



Blessed are the peacemakers, they will be called the children of God

(Mt 5: 9)

There is no such thing as the Saint Vincent de Paul Society in the abstract – there are only Saint Vincent de Paul people

Collectively and individually, in the present circumstances, there is conflict, and all Society people are damaged and confused.

When that happens, an important imperative is for us all to return to the Gospel and to the principles of our Mission and Vision statements.

May I respectfully and prayerfully suggest that we hold to some of the accepted Christian principles of peacemaking.

- See the resolution of conflict as an opportunity
- Move to the other side of the fence to try to understand better the source of the conflict
- Deal personally, honestly and transparently with everyone – open dialogue with others is essential
- Clarify the sources of conflict and crisis
- Reconciliation is a necessary condition for progress before Society members in Canberra and Goulburn – and nationally - can properly “offer their gift to God at the altar”.
- In a Christian organization, human dignity Justice, fair process, reconciliation are the right of every single person.

