



Society of St. Vincent de Paul NEWSLETTER



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Diocesan Council of Phoenix, AZ

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February 2007

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



MORNING OF REFLECTION

February 24, 2007

IN DONOHUE HALL
ST. AGNES CHURCH
1954 No. 24th Street, Phoenix

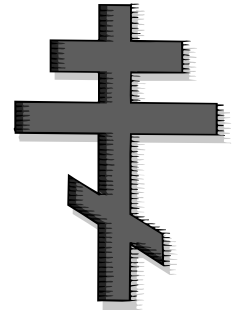


8:00 am Mass in the Chapel
8:40 am Registration, coffee & Donuts

with Retreatmaster

FATHER ANDRIY CHIROVSKY

a Catholic priest of the Byzantine Ukrainian Church



Fr. Chirovsky came to Tempe for his health, bringing his wife and children from Canada where he was Professor of Theology and Spirituality at the Sheptytsky Institute for Eastern Christian Studies, St. Paul University, Ottawa.

Fr. Andriy is a fascinating homilist, from the Byzantine Rite of our Church, something most of us have had little exposure to.

Expect to hear about Saints Basil, John Chrysostom, Irenaeus and other great fathers of the Eastern Church and their teachings about the poor.

The Holy Father's recent visit to Turkey was, in great part, an effort to continue Pope John Paul II's work towards the reunification of the Roman Catholic Church with the Orthodox churches, correcting a split dating back a thousand years. Fr. Andriy comes from an Eastern Church in the heart of Orthodoxy but in full union with Rome. Many believe it will increasingly serve as the catalyst for union between the two parties.

Committee News

Formation & Spirituality meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month in Vincentian Hall. Every district should have at least one member on this committee and you don't have to be a conference officer to serve. We plan and execute programs to help form Vincen-tians both educationally and spiritually, to gain an understanding of *who* we are, *how* we are supposed to do things, *why* we do them that way, and *what* our patron and founder set out as the purpose of this Christian family of lay men and women. We need your ideas and wisdom. Call Chairwoman Dr. Lucy Ainsley at (602) 404-9601 to volunteer.

Development, Community Relations and Volunteer Services. Meets the 2nd Thursday of every other month at 4:00 pm in the Vincentian Support Center. Reviews and helps plan those programs which establish the image of the Society in our community, communicate with the various 'publics' and increase the donation of time, talent and treasure to the Society from those within the sound of our "voice." Joe Ri-ley is Chairman.

Eldercare meets on the 3rd

Wednesday at 2:00 pm in Vincentian Hall. Next meeting is Feb. 21st. Call (602) 261-6841 for information.

Food Service meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:45 am in Vincentian Hall. If you've interested in food allotments, quantity or quality, delivery charges, dining room or pantry operations, etc., this is the place to participate. All are welcome.

Conference Resources & Concerns meets on the first Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm in the Vincentian Support Center.

Since this committee deals with all of the opportunities faced by conferences, it is very busy and seeks the widest possible representation. It deals with conference issues, both positive (training programs, disaster assistance and sharing resources) and constructive (restructuring, twinning, oversight, expansion, counseling, etc.). Join in by coming down!

Youth meets on the 1st Tuesday, at 6:00 pm, in the Vincentian Support Center but because of school and other changes, always call to-check: 602-258-5128 for information.

Stores. This committee

meets quarterly and is next scheduled for Mar. 7th in Vincentian Hall. If you have retailing, merchandizing or just a sense of style, come join us!

Facilities. Meets on the Monday preceding the monthly Board meeting, at 9:30 am in Vincentian Hall. Reviews and plans for the current and future physical needs of the Society, costs, maintenance, safety and other related subjects. It would be great to have people on the committee with backgrounds in civil engineering, architecture, the construction trades, and related areas. Call Ch'm. George Pogue to help (480) 893-3658.

Jubilarian. The Committee has been busy meeting with conferences at district meetings. Call Jim Novotny at 480-895-2293 for info.

Safety. This committee is oriented to Watkins activities, but that doesn't mean we're not interested in safety problems in non-Watkins facilities as well as at parish conferences. Meets 9:30 am on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

By-Laws Committee meets as determined by the Committee.

NOTICE

Upcoming Vote at the General Membership Meeting

On March 24, at the General Membership Meeting, the Conferences will be asked to vote to approve or disapprove a process for enforcing the RULE of the Society. The process is described in this Newsletter, below: *Procedures and Consequences for Non-compliance*. This process was developed by the Conference Resources and Concerns Committee over a period of several months.

The process only comes into play if a Conference or member of the Society knowingly violates the RULE (or Bylaws, policies, or Standards of Affiliation) and, after counseling and instructions, continues to violate the RULE. This process ensures that every opportunity has been taken to instruct and counsel the offending person or Conference. There is no specific timeframe for this process and it will vary with the situation. The action taken will also vary with the circumstances. The only action that takes place is taken by authority with the structure of the Society. In this case, District Council and Board of Directors are the authorities that can impose sanctions. The process also ensures that maximum sanctions are imposed as described in the RULE.

You are being asked to (1) read the process, (2) discuss it in a Conference meeting, and (3) vote as a Conference to approve or disapprove the process. Motions to change words will not be entertained. **The vote is either “yes” or “no”.** You will then instruct your Conferences President, Vice President or authorized proxy to cast the vote on behalf of your Conference at the General Membership Meeting. If you have any questions regarding this process, you may contact Tom Clouser, Mike Syslo or any other member of the Conference Resources and Concerns Committee.

Diocesan Council for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Phoenix ***Procedures and Consequences for Non-Compliance***

(Approved by Conference Resources and Concerns, 1/4/2007)

(Approved by the Board of Directors to go to the General Membership for Vote, 1/17/2007)

When discussing non-compliance by a Conference or Conference member, we are referring to the RULE of the Society, the bylaws of the District and Diocesan Councils, all policies passed by the Diocesan Council of Phoenix (Board and/or General Membership). In the document below, the word *issue* refers to non-compliance with the above.

1. When Vincentian Support Services (VSS) is informed of an issue occurring within a Conference, it will inform the District Council President and, if appropriate, the Conference President of the issue. The District Council President will work with the Conference President and the Conference to resolve the issue. VSS will be available to provide assistance to the District Council President and Conference President.

2. When an issue occurs that cannot be resolved by the Conference, the District Council President should be informed as soon as possible by the President of the Conference. If an individual member has an issue with his/her Conference, that person may contact the District Council President and ask for help to resolve the issue. VSS may be asked to provide assistance. The District Council President then counsels the Conference President and members of the Conference and informs the Diocesan Council President of this issue and its status.
3. If non-compliance continues or if arbitration is required, the issue is brought to the Conference Resources and Concerns (CR&C) Committee for discussion. Counseling will be provided by the Committee at this point. If appropriate, a letter will be sent to the Conference President and members of the Conference on behalf of the Committee outlining possible action to be taken if the non-compliance is not corrected. Both the District Council President and the Diocesan Council President are kept up to date.
4. If non-compliance continues, the President and Officers of the Conference are asked to present the issue to the District Council for discussion. Counseling will be provided by the members of the District Council. If appropriate, a letter will be sent to the Conference President and members of the Conference on behalf of the District Council outlining possible action to be taken if the non-compliance is not corrected. At this point, the District Council may impose consequences on the Conference (see number 6 below). The Diocesan Council President is kept up to date.
5. If non-compliance continues, the issue is then brought before the Diocesan Council Board for discussion. If appropriate, a letter will be sent to the Conference President and the Conference members on behalf of the Board outlining specific action to be taken if the non-compliance is not corrected. At this point, the Diocesan Council Board may impose consequences on the Conference (see number 6 below).
6. At levels 4 or 5, any of the following consequences may be imposed on the Conference with a non-compliance issue.
 - Cut off or restrict all financial aid from the Diocesan Council, all District Councils and other Conferences.
 - Cut off or restrict access to programs provided by the District and/or Diocesan Councils.
 - Cut off or restrict the use of store vouchers and/or CareCards.
 - Cut off or restrict food from the Food Reclamation Center.
 - Inform the Pastor that the Conference is in non-compliance and inform him of the consequences of non-compliance for the people served by his parish.
 - Other consequences may be defined as deemed appropriate for the Conference.

7. If after no resolution from any of the above, a Conference officer or member continues a practice of non-compliance in a manner that seriously interferes with the Conference and/or affects the people served, the Conference officer or member may be removed from the Conference and/or the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at the request of the Diocesan Council Board (RULE: Part III, Statutes 17-19).
8. If after no resolution from any of the above, a Conference continues a practice of non-compliance, the Conference may be suspended from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at the request of the Diocesan Council Board (RULE: Part III, Statutes 17-19) and rebuilt.

As can be seen by the process defined, the purpose of this document is to counsel, to correct non-compliance and, in turn, to build better St. Vincent de Paul Conferences. Consequences are only applied when there is the repeated refusal to comply.



St. Luke Honors Jubilarians

On Dec. 9, 2006, seven St. Luke's Conference Vincentians were recipients of the Jubilarian Award. Dorothy England, Theda Gilman, Eve Hagstrom, Betty Jane and Frank Reynolds, Theresa and Peter Setnicky were honored at the conference's annual Christmas party. The seven represent more than 80 years of volunteer service with SVdP and even more years of service to their parish Church.

In prior ceremonies, Harold Schofield and Cecilia Tierney were recipients of the Jubilarian Award, bringing to nine the total for this conference.

All Reports to your District President

We have found several conflicting instructions on where a conference should send its Quarterly and Annual Reports. The bottom of the form itself says one thing, the District By-Laws another, and the *How To Run a Conference* Manual a third.

So, until we get these conflicts resolved, **all financial reports from conferences should be given to the District President.** S/he will then forward a copy to Vincentian Support Services. Of course, the conference treasurer should keep a copy of the report.

And remember, you are required by the Rule to give your Annual Report to your Pastor.

Can Our Guests Become Members?

by Mike Syslo

A question that comes up regularly from conferences is: can one of our guests be a member? Usually, this question is inspired by someone whom we have been serving says they like our organization, are thankful for the help we gave and would like to help us serve others. You would think that there is a simple answer to this – *yes* or *no*. Well, the answer is not so easy.

Within the **Rule** of the Society, Part I Article 3.2 is very clear: “*The Society, in each of its Conferences (the primary basic unit of the Society), makes no distinction regarding gender, wealth, occupation, social status, or ethnic origin.*” So, clearly in the RULE we are not to discriminate against our guests when selecting people for membership in the Society. In our “Standards of Affiliation for Conferences” we also state related to membership: “*Diversity within Conferences is both welcome and healthy.*” But there always seems to be a “however.”

It has always been a recommendation of the Society to **use caution when discerning whether to accept a guest as a member**. There are two points to make here. First, “discerning” is important. It has always been the recommended process of the Society that prospective members be introduced to the Conference, be given time for their own discernment, be trained about who, why, how, etc. of the Society, and then have their membership voted on by the Conference members. We should never accept someone simply because they show some interest.

Second, “perception” is important. We should never allow others to perceive that we are in any way self-serving. In other words, we should not give more or better service to our own members than we give to those who come to us for help. Experience has shown a variety of results from accepting guests as members. In some cases, the new members have stayed with the Conference and become strong active Vincentians. In some cases, the new members have struggled with their own instability and have regularly sought to receive more assistance from the Conference making things awkward in discussing cases during a Conference meeting. In some cases, the new members have used their access to Conference resources to help themselves without going through the appropriate process (here is especially where the misperception can come into play). In some cases Conferences have been forced to ask new members to step down because of their misuse of Conference resources.

Caution is the key here. We welcome all who would like to live their faith by serving others. However, we should be sure that our guests are stable before inviting them to join our Society. This is a tough thing to do. Does “stable” mean that they have gone without asking for help for a period of time (e.g. six months)? How do you determine stability? This is not easy. That is why the Society has simply made the recommendation that we not accept guests into membership while they are still in a position to need service.

The reverse comes into play also. We must be willing to help our own members when they are in crisis. But again, be careful of the perception. We are often tempted to do more or give more to our members than we would to someone else who comes to us for help. Stay within the guidelines and procedures of the Conference.

Ultimately, if you are following the RULE and guidelines and recommendations of the Society as developed over the last 170+ years, you will build a strong conference and a healthy membership. ?

Pueden nuestros huéspedes convertirse a miembros?

Una pregunta que se hace de ves en cuando de los encargados de la Conferencia es: pueden nuestros huéspedes convertirse a miembros? Ordinariamente, esta pregunta es inspirada por alguien que le hemos estado sirviendo que nos dice que le gusta nuestra organización, esta agradecido por la ayuda que le dimos y quisiera ayudarnos a servirle a otros. Usted pensara que hay una respuesta facil a esto – si o no. Pero la respuesta no es tan facil.

Dentro de la Regla de la Sociedad, Parte 1 Articulo 3.2 esta muy claro: *La Sociedad, en cada uno de sus Conferencias (la base primaria de la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul), no hace distinción tocante a genero, ocupación o pais de origen.* Asi, claramente en la Regla no debemos discriminar contra nuestros huéspedes cuando estamos escojiendo gente para miembrecia en la Sociedad. En nuestros “Norma de afiliación para Conferencias” tambien afirmamos tocante a la membresía: *Diversidad dentro de las Conferencias es bien recibido y saludable.* Sin embargo, -- parece que siempre hay un “sin embargo.”

Siempre se ha heco una recomendación de la Sociedad de tomar quidado cuando discerniendo si aceptara uno de nuestros huéspedes como miembro. Hay dos puntos que quicira hacer aquí. Primero, “discernando es importante. Si empre ha sido el proceso recomendado de la Sociedad que miembros prospectos sean introducidos a la Conferencia, que se les de tiempo para su propio discernimiento, sean educados sobre quien, porque, como, etc. de la Sociedad.

Letters to the Editor



Q. *Are we supposed to acknowledge all donations to the conference, both large and small? How soon should those acknowledgements go out?*

A. First, federal law requires that all donations of \$250 or more **at one time MUST** be acknowledged *promptly* with what is called “the IRS statement.” We can provide you with a copy of that if needed.

Second, except for this legal requirement, there isn’t a Diocesan Council policy regarding whether a conference must send “thank you” notes to donors or when to do so. However, experience indicates that those who say “thanks” receive more donations subsequently, and those who respond promptly also find their donors becoming more generous over time.

Obviously, you must use common sense. You are not going to use letterhead and an envelope and a 39¢ stamp to say thanks for a \$1 donation. But some conferences use a 24¢ postcard for donations of \$3 or more, a letter for gifts over \$10. We can supply wording for both that has proven effective in improving conference income.

Some Presidents appoint a Corresponding Secretary to handle this chore.

One of the most successful conference fund-raisers has long preached that “*you can’t say ‘thank you’ too much (or too often).*”



Calendar of Events

Committee meetings are open to any Vincentian. Call in workshop reservations to (602) 261-6803

February 2007

Date	Event	Time	Place
02/05	By-Laws Committee Meeting	10:00 am	Mike Syslo's Office
02/05	Voice of the Poor Committee Meeting	3:30 pm	Vincentian Support Center
02/06	District Four Meeting	7:00 pm	St. James Church
02/06	Food Service Committee Meeting	10:45 am	Vincentian Hall
02/06	Youth Committee Meeting	6:00 pm	Vincentian Support Center
02/07	Open Hearts/Open House Tour	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Dan O'Meara Campus
02/07	Spirituality & Formation Committee	1:00 pm	Vincentian Hall
02/07	Executive Board	2:30 pm	Vincentian Hall
02/07	District Seven Meeting	6:30 pm	Vincentian Support Center
02/08	Long Range Planning Committee Meeting	1:30 pm	Vincentian Support Center
02/08	Budget Counseling Classes	5:30 pm	TAC Center
02/08	District One Meeting	5:30 pm	Conference Pantry, 1117 W. 2 nd St., Winslow
02/08	District Nine Meeting	6:30 pm	All Saints Church
02/08	District Twelve Meeting	7:00 pm	Resurrection Church
02/08-10	Southwest sale		Apache Junction Store
02/10	Ozanam Formation Experience 1 (Spanish)	8:00 am Mass	Vincentian Support Center
02/10	Ozanam Formation Experience 1 & 2	8:30 am Mass	Ss. Simon and Jude Church
02/13	District Three Meeting	9:00 am	Our Lady of Lourdes Church
02/14	Safety Committee Meeting	9:30 am	Vincentian Hall
02/14	District Six Meeting	6:30 pm	St. Thomas the Apostle Church
02/14	Valentine's Day Sale 35% off storewide		All St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores
02/15	Open Hearts/Open House Tour	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Dan O'Meara Campus
02/17	Ozanam Formation Experience 2 (Spanish)	8:00 am Mass	Vincentian Support Center
02/17	Ozanam Formation Experience 3 & 4	8:30 am Mass	Ss. Simon and Jude Church
02/18	District Two Meeting	1:00 pm	Lake Havasu City
02/19	President's Day SVdP Holiday		All services closed except Food Services
02/20	District Five Meeting	7:00 pm	Blessed Sacrament Church, Scottsdale
02/21	ElderCare Committee Meeting	2:00 pm	Vincentian Hall
02/21	Board of Director Meeting	5:45 pm	Vincentian Hall
02/22	Open Hearts/Open House Tour	7:00 am – 8:00 am	Dan O'Meara Campus
02/22	District Eleven Meeting	6:30 pm	St. Bernadette Church
02/24	Morning of Reflection	8:00 am Mass	Donohoe Hall, St. Agnes Church
02/24	Ozanam Formation Experience 1 & 2	8:00 am Mass 8:45 class	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
02/24	50% Off Sale		All SVdP Thrift Stores
02/26	Voice of the Poor Committee Meeting	3:30 pm	Vincentian Support Center
02/27	District Ten Meeting	12:30 pm	St. Germaine Church, Prescott Valley
02/27	Budget Counseling Classes	5:30 pm	TAC Center
02/27	District Eight Meeting	6:30 pm	San Juan Vianney Church

“All Officers of a Conference must have taken or will complete, within one year of taking office, the Ozanam Formation Experience.”

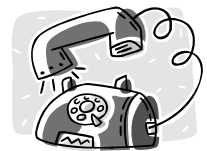
Standards of Affiliation for Conferences, adopted 6/24/06 by the General Membership

These are all excellent opportunities to meet that requirement.

Upcoming Training & Formation Sessions

- Feb. 10th Saturday – **OFE # 1 & # 2** – Sts. Simon & Jude (Cathedral) -- 8:30 Mass; class from 9:15 am to 12:15, then lunch, then 12:45 to 3:45 pm
- Feb. 17th Saturday – **OFE # 3 & # 4** – Sts. Simon & Jude (Cathedral) -- 8:30 Mass; class from 9:15 am to 12:15, then lunch, then 12:45 to 3:45 pm
- Feb. 24th Saturday – **OFE # 1 & # 2** – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (Tempe) -- 8:00 am Mass; class from 8:45 am to 11:45, then lunch, then 12:30 to 3:30 pm
- Mar. 17th Saturday – **OFE # 3 & # 4** – St. Mary (Chandler) -- 8:15 am Mass; class from 9:00 am to Noon, then lunch, then 12:30 to 3:30 pm
- Apr. 21st Saturday – **OFE # 1 & # 2** – St. Maria Goretti (Scottsdale) -- 8:00 Mass; class from 9:00 am to Noon, then lunch, then 12:30 to 3:30 pm
- June 9th Saturday – **OFE # 3 & # 4** – St. Maria Goretti (Scottsdale) -- 8:00 Mass; class from 9:00 am to Noon, then lunch, then 12:30 to 3:30 pm

PLEASE CALL IN YOUR RESERVATION FOR ANY OF THESE SESSIONS TO: (602) 261-6803. If we don't answer, leave (1) your name, (2) conference name, and (3) your home phone number on the voice mail. Thank you.



Clases formativos en Español:

- 10 de Febrero** Sábado -- **OFE # 1** – Vincentian Support Center, 420 Oeste Calle Watkins – 8:00 am Misa -- seguido por la clase a las 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.
- 17 de Febrero** Sábado -- **OFE # 2** – Vincentian Support Center,, 420 Oeste Calle Watkins – 8:00 am Misa -- seguido por la clase a las 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.
- 10 de Marzo** Sábado -- **OFE # 3** – Vincentian Support Center, 420 Oeste Calle Watkins – 8:00 am Misa -- seguido por la clase a las 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.
- 17 de Marzo** Sábado -- **OFE # 4** – Vincentian Support Center, 420 Oeste Calle Watkins – 8:00 am Misa -- seguido por la clase a las 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Favor de llamar al 602-261-6841 para reservar su parte en las clases

The New RULE and Spirit

6. OTHER RELATIONSHIPS – ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIPS

6.1 Every member should foster ecumenism

Each Vincentian should seek to deepen a personal commitment to ecumenism and to cooperation in works of charity and justice as a contribution towards the achievement of that full and visible unity of the Church for which Christ prayed, “that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they be one in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me” (Jn 17:21).

Ecumenism means to work toward the unity of the Christian churches. Some people interpret this to mean that we should welcome non-Catholics into our Society at all levels as Full Members. This is not true. In the United States, our National Trustees voted to require that only Catholics can be Full Members in the Society. Non-Catholics are welcome to be Associate Members and assist us in our works. We are also encouraged to cooperate with other faiths in works of charity and justice – networking and collaboration.

6.2 The Society is committed to ecumenical and inter-faith cooperation

Following the teachings of the Catholic Church, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul recognizes, accepts and encourages the call to ecumenical and inter-faith dialogue and cooperation which arise from its charitable activity. It is prepared to participate in the Church’s ecumenical and inter-faith initiatives within each country, in harmony with the diocesan bishop.

6.3 The adoption of practical initiatives

Conferences and Councils should establish a dialogue with their counterparts in other Christian churches or ecclesial communities and other faiths, with regard to cooperation in charitable work, wherever this is appropriate.

A couple of good examples of this can be seen in our charitable works in Phoenix. In our dining room ministry, we have regular groups volunteering from other Christian denominations such as Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist and LDS, from Muslim groups and Jewish groups. In addition to groups, there are numerous individuals who volunteer throughout our ministries who are non-Catholic Christians as well as members of other faiths.

A good example of cooperative work between churches is our work with the Hurricane Katrina evacuees. Immediately following the disaster, at the Coliseum, we worked with many faith groups in helping to relocate victims of the hurricane. In addition, case management is being done in cooperation among the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Lutheran Social Ministries and Catholic Charities Social Services.

Voice of the Poor

National website: www.voiceofthepoor.org
NEW Phoenix website: www.stvincentdepaul.net

VOP Delegation to D.C.

For the fourth year in a row, Vincentians from across the country will join 17 other Catholic organizations in Washington, D.C. for the Annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering. VOP members attending are: Inge Casey (St. Theresa), Father Bill Fitzgerald (OLPH-Scottsdale), Walt Gray (St. Augustine), Lucy Howell (Special Ministries), Kathy Jorgensen (St. Jerome), Ron Meyer (St. Francis Xavier) and Terry Wilson, SVdP National Vice President (Blessed Sacrament). Offices of the Arizona congressional delegation will be visited on February 13.

CLIP AND SAVE: More about the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

**Community Information and Referral Hotline for Free Tax Preparation
(602) 263-8856 or 1-800-352-3792 or www.cir.org**

When making home visits, **please make sure families know about the EITC when filing their tax returns.**

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Program offers an important opportunity to lift people out of poverty. As the largest federal tax benefit program, it has put \$36 billion into the hands of hard-working people who earn low wages nationwide. **Every year millions of dollars go unclaimed because people do not know they are eligible for this benefit.**

Locally, Phoenix, Avondale, Buckeye, Chandler, Glendale, Mesa, Scottsdale and Tempe have sponsored free tax preparation sites to assist people in filing for the EITC. They have partnered with community and faith-based organizations and local schools to organize hundreds of volunteers at sites throughout the Valley.

In addition to free tax preparation, many sites offer financial literacy classes for both children and adults. These classes help people make the most of their money by saving or spending it wisely. Through the EITC program, it is not uncommon for low income families to receive thousands of dollars they didn't know they were eligible to receive. For example, the EITC for a family of four with an income of \$38,000 is just over \$4,500. In 2003, City of Phoenix residents received more than \$60 million through the EITC. (As excerpted from the Maricopa County Association of Governments Online, Jan. 2, 2007)

Next VOP Meeting: Monday, February 26 at 3:30 pm in the Vincentian Support Center. Update on bills of interest to VOP at the State legislature. Report from Washington. Meetings are open to all who are interested. Agenda items can be submitted to Lucy Howell at (602) 695-1604 or Howishome@aol.com.

Mark your Calendars

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
March 24, 2007

WORKSHOP FOR SPIRITUAL ADVISORS
May 12, 2007
time & place to be announced

TRAINING FOR NEW SPIRITUAL ADVISORS
Oct. 13, 2007
time & place to be announced

2007 ADOPT A FAMILY PROGRAM WRAP UP

The two wrap-up sessions held on January 11th were attended by 18 Conference liaisons who provided many positive recommendations for next year.

The outstanding efforts by many parish liaisons resulted in 662 families having a very Merry Christmas. 580 sponsors participated this year BUT we needed more due to a back log of families.

The Conference liaisons had some wonderful experiences by connecting the sponsors and families. Sponsors also contacted us at all levels of the Society telling us what an exhilarating experience it was for them and their families – young and old.

Two unexpected events were reported at the meetings. First, a house was adopted for a grandmother looking after her grand children. The woman's house was in poor condition. At one time, family members had taken down the kitchen cabinets to be repaired and painted outdoors, but were never reinstalled. Not only was the kitchen taken care of but the house was painted indoors, floor tile was installed plus other improvements. Grandma was a very happy lady. Secondly, a call was received from a sponsor who had four bikes – two boys and two girls – which he wanted to deliver on Christmas day. The rest is history.

How can we do better next year? Liaisons told us:

- E-mail or fax forms to expedite the process
- Follow up with sponsors to make sure all is well
- List liaisons in neighboring conferences and work together to cross check families
- Contact sponsors after Christmas to thank them and get their reaction.
- Advertise in the parish bulletin – from October 1st through December 1st – asking for Adopt A Family sponsors

ST JUDE/JOHN PAUL II CONFERENCE

420 West Watkins
Phoenix AZ 85003
602-261-6836



“Insider” Information to Help You Serve Your Guests Better

Fellow Vincentians:

Among the works of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, one of the most important is assisting families to prevent eviction from their home or a disconnection of their electricity, water or gas service. As you are well aware, the Family Assistance Ministry at the Watkins campus provides rent and utility assistance to needy families. I am writing to inform you and your fellow Vincentians about how to access timely help for families referred by a conference.

To request an appointment for rent or utility assistance, clients are asked to call our Family Assistance Ministry message line, 602-261-6836. Dozens of calls are received each day, and, depending on the availability of skilled volunteers to screen clients for appointments, a return phone call can at times be up to one week later.

However, we prioritize families referred by St. Vincent de Paul Conferences to receive callbacks in a more timely manner. When a family is identified by a Vincentian as a good candidate for rent or utility assistance, please contact Lars Arriola via phone (602-261-6876) or email (larriola@svdp-phx-az.org). Please state the name of the client, his telephone number, type of assistance needed (rent, mortgage, or utility), amount needed, and any amount of co-funding by the conference. For email messages, you might also send the message to Catherine Sullivan (csullivan@svdp-phx-az.org). When Lars receives a referral by phone, he shares this information with Catherine, so that both he and Catherine are informed about these referrals. Depending on their workload, either Lars or Catherine calls these families within one day of receiving the referral to screen them for an appointment.

While this procedure benefits families referred by a St. Vincent de Paul Conference, we still receive many calls from other families that contact us directly and need prompt service. To address this concern, **we need YOUR help as a volunteer!** Especially, we are seeking persons who can work for several hours a week to screen families seeking rent or utility assistance. Please note: **this work can be done from your home!** All that is needed is an email address and internet connection, so that we can readily send and receive email messages and telephone logs between the volunteer and the Special Ministries Department. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact Catherine Sullivan via email (listed above) or phone (602-850-6703).

Thank you for sharing your time and talents as a Vincentian. By following the procedure outlined above for referring families, you can assist us as we work together to provide better service to the poor families seeking financial assistance.

Sincerely,
Ged Walsh, President

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

Blackie Fekete
Joan & Heidi Gipprich
Sr. Virginia Kleckner, OP
Josephine Sanchez
Deacon Reed Santa
Lorraine & Wally Spacher

Church of the ASCENSION

Don Doran
Lil Harwood

Church of the RESURRECTION

Fran Steele
Judy Steele
John Chester
Ken Keberle
Larry & Eleanor Kobak
Bernard Lux
Charlie Vincent

CORPUS CHRISTI

Bob Calder
Gary Christian
Dan Crocchi
Son-in-law of Marlene Myles
Drusilla Maldoon

CROISER COMMUNITY

Rev. Robert Bliven OSC

HOLY CROSS

Dorothy Brown
John Garman
Mary Ann Lavorante

HOLY FAMILY

Al Quihuis
Henry Quihuis
Sophie Quihuis
Ramona Rodriguez
Jean Walker

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Ray Hunter

MOST HOLY TRINITY

Tatish de la Cruz
Paul Hobaica

OUR LADY of the DESERT

Maggie St. Laurent
Dan Higginbotham

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

Tim Mulligan

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Ann Theisen
John Fiore

OUR LADY of MT. CARMEL

Minnie DiVirgilio
Charlie & Alice Green
Lisa Moss
Ed Reis
Scott Sperry
Bob Whitta

Our Lady of PERPETUAL

HELPM Glendale
Nancy Andreano
Don Barnes

Frank Baron
Beth and Bill Collins
Carrie Croteau
Margie Kapis
Jim Kearney
Rose Myers
Kathleen Nigro
daughter Bill/Beth Collins
Rosemary O'Boyle
Leonard Rivera
Al Ruiz

Our Lady Of PERPETUAL

HELPM Scottsdale
Georgianna Heindl
Jim Jakubek
Eddie Kaufman
Bob Ramler's grand child
Efren Mendoza
Dorothy Miller
Francis Plona
Nikki Ryan
Wilma Wagner

OUR LADY of the VALLEY

Ray Gillette
Fred Matheson

QUEEN OF PEACE

Juan Carlos Adame
Ricardo Bustos
Audrey & Francis Grenier
Mark Jimenez
Teresa Muehlbauer
Mercedes Sarias

SACRED HEART, Phoenix

Barbara and
Johnny Hernandez

SACRED HEART, Prescott

Ralph Gilberti
Dottie Howell
Dcn Tom & Gerry Kayser

SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

Katy Archer

ST. AGNES

Shirley Garling
Margaret Halfpenny
Virginia Kirby
Gerry and Betty Orsini
Carl and Theresa Pachek
Jason Vargas
Nephew of Rick Monzon

ST. ANTHONY

Simona Montero

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

Doris Wilhelm

ST. AUGUSTINE

Tony Cygan
Paula Esqueda
Hermie Maughan
Suzanne Moreno
Lisa Mundiga
Mary Olivares
Ambrose Rojas
Thelma Springer

ST. BENEDICT

Louisa Pedraza

ST. BERNADETTE

Joyce Ardery, mother of
Shirley Smalley
Joseph Bolda, son-in-law of
Ron & Lois Boltz

ST. BRIDGET

Joe Spadaro
Mary Waters
Nancy Floyd

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Frances Battler
Daughter of Barbara &
Lucky White
Mario Esquize
Grandson of Billie &
Paul Martinez
Paul Martinez
Barbara White

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

Dick French

ST. CLEMENT OF ROME

Stan Giza
Leonard Keating
Howard Martin
Kay Reilly

ST. EDWARD the Confessor

Alfonso Rodriguez
Rose Whitaker

ST. ELIZABETH SETON

Rita Doherty
Barbara Schowalter
Bob Spano

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Sr. Lawrence Bergs
Chuck Braun
Amber Davis
Roxanne Meyer
Bob Tomasi

ST. GABRIEL

Jerry Thompson

ST. GERMAINE

Lee & Gail Denning
Trey Kueper
Joe Pasanella
Jim Pruitt
Fr. John Shetler
Mary Smith

ST. GREGORY

John Gearin
son of Peggy O'Meara
Joe Haley
Alice Kapler
Urban Kiel
Beverly Longevin
Dixie & Fred Miller
Peggy O'Meara
Anita Battafarano

ST. HENRY

Carmen Hernandez

Juan Jose Hernandez
Dolores Sernas
mother of Mirna Ruiz

ST. HELEN

Jane Buckley
Jean Olds

ST. JAMES

Sandy Cooke
Rosemary & Don O'Boyle
Bruce Orosco

ST. JEROME

Nancy Barnes
Marie Chapman
Francis McDonald
Peggy Tegeler
Marie Chapman

ST. JOACHIM & ST. ANNE

Delmar Taylor
Hilda & Lou Atkinson

ST. JOHN VIANNEY, Sedona

Dianne Grandy

ST. JOSEPH, MAYER

Dale Mathern

ST. JOSEPH, Phoenix

Barbara Schwan
Vince Mirtich

ST. JOSEPH, Winslow

Julie George
Esther Villanova

ST. JUDE, Ministry to the

HOMELESS

Jack Allison
Tom Collins
Dorothy Klink
Josie Lostumbo

ST. JUDE, Tuba City

Kenneth & Warren Goldtooth
sons of Rosemary Gorman

ST. LOUIS THE KING

Tom & Jeannette Cospers
Rita Chartrand

ST. LUKE

Teresa Boyle
Tom Boyle, Jr.
Dorothy England
Tom Corella
Pete Setnicky
George Fisher

ST. MARGARET MARY

Peggy Desmond

ST. MARIA GORETTI

Michael Collins

ST. MARK

Juan Alvidrez
Louis Yanez
Chris Hernandez
Frank & Mary Zalonis

ST. MARY'S BASILICA

Leo Bohem

Glennie Scott
Woody and Helen Wilson

ST. MARY, CHANDLER

Nikki, Pat, & Cara Conway
Aimee, Kathleen & Michele
Jerry Fishback
Josephine Soto

ST. MARY, KINGMAN

Rita Gaumont

ST. MATTHEW

Francis Alvarado
Dennis Bronson
Maria Dominguez
mother of Gloria Galvan
Manuel Perez Estrada
Gloria Galvan
Frank Gonzales
brother of Olga Marquez
Roger Graves
Connie Hernandez
Armida Jiménez
Felipe Jiménez
Mary Martinez
Cassandra Natera
Josephine Seps

ST. PAUL

Carol Craig
sister of Bonnie Lappan
John Stenquist

ST. PHILIP BENIZI

Fr. Bill Healy
Thelma & Jerry Gervais
Cornelius Loiselle

ST. RAPHAEL

Ray Tarrats

SS. SIMON AND JUDE

Sr. Anna Bailey
Ken Bowerman
Pat Duggan
Kathleen Murphy
daughter of Kitty Johnson
Dottie Salviano
Tonia Turley
Daughter of Tom
& Lillian Dye

ST. THERESA

Kas Kaspov
Jack Allison
Mary Ann Babb
Lois Campbell
Jin Tigh

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Michael Erickson
Jerriann Goodman
Gene Pavoggi
Romy & Tess Perez
Vel Scheetz
Deacon Chuck Shaw
Roger Williams
Dan Findler, Jr
Son of Dan Findler

<p><i>ST. THOMAS the Apostle</i> Ted Cook Ben Wojtaszek Courtney Castelhana daughter of John Siminski</p> <p><i>ST. VINCENT DE PAUL</i> Randy Cordova Tom Maynes Colleen Roth Patricia Ryan Noble Witherspoon</p> <p><i>SAN JUAN VIANNEY</i> Manuel Medrano Uncle of Idaly Marinelarena Blanca Marinelarena</p> <p><i>SANTA TERESITA</i> Skeeter Monzon</p> <p><i>SVDP ACCOUNTING</i> Bill Brunner Alejandrina Linson mother of Lourdes Palacios</p> <p><i>SVDP ADMINISTRATION</i> Peggy Auer Kathy Barnotes Cousin of Nancy Sherman</p>	<p><i>SVDP Administration (cont'd.)</i> Matthew Boerer Joy Carter Clark Jackson Friend of Nancy Sherman Jeanette Jenkins Howard Linsenmeyer Patti Martin Alan Netella Fr. Fred Portmann Oscar Quadros Maryellen Sagartz Cousin of Nancy Sherman Jim Sherman Nancy Walker Eva Willis Tim Schmaltz daughter of Mary Rynd Cody Lehe</p> <p><i>SVDP DEVELOPMENT</i> David Bach John Barkley Julianne Birdt Friend of Liz Casey George Damon Jim Jakubek Helen & Norm Krivok</p>	<p><i>SVdP Development (cont'd.)</i> Sharon Nestore Daughter of Wayne and Jo Policz Wayne & Jo Policz Clay Rhoades Ashley Svatora daughter of Cynthia Bach Geraldine Curtis</p> <p><i>SVDP CLINIC</i> Mary Ann Baranowski Julie Neal</p> <p><i>SVDP DINING ROOMS</i> William Lanford Father of Sandra Daniels VirJean Moore Jesus Yanez. Mark Ross Larry Seeger Christina Wacknov Edna Yanez</p>	<p><i>SVDP FOOD RECL. CENTER</i> Cristina Abril Irene Diaz Tom Joos</p> <p><i>SVDP KITCHEN</i> Magdalena Directo Jesus Rivera Safari Hughes Son of Cecil Hughes</p> <p><i>SVDP EXECUTIVE OFFICE</i> Peggy Barrett Joan Grenier Thel Keene, wife of Bil Analise Fink Eugene Hicks Fr. John Hanley Mae Jolley Frank Luna Margaret Russell Janie Schoblska Larry Shima Verna Warren</p> <p><i>SVDP OZANAM MANOR</i> Tom Deane</p> <p><i>SVDP PROCESSING CTRE</i> Connie Escobedo</p>	<p><i>SVDP STORES</i> Frances Clark Mary McLaehorn mother of Matt Shanahan Margaret Pawlak Matt Shanahan</p> <p><i>SVDP VINCENTIAN SUPPORT</i> Sharon Marks Donna Peterson Martha Syslo</p> <p><i>SVDP VOLUNTEER SERVICES</i> Anthony Brittain</p> <p><i>St. Jude/John Paul II CON- FERENCE</i> Alice Allison Hildegard Brown John Cassidy Anastasia Gandarilla brother of Lucy Howell Rhea Linsmeyer Sandy Rustenburg Steve Howell Alex Lopez Jared Beaman</p>
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O God, Who put love of the poor into the hearts of Frederic Ozanam and his companions, and inspired them to found a Society for the relief of the spiritual and corporal miseries of those in want, bless this work of charity and zeal, and in accord with Your designs that Your pious servant, Frederic Ozanam was glorified as Blessed by the Church, we beseech You to manifest by heavenly favors the power he enjoys in Your sight. We make this prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.



REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them; and
may their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St. James
Bill Jackomovich

Friend of the Society
Camille Basha

St. Francis Xavier
Rita Wehling

SVdP Food Services
Stanley F. English

***May the Angels lead them into Paradise,
may the martyrs receive them at their coming,
and lead them into the holy city of Jerusalem.
May the Choir of Angels welcome them
and, with Lazarus, who was also poor,
may they have everlasting rest.***

**Words of Inspiration
From Our Founder
Frederic Ozanam**



Finally, and I speak here in my own name, I have just seen the announcement of a petition signed at M. de Lamartine's against the suppression of the turns. This petition, written by M. Guiraud, is Catholic. It has for its end the reestablishment of one of the most merciful works of St. Vincent de Paul. Would it not be proper for all young lawyers who make up society, all young physicians also, vying with one another in this matter, to come forward to sign the petition? Is that not an homage rendered to the memory of our holy patron at the same time that a good action is performed?

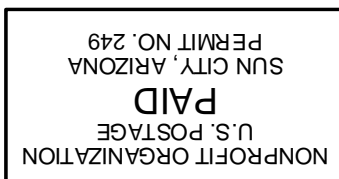
“Life in Letters,” May 17, 1838

**Words of Inspiration
From Our Patron
Vincent de Paul**



How happy we are to be in a Company that has as its purpose not only our personal sanctification, that is, that God comes and dwells within us, but also the task of making Jesus loved and served by everyone, thus bringing about the salvation of the world...I ask you, is there, on the whole earth, a more desirable mission than ours?...Therefore, if our Lord exhorts us and orders us to live in this way, He will surely give us the grace to accomplish this task, and indeed, will increase grace in us according to the measure that we are faithful to our mission.

“Seek first the kingdom of God,” February 21, 1659



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Vincentian Support Services
P.O. Box 13600
Phoenix, AZ 85002

