

Vincentiana, October-December 2013

Collection for Vincentian Endowment Challenge

Rome, 1 August 2013

To the Visitors and Vice-Visitors of the Congregation

May the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be forever in our hearts!

I was very pleased to have been with you in New York at the recent Visitors Meeting. I found the presentations and the opportunities for dialogue helpful. Thank you for your presence and participation.

In this letter, I would like to highlight an idea shared by Fr. Luis Fernando Macias Fernández, Visitor of Chile. You may recall that, in response to the presentation of the Vincentian Solidarity Office (VSO) concerning the Vincentian Endowment Challenge (VEC), Fr. Fernando made a suggestion, based on a project he hopes to undertake in his province: to have a collection on or near St. Vincent's Feast day of all ministries in our provinces or vice provinces. The funds collected would benefit the Vincentian Endowment Challenge, with a smaller portion going to a specific work of the province or vice-province.

I write to encourage you to follow the example of Fr. Fernando, and to suggest that you hold the collection between the days of September 26-29, 2013. The collection day would vary according to the needs of the local community. Each place would send the collected funds to the Econome of the province or vice-province. Each province and vice-province would retain 25% of the collection for their locally designated use, and send 75% of the funds collected to the Curia for the VEC.

You will be receiving materials from the VSO concerning the Vincentian Endowment Challenge to help you promote this collection. You will need to develop your own materials to explain the use of the portion of the collection that will remain in your province or vice-province. I am pleased to see enthusiasm for this collection, as it shows our unity as an international Congregation and our solidarity in mission. May the fire of our belief in our Congregation enflame the hearts of many to support us!

Your brother in St. Vincent,

G. GREGORY GAY, C.M.
Superior General