

Newsletter of the Congregation of the Mission

# Nuntia



FOUR HUNDRED YEARS OF FIDELITY TO ITS CHARISM AND THE NEW EVANGELIZATION



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# Nuntia

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## Visit of Fr. Tomaž Mavrič CM to Madagascar



This year, on the occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Vincentian charism, Father Tomaž Mavrič, CM, superior general, visited this island in the Indian Ocean. He arrived on October 20<sup>th</sup> and the following day he traveled to Talaognaro and was accompanied by the assistant visitor, Father Anton Kerin, CM. According to some of the confreres who greeted father general he is reported to have said: to walk on this soil is something great ... father was reminding the confreres about the missionaries who had travelled to that land during the time of Vincent de Paul.

Father's visit involved traveling to various places. The Visitor, Father Alexandre Rafanomezantsoa, CM, accompanied Father Tomaž during his journey to six different dioceses.<sup>1</sup> In Taolagnaro there was a meeting with the members of the Vincentian Family and the celebration of the Eucharist. This was followed by a journey to the diocese of Ihosy and then to Fianarantsoa where some time was spent at the scholasticate in Tanantsoa. Then the journey continued with visits to the diocese of Farafangana and Antsirabe (there some time was spent at the Antsimontsena-Sabosty Home where the Daughters of Charity care for physically handicapped children). The journey concluded with a visit to Antananarivo.

During his stay, the superior general had numerous

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Congrégation de la Mission, PROVINCE DE MADAGASCAR, Annexe au *Circulaire n°24*, du 13 juillet 2017.

meetings and dialogues with the members of the various branches of the Vincentian Family that are ministering in Madagascar: members of the AIC, the Congregation of the Mission, the Company of the Daughters of Charity, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Vincentian Marian Youth, the Miraculous Medal Association, the Nazarene Sisters (founded by Marc Antonio Durando, CM), the Gethsemane Sisters (founded by Fr. Manzella, CM), the Family of Maria Sakalalina (consecrated lay persons ... an association founded by Father Lupano, CM) and members of TMM (Tanora Miara-Mavavaka: students and former-students at the Jesuit school who have formed a group dedicated to prayer and charitable work inspired by Vincentian spirituality).

Father General was able to observe various activities and achievements in different areas: pastoral ministry, popular missions, catechetical formation, spiritual animation, chaplains at hospitals, health care, care for children and the elderly, technical and professional formation, promotion of women, projects in the area of rural development and communication. There was also an opportunity to listen to the concerns with regard to finance and structures.

During this visit there were meetings with members of the local church: Bishop Vincent Rakotozafy (Diocese of Taolagnaro), Bishop Fulgence Razakarivony (Diocese of Ihosy) and Bishop José Alfredo Caires de Nobrega (Diocese of Mananjary and Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Farafangana). There were meetings

with many other individuals who are not members of the Vincentian Family, for example, civil and military authorities.

In his various interventions, Father General emphasized the fact that the Jubilee Year is not simply a time to remember what happened in the past but rather is a time to celebrate and prepare for the future ... to open ourselves to all the possibilities that the Vincentian heritage presents to us. We must dream, but dream together and journey along a path of solidarity. We participate in a common vision and hope that enables us to move beyond the present challenges and difficulties. Father stated: if we dream alone, then the dream is merely a dream, but if we dream together then our dreams become reality. We are all called to reach out to others, but to reach out in a special manner to those persons who are poor. Father's words were an echo of the words of Pope Francis who addressed the members of the Vincentian Family during the time of the Vincentian Symposium that was held in Rome. Indeed, we ought to clothe ourselves in the experience of Vincent de Paul in as much as he is a mystic of charity.

During his visit, Father spoke frequently about three elements of our Vincentian spirituality:

- The primacy of God: intimate union with Christ through daily prayer, spiritual exercises and acts of piety ... that is the hidden side of the coin when speaking about the Vincentian experience.
- The mystery of the Incarnation: to give witness to God's love through affective and effective love for those persons who are marginalized and abandoned<sup>2</sup> ... whatever you did for one of these

2 Vincent de Paul, *Correspondence, Conference, Documents*, translators: Helen Marie Law, DC (Vol. 1), Marie Poole, DC (Vol. 1-13b), James King, CM (Vol. 1-2), Francis Germovnik, CM (Vol. 1-8, 13a-13b [Latin]), Esther Cavanagh, DC (Vol. 2), Ann Mary Dougherty, DC (Vol. 12); Evelyne Franc, DC (Vol. 13a-13b), Thomas Davitt, CM (Vol. 13a-13b [Latin]), Glennon E. Figge, CM (Vol. 13a-13b [Latin]), John G. Nugent, CM (Vol. 13a-13b [Latin]), Andrew Spellman, CM (Vol. 13a-13b [Latin]); edited: Jacqueline Kilar, DC (Vol. 1-2), Marie Poole, DC (Vol. 2-13b), Maria Poule, DC [editor-in-chief] (Vol. 3-10, 13a-13b), Paule Freeburg, DC (Vol. 3), Mirian Hamway, DC (Vol. 3), Elinor Hartman, DC (Vol. 4-10, 13a-13b), Ellen Van Zandt, DC (Vol. 9-13b), Ann Mary Dougherty (Vol. 11-12); annotated: John W.

least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me (Matthew 25:40)

- Do not minister alone, but rather collaborate and act together for the mission.

One event that has marked the presence of the Vincentians in Madagascar is their extension into the northern-most part of the country. On November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Eucharist was celebrated in the Akamasoa d'Ambohimahitsy Center. During that celebration, Father General and the Visitor sent forth Father Marcin Wisniewski and Father Gérard Paulbert Fetiarison to Mahavokatra where they will collaborate with Archbishop Benjamin Marc Ramarason (Diocese of Antsiranana); Father Sylver Misy and Father Hery Tiana Randrianaivoson were sent forth to Antanandava-Mampikony where they will collaborate with Bishop Georges Varkey Puthiyakulangara (Diocese of Port—Bergé). The Superior General blessed these missionaries and prayed that they would be given the necessary graces that would enable their ministry to be fruitful.

During this celebration of November 5<sup>th</sup> there were many gestures and discourses that were intended to express friendship and gratitude. A commemorative plaque was placed on the outside wall of the house in Soavimbahoaka, Antananarivo (to the left of St. Vincent's statue). Yes, we bless the Lord for all that has been done in our midst.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, before his departure for Rome, Father Tomaž met with a delegation of the European Union Corporation for Madagascar and Comoros headed by Franck Porte in order to discuss a project intended to benefit many people in need. Finally, Father General met with the Apostolic Nuncio, Bishop Paolo Rocco Gualtieri and then went to the airport for his return flight.

May this Jubilee Year renew us all!

By: Pierre Marie Ralahizafy, CM  
Provincial Secretary Madagascar

Translated:  
Charles T. Plock, CM  
Eastern Province, USA

Carven, CM (Vol. 1-13b); New City Press, Brooklyn and Hyde Park, 1985-2009; volume IX:465-470; volume XI:32-33.



## Reflections on the Recent Beatification Of the Spanish Martyrs of the Vincentian Family



At this point in our celebration of the Jubilee Year, we have witnessed another extraordinary event, one that has had profound effects on all the members of the Vincentian Family. Indeed, all of the various events that have occurred during this year are related to one another and the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the origin of the Vincentian charism is given new meaning through the witness of the faith and charity of the martyrs in Spain who, on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, were declared “Blessed”.

My first reflection revolves around certain elements that are part of every beatification and that are also part of our Vincentian history. The sixty martyrs were members of the Congregation of the Mission, the Daughters of Charity, the Vincentian Marian Youth and the Miraculous Medal Association. The witness of these martyrs is rooted in the elements of inventive charity and Marian devotion and those same elements were prominent in the logo that was decided upon for the celebration of this event. We note that charity, viewed as the total giving of self, provides us with perspective for our everyday life. Every Vincentian, like Mary, must reach out to and become a neighbor to those who are suffering and in need. Vincentians hold nothing back but are willing to give everything and to give with joy. In accord with the Scriptures where we are told that God loves a joyful giver, we discover that joy is another characteristic that emerges from the witness of our martyrs. In the martyrdom of these newly blessed men and women we also discover God’s loving response to the generous offer of his beloved sons and daughters.

A second reflection leads us to consider the event as not simply one that occurred during the decade of the 1930’s but as an event that has meaning for our own era. What is the significance of proclaiming these men and women as “blessed”? Could it not be a motive to situate ourselves anew in the midst of an environment where we experience so much hatred and hostility? Perhaps this celebration is intended to remind us of the on-going struggle between good and evil and, thus, disturb our complacency. This event can also be seen as a reminder that in the midst of so many acts of cruelty and barbarity, there is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. The martyrs never spoke against their persecutors, rather they forgave them; there was no hatred in the hearts of these Vincentian martyrs ... like Jesus, these men and women spoke words of forgiveness. Throughout their lives, these men and women revealed themselves as authentic witnesses, people who made the gospel credible, people who gave new meaning to the Scriptures and to the Church. The years of persecution (1936-1939) were a chaotic and sad time in the history of Spain: the civil war involved a vicious struggle against God and the Church, a struggle to eliminate the Church from every part of Spain. Hatred led the persecutors to drag countless individuals into the abyss of captivity and the country was covered with the blood of the martyrs. Nevertheless, the blood of these witnesses of the faith became a sign of the failed attempt of the persecutors to eliminate the presence of Christ and his followers from our land. Our hope, and the hope of all Christians, is that the blood that was shed in our country will lead to a new flourishing of the gospel throughout Spain. Many years were needed to heal the wounds of hatred

that were inflicted on so many people. The martyrs, however, bring us back to reality and remind us of our hope for a future that is grounded on peace and harmony. Furthermore, we become ever more aware of the fact that the gift of forgiveness produces new and lasting reconciliation, especially during this time when, in more subtle ways, we continue to experience hostility and hatred.

We pray that the blood of the martyrs, precious blood because it was shed in the name of Christ and united

with Christ's own blood ... we pray that this blood might become the source of new life and hope for the church and for the whole world.

By Mario di Carlo, CM

Italy Province

Translated:

Charles T. Plock, CM

Eastern Province, USA

## XVII Vincentian Heritage Encounter



In the Motherhouse of the Congregation of the Mission in Paris, CIF sponsored the XVII Vincentian Heritage Encounter (October 6<sup>th</sup> – November 3<sup>rd</sup>). Many people ask me: what is CIF? For those who do not know, CIF is not a cleaner, but is the Vincentian International Center of Formation.

This gathering is a type of on-going formation geared toward priests and brothers of the Congregation who are willing to engage in a process of renewal with regard to their following of Jesus Christ, evangelizer of the poor. In principle, we believe the participants

should be at least fifty years old. This encounter has been developed for those persons who have ministered for various years and who now experience a need to drink anew from the well ... thus these members of the Congregation abandon "the trenches" for a brief period of time in order to renew their lives as missionaries. This is the seventeenth time for such an encounter ... and that in itself is quite an accomplishment!

This time of formation includes the following five elements:



[1] Conferences: the participants have come here in order to deepen their understanding of the Vincentian spiritual patrimony. Some of the presentations were done in English, others in Spanish and still others in French (regardless of the language that was used, there was simultaneous translation). I want to thank those who gave these presentations, namely, Father José Manuel Sánchez Mallo, Father Jean Daniel Planchot and Father Giuseppe Turati.

[2] Knowledge of historical Vincentian sites: the Vincentian sites that we visited, those in Paris as well as those in other parts of France, were viewed as “places of pilgrimage”. At the beginning of our time together there were numerous trips but those trips became fewer as the days passed (the participants became tired and economic consideration played a part in our decision). Those “pilgrimages”, however, provided us with much information ... they were, in reality, in situ studies and opened the participants to deeper prayer. We visited places where Vincent de Paul, Louise de Marillac, Frederic Ozanam, Rosalie Rendu and other members of the Vincentian Family had ministered. These visits provided the participants with time for prayer, time to take some photographs, and time to deepen their understanding of the historical importance of these various places. In Toulouse, we lost one of the members of the group and after searching for an hour, that person was found alive and well and eating a hamburger.

[3] Time for personal and community prayer: we organized three prayer groups (according to language group) and each group had its specific place for personal meditation and prayer. There was an attempt to be creative in our prayer together.

[4] An experience of community life: an important element of this encounter is to strengthen the community life of the participants, some of whom have had painful experiences while living in community. Thus, we attempted to provide the participants with a different type of experience. I am not sure if we achieved what we wanted to do, but since the participants continue to remain in contact with one another through means of the various social media ... well something must have happened. The participants understood that since they were from various countries and cultures, since they had different theological frameworks, different personalities and temperaments, tolerance and understanding were

necessary ... the members of this group observed certain rules/norms of civility (and that made life more pleasant).

[5] Free time: after lunch and dinner and on Sundays there was free time. The participants took advantage of this opportunity to read, clean their rooms as well as the common areas. They took time to become familiar with Paris ... Paris which is known for its history, artistic development, politics, food, museums, bridges, parks ... so much to see and understand.

Before concluding this brief presentation let me provide you with the names of the missionaries:

Admar de Freitas (Brazil), Agustín Advincula (Philippines); Anulfo del Rosario Sosa (Puerto Rico); Aulus Maria Handoko (Indonesia); Babu Sebastian (India); Eamon Flanagan (Ireland); Ghebremeskel Feseha (Eritrea); Henry Slowey (Ireland); Jenson Kalloor (India); Joseph George (India); Nguyen Tri Hung (Vietnam); Paschal Mwanalika Mbepera (Tanzania); Ricardo Fernández (Colombia); Stanislaus Brindley (Ireland); Víctor Rodríguez (Puerto Rico) and Yohanes Gani Sukarsono (Indonesia). I want to thank all the participants, the members of the Congregation and the worldwide Vincentian Family, as well as the employees who made all of this possible. Finally, I invite the members of the Congregation, those 50 years of age and older, to consider participating in the next Vincentian Heritage Encounter which will take place in 2019.

By: Andres R. M. Motto, CM- Director CIF

Translated:

Charles T. Plock, CM  
Eastern Province, USA



## A new mission of the CM in the Central African Republic!



It would not be news, unfortunately, if one says that one of the African countries is poor, politically and economically unstable, governed by an inhuman and fierce dictator because Africa is the icon for poverty and misery. The Central Africa Republic (RCA) does not escape this mental picture that the world has made of Africa. It is a vast nation of 662.062 km<sup>2</sup> with few inhabitants (less than five million). It is potentially a very rich country because it glistens with precious metals such as diamonds, gold and silver, but it is poor because security is at a minimum and the level of education is very poor (they say that no more than 10% of the population can read and write).

The major part of the Central African territory is in the hands of the rebels, the leader of which is Mr. DOTODJA Michel, a sexagenarian, a Muslim who converted from Christianity. Mr. Michel enjoys the esteem and the economic and military support of the countries nearby like Sudan and Chad, both of which have the tendency toward fundamentalism. Of the sixteen prefectures that make up the Central African Republic, the central government has control of only three. All of the rest are in the hands of this man Dotodja Michel, the head of the rebels. Obviously, this is the reason for the well-armed presence of the soldiers from the United Nations in this country, which come to some twelve thousand

soldiers, of a peacekeeping force, but I do not know how much they are helping this nation to regain the lost peace.

In Africa, the statistics are always approximate. According to the statistics that they give, Christianity dominates in the RCA, but as always, the Muslims make more noise and search for the way to make their presence felt by all.

A nation such as the Central African Republic, which has its hills and valleys shining with precious minerals such as diamonds and gold, to see it in extreme misery is sadly surprising. Another thing, even more surprising, is that in French-speaking Africa, fourteen nations (Cameroon, RCA, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Chad, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Congo) use the same currency, which is called Franc or CFA, which signifies Colonie Francesi d'Africa (French Colony of Africa). With some sensitivity in these last years, the signification has been modified to mean African Financial Community. The central bank and the brains that control this currency are not in Africa but rather in Paris. Between Cameroon and the RCA, although very close to one another, you cannot make comparisons. Cameroon is very advanced in comparison to RCA.



However, because of this central bank's control of this currency, these French-speaking African countries are all at the same level. The value of this currency is the same: 1 Euro = 655.00 Franc/CFA. Paradoxically this bank tells them: your Gross Domestic Product does not matter, it matters little if you import or export, work or not, for all of you I decide! It is a new colonialism very subtle but not intelligent or elegant. The entire world, by its silence, aids this injustice. The young Africans escape and go to Europe, their promised land, but they do not realize that by acting this way, this new colonialism perpetuates itself at the expense of their people. Moreover, if the intelligent governments of the named countries begin to ask questions about it, the lords of this colonialism put a big carmel candy in their mouth to silence them. If they refuse to suck on it in silence, fury comes without mercy. This is what is happening before our eyes but perhaps it is better to be silent because the just Messiah who will bring Justice has yet to come, therefore, let us prepare his Advent!

### The Central African mission is a real Vincentian mission.

It was Bishop Guerrino PERIN (commonly called Bishop Rino) very strongly appealed to the Congregation of the Mission asking for our presence in his diocese, Mbaki. And he entrusted to us a large parish, Bogonangone. What is large is not the membership but the territory. It is a very extensive parish with 24 chapels. Thanks be to God, the Vice-Province of Cameroon and the Province of Colombia (by means of the Region of Rwanda-Burundi) have generously replied to the appeal of Bishop Rino. On November 19, 2017, the joint Mission of the vice-province and the province began ceremoniously with three missionaries: Jean de Dieu NIZEYIMANA, Joseph BITWAYIKI and Henri Gervais NIAGA (the first two from the Province of Colombia and the last from the Vice-province of Cameroon). And so was born this most beautiful mission joining the vice-province and the province in this ministry.

The mission of Bogonangone is a very difficult mission because it is very far from the capital, Bangui, and the roads are almost nonexistent. If you leave from Bangui at 6:00 a.m., and do not take a long break along the road, you could arrive at around 5:00 p.m. You find Bogonangone in the southwest of the country.

Bishop Rino has done a lot for this mission. He has already built a very beautiful and welcoming rectory. Moreover, he has already foreseen the need to have a house for a women's community that could collaborate in the ministry of catechesis. Taking into account the distance from the capital, the asphalt roads are really bad, and the dirt roads a little better, but not by much. As I have said above, it is very expensive to live in RCA. The confreres have plenty of land they can cultivate, but they need a start-up project in order to get the mission going. They lack the means of transport to reach their chapels (There are two motorbikes, purchased by Bishop Rino but they have need of repair because they are broken). Anyway, they need a good car to go to Bangui otherwise, as things are now, it is impossible to go forward. Since they did not have a car, in order to transport their food and their things (even for our trip during the visit) they rented a car. You pay 80 Euros a day. It is too much, given the standards of Central Africa. Therefore, the confreres have an urgent need of a car that they should be able to buy, of the type they told me about, in Cameroon. These three young confreres are very promising. We all should help them and encourage them, and above all sustain them economically. I am completely convinced that this new mission of one vice-province and one province, Cameroon and Colombia, will have good success.

Zeracristos Yosief, cm

Assistant Generale



## First Encounter of Vincentian Archivists and Librarians



For the first time as a Vincentian Family we gathered together our Archivists and Librarians in order to deal with these important matters. We met in the Motherhouse of the Congregation (Paris) from November 13-20, 2017.

Our objective during those day was twofold: first, to develop these matters in a serious, technical and in-depth manner and second, to develop a sense of being members of a family. In other words, our hope was to offer the participants who are “our experts” in these matters, both some technical formation as well as means to continue to exchange ideas and information. Despite some of the language difficulties, we were able to achieve those objectives and yet we are also aware of the fact that we need to extend this formation to many other members of the Vincentian Family who are ministering in our archives and libraries.

During our time together we emphasized that in order for our various Archives and Libraries to be able to offer the various services that they are required to do attention must be given to each of the following elements: acquisition of material, care and preservation of material, informing the larger public and the other

members of the Vincentian Family about the material that we have. The material in our archives and libraries is not intended to remain secret, rather, after having fulfilled certain requisites our libraries and archives ought to offer true information. Bayle spoke about the historian and his words are valid for both the archivist and the librarian: we ought to reconstruct and establish the historical facts. Our historical search ought to be objective and detached. We are to be like Melchizedek, the biblical figure who had neither father nor mother nor offspring. In other words, when we are asked about our origin, we can reply that we citizens of the world and that our only master is Truth.

This Encounter consisted of presentations given in the meeting hall and guided tours that included: the Archives at the Motherhouse of the Congregation of the Mission; the Library, Museum and Archives at the Motherhouse of the Company of the Daughters of Charity; the Historical National Archives; the Jesuit Library at the Sèvres Center of the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy.

The presenters during this encounter were: Giuseppe Guerra, John Rybolt, José María Nieto Varas, Corpus



Delgado and Andrés Motto. The lay participants included: Cristina Vellaco (Brazil); Giulia D'Angelo (Italy); Honey Rodgers (United States); Henry Compant La Fontaine (France) y Giusi Paola Potenza (Italy); missionaries of the Congregation included: Geraldo Mol (Brazil); Rolando Gutiérrez (Costa Rica); Thomas Baluka (Poland); Waclaw Uminski (Poland); Jean Pierre Bessala (Cameroon); Sebastianus Wawancara Buulolo (Indonesia); Joly Maliekal (India), Javier Gamero (Peru) and Martial Tatchim Fotso (Cameroon); the following Daughters of Charity were also participants: Bernadette Ryder (England); Ana María Olmeda (Spain); Jeanne-Marie Baudelet (France); Nancy Elena Brito Cabezas (Ecuador) and Magdalena Harbu (Romania). The participants expressed their satisfaction with the Encounter, stating that it was well-organized: balanced sche-

dule; content was both instructive and informational; guided tours to specific archives, museums, and libraries; professionalism of translators; adequate accommodations and services; an environment of dialogue and community. Finally, we request that the various congregations and associations of the Vincentian Family consider participating in the different encounters/meetings that are organized by CIF for the Vincentian Family.

By: Andrés R. M. Motto, CM

Translated:

Charles T. Plock, CM

Eastern Province, USA

## The visit of the Superior General to Syria



It was 10:30 a.m. on November 28 when Father Tomaž arrived at the doors of the house of the Congregation in Damascus. He was accompanied by the Visitor, Fr. Ziad Haddad; the Visitatrix of the Daughters of Charity, Sr. Laurice Obeid; the superior of the house of Damascus, Fr. Charbel Naim; the president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Ms. Ella Bitar; and two other priests, Frs. Joseph Abi Hanna and Abdo Eid. The three confreres who actually live in Syria dedicate themselves principally to ministry to the Vincentian Family, to the

direction of a small school of 500 students and to ministry to persons less abled and to those mutilated by the war. After a small break, the great day of visiting the other branches of the Vincentian Family present in Syria began. These branches include the Daughters of Charity, AIC, AMM, JMV, SSVF and other groups of youth movements affiliated with our communities (MIDADE and Scouts). The message of this visit from the Superior General was very clear, "Beloved people of Syria! The entire Vincentian Family is at the side of

each one of you and we carry you in our hearts, our minds and our prayer”.

The visits to the magnificent works (schools, hospitals and clinics, workshops for abused women, etc.) that are done with a generous Vincentian zeal, the moments and celebrations shared in simplicity and joy, reveal a true spirit of fraternal charity and of a closeness that is touching. This zeal it must continue pulsating with assistance to those wounded by the bombings and by the misery and poverty caused by the years of war, going beyond the pain and the death, which seek to sow frustration and discouragement.

In fact, the truce declared for two days between the

two parties in conflict permitted us to enjoy a momentary peace. This peace is greatly desired since the missiles coming from zones controlled by the opposition daily disturb the lives of the people, sowing much fear, hurt and death among them, and putting the life of the people, and with them the life of the confreres and of the members of the Family, in grave danger.

During the whole day and in various occasions, Fr. Tomaž gave thanks to the Lord for the great gift of Holy Providence that allowed this dream of meeting the brothers and sisters of beloved Syria to come true.

By Abdo Eid, CM

Orient Province

## A Vincentian Family Festival and Celebration



Inspired by the 400th anniversary of the birth of St Vincent de Paul's charism of service to people living in poverty.

### How to be a part of the story

1st Competition, Seeds of Hope (Ages 18 and Under Only): All those under the age of 18 are invited to create SEEDS of Hope. We call upon you to utilize any creative expression (story, poem, image, sculpture, music, etc.) that inspires direct service to the poor. Jury-selected artists will be invited to the festival and awarded a trip to Castel Gandolfo, Italy, from October 18-21, 2018.

HOW TO SUBMIT ART: Please upload Video, Image or Document that best showcases your artwork. Due by 5/28/18, submit through EMAIL at [submit@fv400.org](mailto:submit@fv400.org) or at [fv400.org](http://fv400.org)

2nd Competition, Screenwriting Contest: Finding Vince 400, Storyteller, a Screenwriting Competition: FIVE Screenwriters will be awarded a trip to Rome and a grant to produce their screenplay for a short film. These short films will premiere at Castel Gandolfo, Italy, from October 18-21, 2018. Due by 5/28/18, submit at [fv400.org](http://fv400.org)



3rd Competition, Short or Feature Films: You are invited to submit your short or feature film to Finding Vince 400. The jury will select films that inspire a direct service to the poor and change our perspective on poverty. These films will premiere at Castel Gandolfo, Italy, from October 18-21, 2018. Jury selected artists will be invited and awarded a trip to this event. Due by 5/28/18, submit at [fv400.org](http://fv400.org)

Attend, Share and Support: Attend the festival and experience the collection of art inspired by the charism of St. Vincent de Paul. Castel Gandolfo, Italy, October 18-21, 2018 at the Centro Mariapoli, the Pope's summer residence. Share and support our mission to inspire our youth to change our perspective of poverty in our communities..

## Enugu Appeal



The October appeal yielded 5,924 USD from several confreres and CM provinces. Remember, the appeal is to make international cooperation in our Congregation concrete in the common theologate for our missions and provinces in Africa. I am hoping that as Christmas nears both the desire and the means will increase to make this dream become real. The challenge is larger than we thought. The full costs have now become a total of 660.864 Euros or 793,037 USD. However, the VSO is committing 150,000 USD from the Vincentian Solidarity Fund and 150,000 from other donations that are available. The Curia is giving 100,000 USD from a donation received years ago for Formation. There are 405,924 USD (338.270 Euros) now available for this project. We are seeking the remaining 387,113 USD (322.594 Euro).

Our Mission:

Champion the 21st-century storytellers and challenge audiences with films that change our perspective on poverty in our communities. We spark our imaginations by sharing our charism through a creativity that is inspired. Follow us on Facebook and tune in for more details about how to attend FV400 at:

[facebook.com/FindingVince](https://facebook.com/FindingVince)

#findingvince, #fv400

Find out how to submit at

[fv400.org](http://fv400.org)

## 1% of the members to the International Missions

One percent of the total number of missionaries in the Congregation of the Mission today involves around 30 missionaries.

By receiving 30 positive answers in this 400th Anniversary Year, we will be able to:

- reinforce the existing International Missions and
- open new International Missions.

Although the response may come this year, the actual realization of going to one of the missions Ad Gentes will materialize in one, two, or maybe three years. This will allow the confrere to have sufficient time to prepare for his new mission and to pass on his present assignment to the confrere replacing him. It also will give provincial, vice-provincial, and regional leadership time to plan and adjust for any changes that need to be made.

- After a period of serious discernment, if you feel moved to volunteer for the missions Ad Gentes, please send your letter or email to Rome by 20 February 2018, so that we can review requests at our Tempo Forte meeting in March 2018.
- Confreres who volunteer should inform their Visitor that they have done so. Later the Superior General will dialogue with the Visitor about the matter.
- Your letter should give some background knowledge about your person, your ministerial experience, your languages, and your formation. It should

experience, your languages, and your formation. It should also express any particular interests you have, such as the mission in which you would like to take part.

- Even if you have already written in the past, please make contact again.

Having in mind our present International Missions, as well as future new International Missions, we would like to ask the confrere about his availability:

- immediately in 2018;
- in 2018, later in the year (please specify from what month); or
- in 2019 (please specify from what month).

Mission Appeal letter 2017

## General Information

### NOMINATIONES / CONFIRMATIONES

SCHINDLER Eugen	15/11/2017 (Begins 01/01/2018)	Visitor Austria - Germany
REYES SÁNCHEZ Max Eduardo	28/11/2017 (Begins 12/12/2017)	Visitor Ecuador

### NECROLOGIUM

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
MALLAGHAN Thomas P.	Sac	10/11/2017	Orl	85	65
CANAL CANAL Manuel	Sac	23/11/2017	SVP	82	64
MULET COLL José	Sac	27/11/2017	SVP	86	69
CAMARERO DE BERNARDO Antonio	Sac	29/11/2017	SVP	87	68