Today is the Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul.

Born in the late 16th century in southwestern France, his father sold the family's oxen to send him to school; hoping that a good career in the Church would help Vincent to become financially independent and support the family.

He was ordained at 19, and five years later travelled to Marseille for an inheritance. On the return trip, he was captured by Turkish pirates and sold into slavery. After two years, he managed to escape, and returned to France.

In 1617 founded the Daughters of Charity to work with the poor, and as chaplain to the galleys on the waterfront, began the Congregation of the Mission to minister to the poor.

In Saginaw, the Daughters of Charity built St. Mary's Hospital in 1875 and ran St. Vincent's Orphanage as well.

The orphanage is an empty plot of land these days, and St. Mary's Hospital is now part of Ascension Health, and the last Daughter of Charity retired from the board about a year ago.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks His disciples, *"Who do the crowds say that I am?"*

And he receives a variety of responses.

In today's society, we would hear the same cacophony of replies to the questions, *"Who do people say Jesus is?"* or *"Who does the media say the Church is?"* or even *"Who do people say that Pope Francis is?"*

One thing that remains the same is that human nature hasn't changed much in 2,000 years. People hear what they want, and rarely listen to what God or His representatives have to say. There seems to be a perpetual spin on "*who*" someone or something is ... all depending on the whims and winds of "*the crowd.*"

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, let us pray for a clarity regarding "*who Jesus is*" through our relationship to Him and our desire to grow in likeness to Him. And through the grace of the Eucharist that we will receive, let us pray for a clarity as well as far as "*who we are"* both 'in Christ' as well as 'in the Church' and in relationship to our neighbor.