Friendship in the Rule, Manual, and Scripture

The Rule:

- “Vincentians endeavor to establish relationships based on trust and friendship.” (1.9)
- “Spiritual bonds and friendship between members are essential” (3.3)
- “Councils at appropriate levels are particularly called to… develop friendship between members in the same area” (3.6)

The Manual:

- “To bring together people of good will and to assist them by mutual example and true friendship in drawing nearer to the Divine Model by fulfilling his essential precept, namely, the love of God in the person of others” (3.1)
- “Christian friendship and cordiality, of which Blessed Frederic was such an avid advocate, animates all meetings of Vincentian brothers and sisters.” (3.1)

The Old Testament:

- “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!” (Ps 133:1)
- “Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.” (Prv 27:9)
- “If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.” (Eccl 4:10)

The New Testament:

- “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” (Lk 6:31)
- “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” (Jn 15:12)
- “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (Jn 15:13)
- “I will no longer call you servants… But I have called you friends.” (Jn 15:15-16)
- “Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.” (Rom 12:10)
- “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” (Col 3:12)
- “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” (Col 3:13)
- “And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” (Col 3:14)
- “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” (1 Thes 5:11)
- “Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.” (Heb 13:2)
- “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” (1 Pt 4:8)
- “Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.” (1 Pt 4:9)