18 (1987), presents translations into German of materials on Saint Vincent, including one by Father Stafford Poole on the Madagascar Mission. Fr. Schnelle continues publication of his bibliography of materials about Saint Vincent in German, and Fr. Sjef Sarneel describes a rare publication in Danish by a protestant pastor on Saint Vincent (published 1910.)

The Spanish-language journal, *Anales de la Congregación de la Misión y de las Hijas de la Caridad*, completing its 95th year of publication, presents information from various Spanish-speaking provinces, as well as articles of more general Vincentian interest. Among the latter is Teodoro Barquín, "The Revitalization of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society in a Vincentian Context," and Luigi Nuovo, "The Visit to Parents in the Thought of Saint Vincent," translated from the Italian *Annali*. The latter article concludes by saying that the general prohibition of a visit to one's parents was understood by Saint Vincent as a special way of imitating the earthly life of Jesus, by going to the poor (where others were not going), rather than going home again.

### Art Work

Amid the dearth of good art work of interest to the Double Family of Saint Vincent de Paul, we now have an attractive and original glazed ceramic plaque of Saint Vincent de Paul, produced by the Benedictine community of Saint Andrew's Priory, Valyermo, California 93563. (Dimensions 9" x 5". Catalogue number P86, \$23.00.) This is the first new commercially available piece made in several years.

Other works of art, whether small, such as prayer cards, drawings, stationery; or larger pieces, like paintings, sculpture, woven work, should be made known to the Double Family. The Center for Vincentian Studies in Perryville, Missouri, has as one of its goals the sharing of such information as it receives.

### Work in Progress

For the first time, a translation into English of the original edition of Louis Abelly's life of Saint Vincent is being prepared. Since the work is lengthy, the translation, review, and editing is expected to take some time. It is projected that it will be sponsored by the VSI. At the same time, a translation of the contemporary life of Saint Vincent by Jose Maria Roman, provincial of the province of Madrid, is being studied. Father Roman's work in Spanish is the most significant biography of Saint Vincent in many years, and takes into account the full range of contemporary research.

*By God's grace, the priests do it [repetition of prayer] well; but as for our brothers, oh! the promise that God made of revealing Himself to the humble is verified in them.*  
*Saint Vincent de Paul*

*Everything should be given the best possible interpretation. If a thing could be looked at from a hundred angles, we should always look at it from the best.*  
*Saint Vincent de Paul*