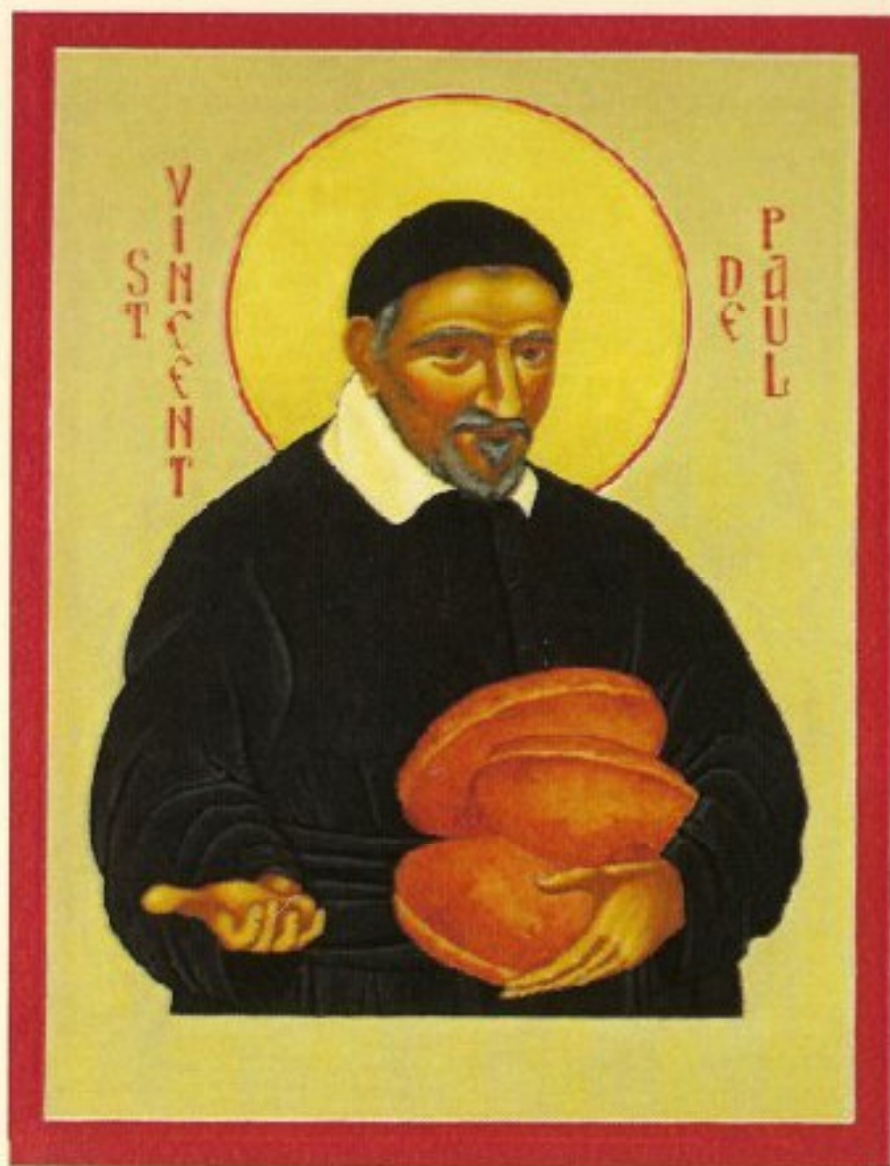


## YEAR FOR PRIESTS



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

## HOLY ONE,

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who stand at your altar,  
inviting your Spirit upon simple gifts  
and humble people.

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who embrace our suffering,  
anointing our sick,  
with the oil of compassion.

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who welcome death in faith,  
blessing graves and beloved bodies,  
consoling those astonished by grief.

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who cradle new life,  
wriggling in white,  
drenched in your saving grace.

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who join together fragile flesh,  
naming a love that gives all for a lifetime,  
receiving that love as blessing for the kingdom.

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who listen to souls that ache with remorse,  
forgiving in time what has kept us from loving,  
from embracing the freedom hard won by the Son.

*Bless the good and faithful men -*  
who follow the trail of the Good Shepherd,  
who lay down their lives for their sheep. AMEN.