

Vincentian Support May 2025 Newsletter

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Mistaken for Jesus | Pg.2 |
| Contemplation | Pg.3 |
| BRICKS | Pg.4/5 |
| Conference Resources | Pg.6 |
| Vincentian Engagement Support Services | Pg.7 |
| Admission Process | Pg.8/9 |
| Hats Off to Chef Chris | Pg.10 |
| Jubilarians Honored | Pg.11 |
| Three Threads of (Coat) Fringe Ministry | Pg.12 |
| Dinner for 10 | Pg.13 |
| SVdP Vincentian Opportunities | Pg.14 |
| Homeless Prevention | Pg.15 |
| OFE Schedule | Pg.16 |
| Friendly Reminder | Pg.17 |
| All Conference Members Quarterly Townhall | Pg.18 |
| General Membership | Pg.19 |
| Save the Date, Morning of Reflection | Pg.20 |
| Blessed Frederic Ozanam Intercession Prayer Line | Pg.21 |
| Vincentian Annuity | Pg.22 |





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"It is for your love alone that the poor will forgive you the bread you give them." St. Vincent de Paul



Mistaken for Jesus!

"Extend your mercy towards others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping".

St. Vincent de Paul

Matthew Kelly, a popular Catholic writer, opens his book **Rediscover Jesus** with a touching example of Christian kindness. In this story, a businessman and his team members are run out of a building in Brooklyn after a successful meeting. In their haste to catch an available taxi, they knock over a fruit stand. One of the team members noticed that the owner of the stand was a blind and tears running down her face. He tells his team member to go on ahead without him and turns around to help the women pick up her stand collect the fruit that has fallen on the ground. He carefully sorts the damaged fruit from the fruit that is still good enough to be sold and hands her enough money to cover the rest of the damaged fruit.

As he walks away in search of another taxi, the women calls out to him inquiring if he is Jesus. Somewhat startled, he replied, "No, why?" The women explains the she was just wondering because as she heard her cart and fruit falling on the sidewalk, she prayed and asked for Jesus to help her and in an instant he was there.

This team member did what Vincentians across the globe do everyday. We receive a call or see someone or some group in need and respond by stopping and offering whatever assistance we can give. The man in this story did not change the woman's blindness or provide her with a better source of income, but he alone stopped, cared, and reached out to do what he could to help her in the moment. His teammates and hundred of other people went about their own business with little thought of this women and her needs.

As Vincentians, we often lose sight of how much impact even the simplest act of kindness can have on others. Many of the families who reach out to us have physical and financial needs far beyond what we can provide. It can seem like we are doing very to help them if we can only pay part of a utility bill or rent, bring them a modest food box or sit and listen to the story of a family torn apart by illness, death, or deportation. But in that moment, like the businessman in this story, we can bring them the love of Christ and the compassion of other human beings.

We have all heard how the greatest gift we bring to the poor and needy is the gift of ourselves, but do we really believe that? If that is true, why do we so often struggle when all we can give to a family is a visit and prayer? In the example above, the greatest gift provided was the gift of caring. This young man was willing to put his need aside for just a moment, to turn around, and offer a helping hand. It is simple but powerful when we take the time to stop and care. St. Teresa of Calcutta reminds us that we are not called to do great things but simple things with great love.

Love, kindness, respect, and compassion must always be the gifts we offer first. Let us keep in mind that when we go out on a home visit, work in a pantry, serve in a dining room, a thrift store, one of our clinics, or the ministry to the homeless, that many people we encounter have prayed for Jesus to help them. Will they see Him in us? Are we bringing the joy and peace of Jesus to everyone we encounter? Ask yourself do people see the face and hands of Christ coming through my attitude and actions? "When was the last time someone mistook you for Jesus?"



Is It Okay?

“Is it okay if he sleeps here” we ask ourselves, looking at the homeless man rolled up in his blanket outside the entrance to our parish hall. It is a simple question, but as is so often the case, simple does not mean easy. This is so partly because of the question may be understood in

more than one sense, but mostly because of the second question that is implied: If it isn’t okay, what should I do about it?

“It is okay if he sleeps there?”, meaning, “Is it permitted?” is one sense in which we ask the question. Is it faire to ask, since it may or may not be permitted to sleep in many places around town, but on our church property we haven’t any “No Trespassing” signs, so there doesn’t seem to be a rule against it. We certainly welcome all of our neighbors here. We share friendship and food and sometimes shelter when the weather is very bad. We can’t think of a reason his sleeping would be forbidden. He probably didn’t get much sleep in the overnight cold, so, yes, it’s okay if he sleeps here.

It’s a relief to conclude this, since if it were not okay, we would have some responsibility, as parishioners, to tell him to leave, wouldn’t we? Nobody wants to be the one to do that, much less to call law enforcement to remove him.

“Is it okay if he sleeps there?”, can also be understood to mean “Is it right?” in the sense, the answer seems much more obvious. Of course, it isn’t right. It isn’t right that most comfortable place he could find to sleep on is a bench, a sidewalk, or the mud of an unplanted flower bed. It isn’t right that he’s homeless. So, since it isn’t okay what should we do about it?

This is [the Vincentian Question](#), lying before us on the sidewalk, challenging us with its insistence: what must be done? Is it our Catholic Social Doctrine, wrapped in a dirty blanket vividly reminding is that “something of the glor of God shines on the face of every person”. [\[CSDC, 1441\]](#) It is our Lord and Savior, “the sacred image of that God whom we do not see” [\[137, to Jammot, 1837\]](#)

“God forbid,” Bl. Frederic wrote, *“That we should think of slandering those whom the gospel blesses, of making the suffering classes responsible for their ills and of the serving the insensitivity of the bad hearts who belived themselves exempt from helping the poor when they have established their wrongs!”* [\[The Causes of Poverty., 1848\]](#)

It isn’t right that some are homeless, and it isn’t right that it is so hard to figure out the best way to help people overcome whatever demons, whatever past mistakes, or whatever current troubles are keeping them on the street, but we won’t stop trying. And in the meantime, it’s charity okay to follow Veronica’s example, offering what comfort we can, and to make “charity accomplish what justice alone cannot do” [\[136, to Lallier, 1836\]](#)

Contemplate

Do I pause to refresh myself with prayer and reflection, rather than focusing only on “the work”?



BRICKS to build the foundation

TOPIC: Domestic & International Twinning

Reviewed: June 2024

Category: Financial

Conferences and councils help each other in need, both at the National and International level. This is one of the activities most cherished by the society (Rule: Part I, 4.1)

Through the process of twinning, Conferences and Councils help others in need, both at the local, national, and international level. This is one of the activities most cherished by the Society. The awareness of acute poverty and the Vincentian preferential option for the poor spurs Conferences and Councils to assist other Vincentians with less resources or in particular situations. This direct link between two Conferences or Councils, consisting of sharing prayer, a profound friendship and resources is called twinning. Twinning is a 'special work' of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. It is one of fraternal union and sharing.

DOMESTIC TWINNING

The Society is a family. Twinning, the sharing of human, spiritual and financial resources, is the ultimate expression of the love and sacrifice that is present in a family. By twinning, we strengthen our bonds as brothers and sisters, encouraging one another in our common mission of spirituality and charity. We are called to pray for one another as we would pray for our own brother. We are called to serve one another as we would serve our own sister.

Within the Society, the term Twinning applies when resources are shared from a Conference to a Conference or a Council to a Council. If a Conference gives money to a Council, it is considered and recorded as Aid to Upper Councils not as Twinning and if a Council helps a Conference, it is considered and recorded as Aid to Conferences. It is important to remember that twinning is when resources are shared at the same level of the Society.

When funds are needed for a specific situation the twinning request should be from Conference President to Conference President or District President to District President.

Twinning, however, is about more than the sharing our financial resources with other Conferences or Councils. It includes the sharing of our time and our talents. Although the sharing of talent is not recorded on any report all time spent with another conference should be reported in your conference volunteer hours. Sharing our time and talent with other conferences is often critical to the survival of other Conferences and Councils. Several Conferences within our Diocesan Council have needed members from other areas and Conferences to join their Conference as members or officers. Other Conferences in rural and inner city areas need Vincentians from other Conferences to join them in providing services as their access to new members as well as funds is extremely limited.

Many Conferences twin goods to other Conferences. These goods are usually in the form of food. Conferences that do not operate a pantry often do Food Drives and twin their food with Conferences that require large amounts of food because those Conferences are located within a 'food desert'. It is important to note that in those cases, the Conference receiving and actually distributing the food records the food and the Conference collecting and twinning those goods records nothing on their quarterly/annual reports. This is an important practice that prevents the Council from double recording the same donated goods and thus violating IRS guidelines.

Twinning can be a single event or an ongoing project and relationship.

INTERNATIONAL TWINNING CONT

While the Society is present in more than 150 countries, Conferences are virtually unable to help themselves in the majority of these nations. A system is in place at the national Council of the United States for the protection of contributors. It assures that all donations go to help the poor by requiring, among other things, that the funds be distributed or used by members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Make the decision to share part of what we have with other members of the Vincentian family who have far, far less. If your Conference doesn't have a specific location in mind, National can match it with an overseas Conference in need. ("Overseas" is anywhere outside the U.S.A., including Mexico and Central America.) The Council General (International) now permits us to twin with national councils, area (district) councils, or Conferences anywhere in the world. As we consider international twinning, remember that a Conference must twin with a sister Conference of the Society. Giving money to someone else, even to a missionary who may be a former pastor and doing very worthwhile things, is not an appropriate use of funds contributed to the Society

Each U.S. Conference is expected to pray in a special way for its twinned Conference, its members and the poor they serve..

An application may be obtained by contacting the U.S. National Office, St. Louis, Missouri at (314) 576-3993 and ask for the International Twinning Coordinator. For more information, the Coordinator can provide that to the Conference.

All International Twinning MUST go through US National Office who will coordinate the distribution through the International Office. A Conference will receive a transmittal letter from the U.S. National Office at the time it sends the funds to the foreign country. The President of the National Council in that country is requested to sign a "B" transmittal copy indicating that it has received the funds and has delivered them to the proper twinned Conference or council. When the U.S. National Office receives back the "B" transmittal copy, it will send the U.S. Conference a copy.

Please see BRICK for Disaster Appeal requests.

Twinning is not an extraordinary work of a Conference but rather how we live and work as a family. It is the perfect way for us to show our unit and commitment to a global view of poverty and our commitment to help the poor wherever they may be. All Vincentians and all of the poor are our brothers and sisters and in need of our support. It is, after all, what Christ is asking of us "Whatever you do the least of my brothers, that you do unto me".

Nothing can make you twin except the voice of your conference conscience.



But be kind and love, for love is your first gift to the poor. They will appreciate your kindness and your love more than all else you bring them.

—Blessed Rosalie Rendu, 1833



FROM THE DESK OF THE CONFERENCE RESOURCE COMMITTEE

Vincentians – Unsung Heroes

Vincentians are known for volunteering in stores, pantries, and keeping people fed, clothes, housed, and healed. For that we are very grateful! But what about all the things that happen in our society and conferences that no one sees or hears about?

Today we recognize all those Vincentians who quietly do things no one may ever see. THANK YOU to those who:

1. Clean our pantries stores, and restrooms
2. Clean and repair furniture to make it sellable
3. Transport our neighbors to doctor's appointments and the store
4. Do grocery pick up at the stores so our neighbors receive more in their boxes/bags
5. Stock our pantry shelves
6. Drive our trucks and load and unload them
7. Go to the grocery store to buy additional food for distribution
8. Are present to our neighbors on food distribution days
9. Brave cold and inclement weather to distribute food
10. Attend the funeral of our Vincentian brothers and sisters
11. Sort, wash, and clean the dishes and shine the shoes that come into our thrift stores
12. Talk about the works of the Society to their friends and neighbors
13. Attend General Membership Meetings and join in fellowship
14. Go above and beyond in finding the help our neighbor's need
15. Provide repairs to our stores and pantries
16. Perform so many other duties that we fail to mention here.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! TO OUR UNSUNG HEROES!!

From the office of Vincentian Engagement Support Services



Happy Spring fellow Vincentians! Once again we have been blessed by our wonderful supporters at Safeway/Albertson's with a donation of \$50 gift cards. Each conference will receive 38 gift cards to help their neighbors in need. Woot! Woot! Even after the recent donation of cards for Easter, our partners know how important it is to help our community during the tough summer months. Hopefully this will help families while kids are out of school and when utility cost start go up.

Please be sure to encourage your neighbors to use them as soon as possible so our friends know how much need there is in our community. Please also don't forget if your conference does not need cards at this time, you can twin your cards with other conferences or use the cards to buy much needed perishables or food that your pantry might need. Keep in mind some of our conferences do not have a pantry so they depend heavily on gift cards. They'd appreciate any you might be able to twin.

With mixed emotions I need to share that after 9 years our very own Michelle Emocling, VESS Office Administrator, will be leaving our VESS SVDP family. We are excited for her as she pursues her art career and business and adds additional schooling to her resume. She is an amazing and creative soul so we know she will excel in her art career. We wish her all the best but will miss her fun and kind spirit. Please join me as we wish her well on her new adventures! Stay tuned for announcements on new staff when the time comes.



***Please feel free to reach out to me, Irma Leyendecker
ileyendecker@svd paz.org or any of our VESS team
with any questions or concerns.***

Admission Process for Active Members

The names of persons proposed for Active membership are to be submitted to the President of the Conference or Council concerned. The President will provide information concerning the recommended person to the Conference or Council. If approved, the candidate will be admitted as a member and given a Vincentian welcome at the next meeting. If a prospective member wishes to test their Vincentian vocation, that person may defer for a time formal admission into the Society. A candidate for Active membership is afforded a period of training and discernment which includes formation in the Essential Elements and values of the Society as well as its Rule.

Before being commissioned as a member, according to Statute 4, the Conference President or the Spiritual Advisor should consult with the candidate to discern readiness for Active membership. The Conference then takes formal action, normally by a resolution, to accept the candidate into Active membership.

Associate Members are those affiliated with the Society by formal action of the Conference or Council with which the member will be joined. Associate Members include those who sincerely and publicly accept the Society's Rule but may or may not belong to the Catholic Church and may or may not attend Conference meetings or engage in the works of the Society on a regular basis. Associate Members are kept informed of the developments and activities of their immediate groupings, as well as the general progress of the Society, particularly in the local area or diocese. They are invited to attend the general meetings and special observance of the Society and to participate in its charitable activities.

While membership in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States is open to all ages, in honor of the youthfulness of our founder Frédéric Ozanam youth and young adults are encouraged to become members. Youth and young adults may be Active or Associate Members of any Conference or Council or of a Conference designated as a Youth or Young Adult Conference.

Statute 4: Commissioning and Renewal Ceremonies

The commissioning of new members of the Society should take place at an appropriate time and occasion after they have gained experience in the Society.

All members shall annually renew their promise of service to the members and to the poor, thereby deepening the spiritual dimension of their vocation. The normal occasion for commissioning and renewal is at a Conference or Council liturgy or at a Festival Meeting.

In this Diocese, you must complete the OFE program in order to be commissioned. So, Associates with Voting Privileges (those who meet all of the criteria for being a full member except being for Catholic) could be commissioned but if they are not Catholic, they would need to understand that they can never hold office.



Conferences/Councils and Their Work

Statute 5: Conferences Meet Frequently

Members of the Society traditionally gather in communities called “Conferences” which meet weekly or at least twice a month. This is to affirm the importance of the spiritual and social dimensions of Vincentians coming together as a community of faith and love, prayer and action.

After prayerful consideration of all circumstances involved, Vincentians should apply themselves to their maximum ability in fulfillment of the mission and Essential Elements of the Society. Vincentians are available for work in the Conferences after fulfilling their family and professional duties.

Conference members consistently strive to develop a three-fold relationship with God, the poor and one another — mutual support and friendship.

Statute 6: Aggregation and Institution

All Conferences and Councils are full members of the Society when they are respectively Aggregated or Instituted by the Council General International.

All Conferences seeking Aggregation and Councils seeking Institution are required to follow the procedures established by the National Council at the time of application. The National Council complies with the appropriate criteria of the Council General International.



Chef Chris Hoffman Declared “Culinary King of Kindness”

Saturday, March 15, 2025 was declared Chef Chris Hoffman Day by Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego. Chef Chris was honored for overseeing the cooking and serving of over 29 million meals for the poor in the ten years that he has served as Head Chef for the Phoenix Diocesan Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.



Chris Hoffman knows the kindness of strangers firsthand, making him an authority in his line of work in more ways than one. Every day he ensures that the people who pass through our doors leave having felt the love of God. For him, our dining rooms, programs, and special events feed not just the stomachs of those whom we serve but their hearts and their spirits. He is committed to making sure everyone receives a

smile or two.

When Chef Chris and his family moved back to the United States after spending several years in the culinary field in resorts in Jamaica, Chris had a hard time finding employment sufficient enough to take care of his young family. He eventually reached out to St. Vincent de Paul and was able to obtain the support and assistance he needed until he found full-time employment. Blessed by the earnest kindness that had been shown to him and his family, Hoffman's life was forever changed.

Fast-forward fifteen years later – after that life-altering day – he was working in the culinary field at the Phoenician in Scottsdale when he stumbled upon an ad on Craigslist about St. Vincent de Paul. Hoffman said, “They were looking for a chef who could feed a high volume of people.” After two interviews, he was hired as their Head Chef, and his story with St. Vincent finally came full circle.

When Hoffman first began working in our kitchen, we were preparing and serving 4,500 meals a day. That number has now grown to 7,000 and he keeps on cooking, smiling and serving others without complaint or hesitation. Arriving daily around 4:30 AM, Chris leads a team of staff and volunteers to cook nutritional and tasty meals that are cooked and served with love. He prepares meals for our guests, our staff, our donors, and special events with creativity and joy. Everyone has a favorite meal that he serves from the omelet bar to his curry chicken and meatloaf, his meals never fail to delight our palates and our hearts.

Chef Chris you are now officially named the SVdP Culinary King of Kindness. Thank you for all you do for us and others.



Jubilarians Honored at Christ the King



From left to right, Martha Wright (5 yrs), Father Rolyn Francisco, Gael McKelvey (6 ½ yrs), Mary Hilling (6 yrs)

The St. Vincent de Paul Christ the King Conference was re-established in March of 2017. The Conference began its works with a limited number of individuals. We started with 10 members and quickly dwindled to 6 for about 1 ½ years. Then Gael McKelvey joined the Conference in 2018. She quickly accepted the position of President. With her connection to the Christ the King food Pantry, H.O.P.E., Gael recruited a few members from that ministry. Two of those being Martha Wright and Mary Hilling. Without their dedication and commitment to serve the community, the conference may have further struggled and possibly not even survived. They have been instrumental to the success of the Conference. These women have displayed true Vincentian spirit - Gael, as President with all its responsibilities also serves as a weekly Home Visitor, Martha, served as Spiritual Advisor and a weekly Home Visitor and lastly Mary serves as weekly Home Visitor. These women are dependable and hard working. It was an honor to see Father Rolyn present the Jubilarian crucifixes to these very special women.

God Bless,

Ruth Padilla

Three Threads of (Coat) Fringe Ministry

DANIEL KAIN, PRESIDENT OF SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS CONFERENCE

It's generally not a good thing to be seen as part of a fringe group. Such groups exaggerate one aspect of a larger group's identity to become something else. Their extremism often damages whatever the larger group stands for.

But there's another kind of fringe group that elevates, rather than undermines, the purpose of the larger social organization: the coat fringe ministry of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Jesus healed with prayers and proclamations and preaching and even some odd gestures (like spitting and sticking his fingers in a deaf man's ears). Some people, however, found healing just by laying the sick on the side of the road, hoping that the fringe of Jesus' garments might brush them quietly as he passed (Mark 6:56). And they were healed. Or consider the woman who suffered from years of internal bleeding. She pushed through a swarm of people to touch the fringe of his garment (Luke 8:43-44). This was in a crowd, with people pushing and bumping from all sides, but her touch drew healing, and Jesus knew it. Coat-fringe healing.

The work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul does not involve preaching. It never asks neighbors to listen to sermons or ascribe to a belief system to earn support. It's serving as the fringe of the coat of Jesus, offering healing and restoration. So, what does it mean to be a coat fringe ministry? Here are three threads of the garment to consider in SVdP service.

Thread One: Don't fret that you're letting your actions (rather than words) speak. There are certainly ministries that evangelize directly and explicitly. They preach the gospel, proclaim the Word, hold retreats and healing services and even bring Christ's presence through the Eucharist. These are direct, explicit, and fantastic. But that is not the approach of the Society—and it's okay. The recommendation (wrongly) attributed to St. Francis captures the importance of letting actions do the talking: "Preach the gospel at all times; if necessary, use words."

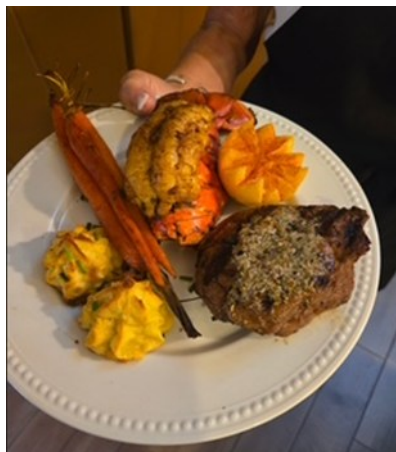
Thread Two: Remember that coat-fringe healing also involves the participation of the sick. All sorts of people touched the cloak of Jesus over his years of ministry. He spoke in crowds, he traveled through crowds, he even had to escape a crowd that shoved him out of town and tried to throw him over a cliff (Luke 4:29). He was touched a lot. But Jesus knew it was different when the bleeding woman touched his coat. Her heart reached out for help; she was ready. When people sought him, even by brushing against his garment, he healed. The work of SVdP likewise is effective when neighbors reach out to participate in their healing. Their outreach may be as simple as phoning the helpline or visiting the pantry, but their participation makes this more than impersonal charity.

Thread Three: Stay close to Jesus. Jesus didn't wear a magic cape. The great thing about being a coat-fringe ministry is that our primary source of strength is our relationship with God rather than our own cleverness, talent, skill in fundraising, or flurry of activity. The coat needs merely to cling to its owner, to take on the aroma of Jesus. Our effectiveness as Vincentians ultimately comes down to a simple formula: we see Jesus in others, and in loving others we love Jesus.

Reflection: *How can we better live out the reality of coat fringe ministry?*

St Vincent de Paul Activity - Dinner for 10

On Wednesday evening, March 26th, our conference served a dinner “under the stars” for ten members and friends who bid and won a seat to attend at our “Parish Thank You Event”. The dinner was served pool side at the home of member Liz and Bill Quade, who donated the dinner, along with member Cindy Bossinger.



The dinner brought in \$1200, with each attendee paying around \$200 for the privilege of attending the Lobster and Filet dinner! Two couples were sorry they couldn't attend; however, they sent friends who were thrilled to fill their seat at the event. One lady said she had never had such a wonderful, delicious dinner in her life and never under the stars!! There was an appetizer of crackers and dip, crab cakes, Caesar salad, honey glazed carrots, duchess potatoes, along with the lobster and filet, with desert of banana cheesecake.

A great evening was had with Liz, her sister, Mary and daughter, Stephanie, helping in the kitchen, along with Cindy Bossinger and Tina Prosenick; Bill contributed by grilling the main event. The evening was perfect, along with the comradery and delicious meal! Our conference has a wonderful way of bringing joy to our parishioners and friends, along with bringing in funds to assist the many in need in our service to our neighbors. Another wonderful evening of caring and sharing!



Karen Boeck



SVdP Vincentian Opportunities



Areas of Need:

◦ Thrift Stores

Scottsdale Hope Chest, Sunnyslope, Surprise, & Last Chance - Phoenix

- Two people needed - 2-3 days a week for 1-2 hours to help gather items to be sent to our housing shelters
- Two people needed - 1-2 days a week for 1-2 hours to help gather items to be sold on our Virtual Hope Chest

◦ Ozanam Manor & De Paul Manor

- Sunday - Saturday - (2hr shifts)
 - Resident Information Specialist, Front Desk Assistant, Inventory Control Specialist, Mentor, Wellness Coordinator Assistant, and Home Visit Team

◦ Rosalie's Place

- Tues & Thurs from Noon-7pm (2hr shifts) - Operations Coordinator - help inventory and organize supplies
- Tues & Thurs 8am-4pm and Fridays 8am-Noon (2hr shifts) - Welcome Desk Assistant - answering phones, welcoming residents and other guests; help with mail distribution; organizing supplies

◦ Homelessness Prevention

- Mon - Thurs - 2 days a week - (6hr shifts) - Basic computer skills needed; Will train how to use our programs; Will train how to process applications

◦ Volunteer Engagement

- Mon - Fri - 2-3 days a week - (2hr shifts) - Basic computer skills needed; Will train how to use our programs; Calls to confirm and thank volunteers

For question reach out to us at:

E-mail: volunteer@svdpaz.org

Call: 602-261-6886

PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

🙌 Join Us in Preventing Homelessness 🙌
Volunteer Today!

Calling all Vincentians and community volunteers!



Do you want to make a real difference in someone's life?

Are you passionate about helping neighbors in need stay safely housed?

Do you have computer skills and a heart for service?

We're looking for dedicated volunteers to support the **Homelessness**

Prevention (HP) team as we continue our mission to serve families in crisis.

☐ **How You Can Help:**

- Assist the HP team in processing housing assistance applications
- Ensure timely support for our local Conferences
- Help us continue providing critical services to families facing housing insecurity

☐ **What We're Looking For:**

- A commitment of **2 days per week (6 hours each)** at our **main campus**
- Comfort with basic computer use
- A compassionate, reliable spirit

With the launch of the **2nd Allocation of the HP/Conference Program**, we've already processed over **80 applications**—providing more than **\$130,000 in life-changing assistance** to families in need. That's incredible progress—but **we can't do it alone**.

If you're ready to serve with purpose, **we'd love to talk to you**. Together, we can keep families in their homes and hope in their hearts.

☐ **Contact us today to learn more about volunteering with the HP team!**

Laurie Sobel – lsobel@sudpaz.org – 602-850-6859

OFE CLASSES – 2025
ALL CLASSES RUN 9AM – 3PM

May 17, 2025 OFE 1 & 2; May 24, 2025 OFE 3 & 4
Christ the King- 1551 E. Dana Ave., Mesa, AZ

June 12, 2025 OFE 1 & 2; June 13, 2025 OFE 3 & 4
St. John Vianney – 180 Soldier Pass Rd., Sedona

Aug. 9, 2025 OFE 1 & 2; Aug. 10, 2025 OFE 3 & 4
Sacred Heart- 150 Fleury St., Prescott

Sept 13, 2025 OFE 1 & 2; September 27, 2025 OFE 3 & 4
St. Claire of Assisi – 17111 W. Bell Road, Surprise

Oct. 31 , 2025 OFE 1 & 2; Nov. 1, 2025 OFE 3 & 4
Lake Havasu Food Bank—1841 Acoma Blvd N, Lake Havasu City

To register contact: Mary Ann Hunter
928-699-9232 (Text or Call)
Email: maryannhunter44@gmail.com
Give your name; email, phone number, address,
and your conference name.

Friendly Reminder...

- **One Society:** Contribute to the success of our Vincentian work when we support One Society.
- **Servant Leaders:** Develop ourselves and others to become Servant Leaders.
- **Today's Society:** Strengthen the Society by embracing new and diverse ideas and people.
- **Embrace Accountability:** Build a strong Society by holding each other accountable to our Mission, to the Essential Elements of the Society and to good Governance.
- **Inclusive Planning:** Foster ownership by involving all members in planning and decision making.
- **Advocate for Justice:** Advocate along with the poor for just policies and practices at the local, state and national levels.

Membership

Statute 3: Membership and Admission

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States has two types of membership: Active Members and Associate Members. Active means Full membership.

Active Members are those who participate regularly in the prayer life, meetings, and charitable activities through personal contact with the poor of the Vincentian Conference or Council into which they have been received.

An Active Member accepts the Rule and Statutes of the Society, belongs to the Catholic Church, and is received as a Vincentian brother or sister into the Society's Conference or Council with which he or she is affiliated. Normally, membership implies Conference affiliation. Less commonly is membership obtained through direct Council affiliation. Only Active (Full) Members hold office in the organization.



**INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION
OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**



ALL CONFERENCE MEMBERS QUARTERLY TOWN HALL

You are invited to join our Diocesan Council President Shirley Smalley for a quarterly Zoom webinar.

This quarter our webinar will discuss political advocacy and the Society. Please join members of our board of directors including Pat Lucus, our Council Voice of the Poor representative. Conference leaders, please be sure to cascade this information to other members of your conference and your fellow Vincentians.

Please email any questions you would like to have addressed to our VESS Team at vincentianengagementsupport@svdpaz.org

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, May 20th 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm



**Scan the QR code to sign up or register at:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gIXEA3n9QK2azSH-p5GTig**

Any questions or assistance registering please contact Irma Leyendecker, ileyendecker@svdpaz.org

June (GMM) General Membership Meeting

Saturday June 21st, 2025

Dan O'Mera Center

420 W Watkins St. Phoenix, AZ 85003

Mass at 8:30 AM

Hosted By: District 5



HAPPY
*4th of
July*

Please Join Us!

RSVP to SEdwards@svdpaz.org

Save the Date



MORNING OF REFLECTION

OCTOBER 11, 2025

PRESENTER: BISHOP DONALD HYING

FROM: MADISON, WISCONSIN

WHERE: ST. BERNADETTE

16254 NORTH 60TH STREET, SCOTTSDALE

TIME: 8:30 AM-11:30 AM

Blessed Frederic Ozanam Intercession Prayer Line

O God, our Father, You alone have the power to bestow those precious gifts of Yours which we rightly call miracles. If it be Your will, be pleased to grant such a gift on behalf of...

ALL SAINTS MESA

Judy Allard
Barbara Velleman

BLESSED SACRAMENT

Teresa Quadros
Lee Matthews
Eddie and Terry Wilson
Pat Galea

HOLY CROSS

Mary Powell
Andy Torres
Dee Shack

**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

Mike McCann
Tom and Barbara Reed
Frank and Ruthie Reed
Dave Miller
Roger Reif
Frank Simmons
Joyce Sinman
Lynn Treimer
Rita Muscarello
Rosie Bell
Nanci Calvert

MOST HOLY TRINITY

Jackie Jennings

**OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE**

Sue Miller
John Cronin
JoAnne Kontak
Hazel Clark
Joe DiGiovanni

OUR LADY OF THE DESERT

Elaine Gavitt
Rita Hughes
Tony Mueller
Valerie Panagopoulos
Peggy Merrill
Duke Merrill
Mary Austin
Art Austin

PRINCE OF PEACE

Greg Roark
Audrey Thorp

QUEEN OF PEACE

Susan Petrie
Mary Kay Dunlevy
Martina Bonilla

Edith Smith
Dora Norris Family
Fr. John Ikponko
Vernon Norris Family
Peggy Knapp
Ana Lopez
Tomasia Torres
Terry Watts
Marmelejo Family

ST. ANTHONY

Ann Casaus
Kathy McDonald
Cecilia Laubenthal
Marnee Ballay
Cheri Massie
Ken & Lorraine Hesketh

ST. BERNADETTE

Mike Smalley
Ron Betz

ST. BRIDGET

Cheryl Crame
Joe Fellhauer
Terri Lyn Gardner

**ST. DANIEL THE
PROPHET**

Phil Murphy

ST. GABRIEL

Clare Marion
Jack McAward
Dolores Galligan
Robert Fitzer
Louise Fullam

ST. GREGORY

Edd Harrington
Beverly Heart

ST. HELEN

Charlie & Jean Olds

ST. JAMES

Diane Stofko
Abel Noble

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY
SEDONA**

Marie Brown
John Hanson
Willis Rogers
Jackie Moorman
Pam Klauser
Kathleen DeWeever
Ray West

Dennis Baile, Sr.

ST. MARGARET MARY

Ray Baca
Mary Esquibel

ST. MARY'S BASILICA

Robert Nue
The Boozer Family

ST. TIMOTHY

Margaret Hewett
Karl Rusnock
Thea Podrybau

ST. LOUIS THE KING

Esther Escarcega
Mary Fierros

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

Joyce Murphy

ST. GERMAINE

Don Rien

ST. MARGARET MARY-BHC

Rev. Peter Dobrowski

ST. MARY—KINGMAN

Michael Aguiar
Patty Couch
Roger and Rita Gaumond
Diane Schatz

ST. MARY-ST. JUAN DIEGO

Zoe Rainey
Angie Welsh
Winnie Bridgens
Carl Cunningham
Allen Vaughan
Rich Gray
Irene Beard

ST. MARY MAGDALENE

Nancy Weise

ST. JEROME

Nancy Barnes
Yvonne Hurley

ST. MATTHEW

Alicia Garibaldi
Carmen Alfonzo

ST. JOACHIM & ST. ANNE

Lucia Mastroianni
Corlaine Mortenson
Philomena Kamara

ST. THERESA

George Dorley
Twila Stern
Tim Coughlin
Colin Campbell

SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

Joe Goitia

SVdP EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Theresa Whittfield
Laura Grafman
Kay Sack
Jeanne Hertz
Rod Ticknor
Isabel & Larry Smith
Hank Hart Truman
Mary Kay Post
Emily Trust
Reve Holleran
Jerry Bailly
Bruce Talone
Paula Garlick
Dennis Gougion
Megan Ford
Reve Holleran
Kevin Conry
Dale Lehe
Mark Hamblin
Margaret Pawlak
Rob Sobczak
Jon Ehlinger
Paul Zabalski
Steve & Lucy Howell
Greg Ryan
Barby Groft
Barby Burr
Phillip Cookman
Craig Davidson
Ken Wagon
Lisa Longmire
Jeff McLean
Lynn Schmidt



THE VINCENTIAN ANNUITY

Supporting
St. Vincent de Paul
not just
for a lifetime,
but **forever.**

SAMPLE ANNUITY RATES

| | SINGLE LIFE | TWO LIVES |
|--------|-------------|-----------|
| AGE 60 | 4.4% | 3.9% |
| AGE 70 | 5.1% | 4.6% |
| AGE 80 | 6.8% | 5.7% |
| AGE 90 | 9.0% | 8.2% |



**THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.

A gift through the Vincentian Annuity will give you the security of a fixed income over your lifetime and provide support for St. Vincent de Paul that will last **forever.**

As an example, Helen, an 80-year-old widow and St. Vincent de Paul volunteer, recently established a \$50,000 Vincentian gift annuity. For her age, the annuity rate is 6.8%, meaning she'll receive \$3,400 annually for the rest of her life. And, she may take an income tax deduction of about 50% of her gift this year. Best of all, her gift will support St. Vincent de Paul's work for generations to come. Annuity gifts start at \$10,000.

TO SEE IF AN ANNUITY IS RIGHT FOR YOU
visit plannedgiving.stvincentdepaul.net.

Take a look at our planned giving tools, including a benefit calculator. To discuss giving options, contact Donna Rodgers at 602-261-6884 or plannedgiving@svdpaz.org.

P.O. Box 13600 Phoenix, AZ 85002 | stvincentdepaul.net