

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

March 27, 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:

# Everyone has a right to own property, to have a home!

## Daily reflection:

(Vincentian connection)

Homelessness, writes Father Robert Maloney, CM, "ranked high on Vincent's agenda" and his initiatives were foundational in establishing the principles of structured and well-administered charity we see today. He, in fact, dedicated time and effort to accommodate foundling children. Using the money donated by the Queen of Austria, he built 13 small houses which he rented to the Ladies of Charity where children were accommodated. He also worked hard to find lodging and assistance for thousands of men, women and children displaced by the conflict in Lorraine. He organized campaigns to raise funds and to obtain contributions for their relief. He led efforts to shelter, clothe, and feed people living on the streets of Paris, coordinating massive relief programs, including providing soup twice a day for thousands at a time. In the time of St. Vincent and continuing today, no matter what causes inadequate shelter, every person has a right to own a place of his/her own.

### Daily decision for action:

During the World Day of the Poor, the Pope Francis blessed symbolic keys to homes in thirteen countries as part of the Vincentian Family's "13 Houses" Jubilee Project, a global effort to combat homelessness and bring hope to vulnerable families for the Jubilee Year 2025.

We can make a difference. Here is one practical way that we can do that today: FamVin Homeless Alliance: <u>https://vfhomelessalliance.org/eng/</u>

### Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

For Church and world leaders, that they will work to ensure that everyone has a safe and secure home.

For people who are unhoused, may the Christian community work with civic leaders to create policies that will provide adequate housing for all.

For all those who struggle to maintain a house to live in, may they have access, income, and resources to live in safety and peace.

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:

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Amen.