

# St. Vincent de Paul Society 2004 Western Regional Meeting

## ~ Workshops ~

### How to Form Voice of the Poor & Spirituality Committees

#### When/Where:

Thurs., June 24th, 2:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m. • Studio B & C

Fri., June 26th, 2:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m. • Studio B & C

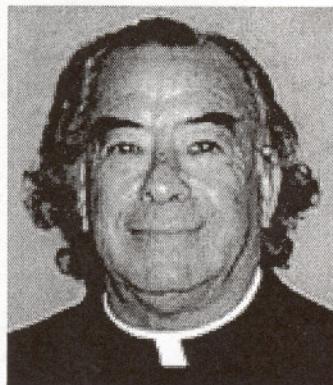
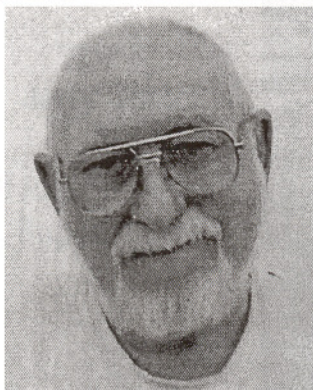
#### Synopsis:

Many councils lack a Voice of the Poor Committee and/or a Spirituality Committee. This workshop will provide the information conference members need to form and sustain these committees. Discover why these committees are so vital to the mission of St. Vincent de Paul.

#### Presenters:

**Thomas E.  
"Tom" Finnerty**

**Voice of the Poor  
Committee**



**Fr. Pedro  
Villarroya, C.M.**

**Co-Chair, National  
Spirituality Committee**

A native of Michigan, Tom Finnerty attended the University of Detroit and worked first in the office of Senator Pat McNamara. He then joined the Foreign Service and served for a decade in the Far East. In 1973 he relocated to Arizona and worked for the State Senate, first as a research analyst and ultimately as department director. From 1987 to 2002 he represented the Arizona State Retirement System at the Legislature, continuing in 2003 on a temporary basis.

Tom and his wife Margaret, a retired educator, live in Phoenix where he is a 19-year member and past president of the St. Gregory conference. Last year he was tapped for the newly established Voice of the Poor Committee, based on his familiarity with the legislative process in Arizona. The Finnertys have three daughters and two grandsons.

Fr. Pedro Villarroya, C.M., a Vincentian priest, was born in Alcala de la Selva, Spain and ordained in the United States. He has been a professor at seminaries in California and Texas.

As a priest, Fr. Pedro has been very conscious of the prophetic role of the Church in the world. He directed the De Paul Center at Montebello, Calif., where he taught a monthly series about the pontifical documents of the social teaching of the Church.

Fr. Pedro is the spiritual advisor for the Society of the St. Vincent de Paul of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, spiritual advisor for the Society in the Western Region, and national co-chairman of the Committee of Vincentian Spirituality for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.