

May 2025



NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF VINH SON

MONTAGNARD ORPHANAGE

VOLUME 22

ISSUE 5

CONTACT

Website: www.friendsofvso.org

Email: friendsofvso@gmail.com

Donate: friendsofvso.org/donate

P.O. Box 9322
Auburn, CA 95604



2025 DONATION SUMMARY

Status through May 1st

Annual Goal: **\$350,000**

Total Donations: **\$79,564**

% Goal Achieved: **23%**

Legacy Fund: **\$1,207,292**

THANK YOU
to all our donors.

Friends of Vinh Son Orphanage (FVSO)

Montagnard Orphanage
Kontum-Pleiku, Vietnam

Happy Easter from Vinh Son!

On Easter Sunday, the parish priest of the wooden church held Mass for all parishioners and the children of Vinh Son 1. After Mass, the children enjoyed games in the garden, and small gifts and bread bags were provided to the Bahnar children to take home.



Each Vinh Son orphanage held an Easter celebration with delicious dishes of pork and chicken raised at their own locations, filling the children with joy on this Easter Day.

The children showed their creativity transforming into characters from the Bible and performing scripture readings for those in attendance. During Holy Mass they sang songs and hymns while wearing their traditional costumes, making for a beautiful and colorful occasion.



Celebrating the Life of Sister Dominic Savio Y Nao



Joined by the orphans and nuns of Vinh Son 5, we celebrate the life of Dominic Savio Y Nao who passed on April 27, 2025. While her passing brings sorrow and grief to VSO, we celebrate her spirit of charity, love and sacrifice. Her beautiful life was dedicated to caring for poor children in the villages and the ethnic minority orphans at Vinh Son orphanages, whom she watched over and cared for as if they were her own. Her kind and gentle face and her passion to educate and nurture the children will never be forgotten.

Born on December 18, 1956, Sister Y Nao belonged to Bahnar ethnic minority of Kon Ro Bang village in Kontum province. She officially became a Sister of the Miraculous Convent on November 27, 1974. After her first vows, she was assigned to serve the poor in Kontum diocese. and from 1982 to 2000 she served at the main parish of Kontum at the wooden church.

[Learn more about the life of Sister Dominic](#)



New Ways to Donate!

FVSO now accepts credit card! While check donations are greatly appreciated, online donations help reduce overall administrative costs.

[Visit our new donations page today!](#)

We are a humanitarian non-profit organization approved by IRS code 501©(3). Donations are tax deductible and accepted year-round.



New Security Wall at Vinh Son 6

Through the generous donations from our supporters, a new security wall has been installed at Vinh Son 6. The new security feature helps the sisters keep 75 kids safe inside the 2.5 acre property, not to mention their various livestock like chickens and ducks. It also helps keep unwanted visitors out, including stray dogs and intruders from nearby villages. The wall allows the children and nuns to sleep easy without the need for onsite security and better establishes Vinh Son as a formal organization within this less than stable region of the Central Highlands. Thank you donors for making this possible.

FVSO Board Members

Patrick Leary - President
 David Bolhorst - First Vice President
 Andrew Monroe - Treasurer
 Mai-Ly Bui Wilcox - Secretary
 Dave Chaix - Founding Past President
 Jason Dent - VP Marketing & Funding
 Clyde Lewandowski - VP Education
 Jessica Schroeder - VP Education
 Michael Little - VP Communications
 Chris Keegan - VP Communications
 Tom Solyst - VP Vietnam Operations
 Patrick Keegan - VP Development
 Bart Ruud - Project Director
 Khac-Quan Nguyen - Board Member
 Gene Mapa - Board Member
 Pat McKee - Board Member

[Learn more about our Board](#)

Legacy Fund Update

Goal by
 March 2027: **\$2,000,000**

Current
 Balance: **\$1,228,883**



Calling all Donors: We Need Your Help!

- Do you donate via check?
- Do you receive a printed copy of our newsletter?

Go paperless to ensure **MORE** of your generous donations go directly to the kids!

- Send us an email and say hello: friendsofvso@gmail.com
- Donate online directly from our website: friendsofvso.org/donate