

do justice • love tenderly • walk humbly with God Micah 6:8

April 17, 2025

We begin all of our prayer in the presence of our loving Creator; because we are all created in the very image and likeness of God!

As a Christian community, we know this:

Jesus said: "This is my body which will be given for you."

Daily reflection:

(Vincentian connection)

At the heart of the Vincentian Spirit is the fact that Vincent DePaul made a conscious choice to "do what Jesus did" no matter what the cost. Today, Holy Thursday, we recall the last supper, where Jesus puts on an apron, washes the feet of those at table, and then makes a gift of his body and blood to feed the world. Vincent modeled his life after this "total gift of self". Whenever he fed people, he also offered *himself* in the process.

Daily call to action:

Food is at the forefront of Holy Week imagery. Bread and wine transformed, broken, and shared; Israelites seeking manna in the desert, the paschal lamb consumed for the journey to freedom. In order to be in solidarity with people who live with food insecurity every day, make the choice to fast from a favorite food today, recalling that our brothers and sisters around the world (and in our local neighborhoods) fast every day, not by choice, but as a consequence of generational poverty and injustice.

Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

That the Church will promote fair distribution of food resources between countries. For countries facing famine, disease, hunger, or any other disaster; that the people of the world will work together to bring relief.

For people in our own city who experience food insecurity; that God's love will inspire us to help them.

For all of us, that we will advocate for policies that ensure that no one goes hungry. **Blessing**: (*the prayer of Aaron over the people of God: Num.* 6:23b–26)

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

May the Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

And we say together with all of the people of God:

Amen.