



# VINCENIAN PARISH MISSIONS

"OUR VOCATION IS TO GO NOT INTO ONE PARISH, NOR INTO ONLY ONE DIOCESE, BUT THROUGHOUT THE EARTH. AND TO DO WHAT? TO INFLAME THE HEARTS OF MEN. IT IS NOT ENOUGH FOR ME TO LOVE GOD IF MY NEIGHBOR DOES NOT LOVE HIM AS WELL."

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL MAY 30, 1659

FEBRUARY 2015

SEASON OF LENT EDITION



Fr. Richard Gielow C.M.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Lent is upon us and my thoughts for you at this time are ones of encouragement and hope.

Lent has in our history been sometimes a sad and depressing time and one that we had to endure. I can remember all the fasting and sermons on our sinfulness and that we are the ones who nailed Jesus to the Cross. As a kid, I guess I was scared but didn't think I did anything to Jesus. So today, I call you to reflect during this lent on ONE word, CONVERSION.

Remember before we had crossovers and SUVs, we had conversion vans. I think the car dealers stole the word from Christians. Anyway, a car dealer took me onto his van lot and showed me a brand new van. He told me it was brand new and it was a GOOD van. He then took me to another van and showed me one that had every gadget, new carpet, new sound system and he told me it was a GREAT van.

I figured that is what conversion is about.... We're not bad people who need to become good...We are good people who are called to be great.

So Lent is a time to figure out what I need to do in my life to be called great in the eyes of God and then go after it. Sometimes it is something so simple that it is profound. Maybe becoming more patient with other automobile drivers, maybe praying more, maybe being less self centered, perhaps finally telling your friend or friends that you truly care for them, and not presume they know.

Whatever it is, go for it, I will pray you get there and you pray for me and together our call to conversion will be our moving to greatness.



For over 40 years the missioners from the Mission Center have been conducting "Parish Missions" throughout the United States and Canada. During that time they have conducted thousands of missions and have provided their parish communities with very unique and rewarding experiences which have made a tremendous impact on their lives and their communities.



## THE SEASON OF LENT...WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

By: Fr. Bob Gielow, C.M.

As we are entering the season of Lent, I expect most of us are expecting to hear that often asked question; "What are you giving up or sacrificing for Lent?"

But then I reflect back on when Jesus was with his people and realize Lent may have been Jesus' best time.

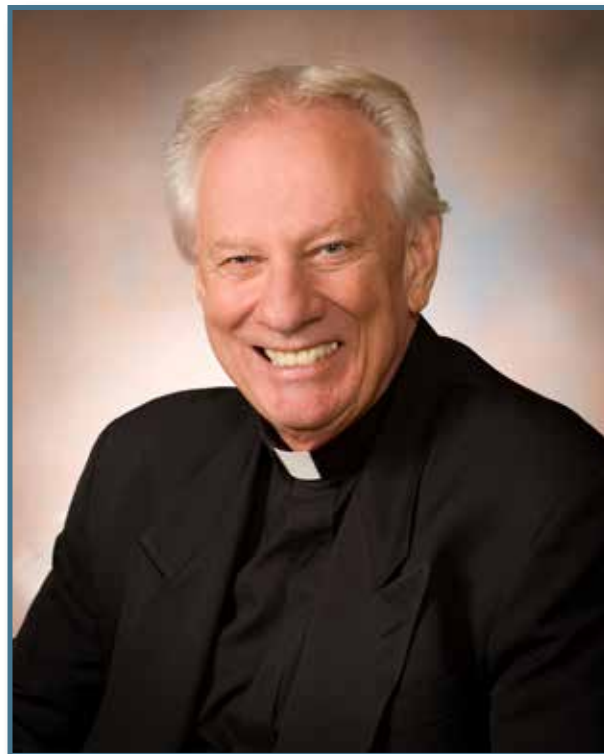
For thirty years he lived as a carpenter, but His real vocation came into view during that First Lent. He had to prepare for what His Father really wanted of him....to suffer and die for the sins of the world, not something easy for sure.

So to prepare, Jesus spent 40 days in prayer, sacrifice and fasting. During that time He must have had some wonderful conversations with His Father. He was even tempted to give up. He thought long and hard but knew doing what His Father wanted was for the best.

This is what I want my Lent to be....wonderful conversations with God in Prayer; reminding me through some sacrifice that my convenience, wishes and wants sometimes need to take a back seat to what God wants.

Sometimes the sacrifice may be not giving up something but doing something more to please God.

Lent was Jesus' best time. I pray it be your best too.



*Fr. Bob Gielow C.M.*

## RECENT PARISH MISSION



### SAINT MICHAEL PARISH CATHOLIC CHURCH BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

"Dear Father Bill,

We attended your recent mission at Saint Michael's in Biloxi and wanted to thank you again. We really enjoyed meeting you and hearing your wonderful message. As a result we are sending your contact information to some of our friends that we believe might have an interest in having you do a similar mission at their parish.

We feel so blessed in having had the opportunity to attend your sessions in Biloxi."

Dick & Ginny Glueckert

*Fr. Bill Rhinehart, C.M.*  
**Missioner**  
(816) 254-3000  
[br@vpmc.org](mailto:br@vpmc.org)

### UPCOMING MISSIONS

FOR INFORMATION ON UPCOMING MISSIONS IN YOUR AREA, PLEASE VISIT THE VINCENTIAN PARISH MISSION CENTER WEBSITE AT:

[www.vpmc.org/events-calendar/](http://www.vpmc.org/events-calendar/)

### UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS



#### UPCOMING MISSION TRIP ROME, ITALY / MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE JUNE 2015

For information about the trip please email the Mission Center at [admin@vpmc.org](mailto:admin@vpmc.org)



SAINT JOHN GABRIEL PERBOYRE, C.M.

### JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
TO SIGN UP FOR THE VINCENTIAN  
PARISH MISSION CENTER  
EMAIL LIST:

[www.vpmc.org/more/join-email-list](http://www.vpmc.org/more/join-email-list)

### SEND US YOUR MIRACLE/PRAYER REQUEST:



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MAIL REQUESTS TO: VINCENTIAN PARISH MISSION CENTER • 2100 N. NOLAND ROAD, INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI 64050

**VINCENTIAN MISSION PRAYER**

BY SAINT JOHN GABRIEL PERBOYRE, C.M.

Divine Savior, transform me into Yourself.  
 May my hands be Your hands.  
 May my tongue be Your tongue.  
 Grant that every faculty of my body  
 may serve only to glorify You.  
 Above all, transform my soul  
 and all its powers,  
 that my memory, my will and  
 my affections, may be the memory,  
 the will and the affections of You.  
 I pray You to destroy in me,  
 all that is not of You.  
 Grant that I may live but in You,  
 and by You, and for You,  
 and that I may truly say with St. Paul,  
 "I live now, not I, but Christ lives in me."

**VINCENTIAN PARISH MISSION CENTER**

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**THE VINCENTIAN FAMILY****CONGREGATION ON THE MISSION**

The Vincentian Parish Mission Center and all of its priests are members of the Congregation of the Mission (C.M.).

The Congregation of The Mission was founded by St. Vincent DePaul in France in 1625, as an organization of men (priests and brother) formed for the purpose of providing for worship of God, through following the example of Jesus in caring for and ministering to the poor. As this Congregation was formed by St. Vincent, and they continue the mission to extend Vincent's dream they are called "Vincentian," and with the many other Vincentian Organizations they make up the Vincentian Family.

Vincent realized rural and poor communities were underserved and felt the need and calling to provide support, care and education in a variety of ways to these people. Much of this effort was by means of Parish Missions to educate, care for and evangelize the people of these underserved areas.

It was a goal of Vincent's to eventually serve God's people in the rural and poor communities throughout the whole world. Today there are over 3,000 Vincentian priests and brothers serving in 86 countries around the world.



St. Vincent DePaul

The Vincentian Parish Mission Center is continuing the mission and vision of St. Vincent DePaul by conducting parish missions, the original form of service by St. Vincent, throughout the United States and Canada free of charge and to any size of parish or community.

Future articles in our newsletters will provide additional history and understanding of the Vincentian Parish Mission Center, the Congregation of the Mission and the many other organizations, both religious and lay, that make up the Vincentian Family. Watch for upcoming newsletters and articles.

**CONTACT US**

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