



Society of St. Vincent de Paul NEWSLETTER



Published By And For Vincentians Main phone # 602.254.3338 Vol. XXII No. 3
Diocesan Council of Phoenix, AZ www.stvincentdepaul.net/VincentianSupport.htm March 2009

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

Mike Syslo accepts position at National Office



Mike Syslo has been a Vincentian since 1982 and has served the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in five different Councils: Dallas, TX; Santa Clara County, CA; Santa Rosa, CA; Redwood Region, CA; and Phoenix, AZ. Mike had been a Conference Treasurer, President, and District President before becoming a paid staffer for the Society in 1990. Prior to coming to Phoenix, Mike had been a volunteer coordinator, dining room manager, and Executive Director.

In 1994, with the sudden illness of John Feit, Conference Administrator, the Phoenix Council hired Eileen Bornheimer, now District President in southeast Washington. The Council soon found that it took more than one person to do John's job, so it hired Mike in 1995, and other staffers in subsequent years. He soon rose to the top, becoming Director of Conference Administration (later Vincentian Support Services) in 2000 and then Director of Operations in 2006.

While Mike has multifaceted talents, his forte has always been training and formation. His programs have been adopted by trainers all across the country, and his knowledge is such that he is regularly sought out for counsel. He has long been a member of the National Formation and Education Committee and its various task forces.

Mike is a tireless worker and has presented countless workshops at National and Regional Meetings, some far outside his own Western region.

Mike and his wonderful wife, Martha, will be sorely missed, and, after fourteen years, it is hard to imagine the Phoenix Society and the Watkins campus without Mike Syslo.

**A FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR MIKE WILL BE HELD AT
THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND FAREWELL FOR MIKE SYSLO MARCH 21, 2009

The next General Membership meeting will be a very special meeting as we bid Mike Syslo a fond farewell. Mass will start at 8:30 a.m. We encourage all Conference Presidents to invite all members, especially your new members to attend for a morning of fellowship and friendship. Tours are always available for those members that have not seen our campus.

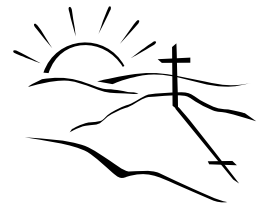
We need a head count so please call in your reservations to Sandy Edwards at 602-261-6803.

No Longer a Best Practice

by Mike Syslo

As Vincentians, one of our best recruiting practices was to simply ask our neighbor or cousin or friend to go on a home visit with us. This would give them a taste of what it is like to help someone in need and often would hook them into eventually becoming a member of the Society. **This is no longer a best practice, not even a good idea.** With the new policy of the Diocese of Phoenix, no one in the Society (or accompanying a member of the Society) is allowed to go on a home visit until after they have taken the *Called to Protect* training. Granted, there are some cases where the pastor of the parish has given a little flexibility to this; but as a general rule, **unless you have taken the *Called to Protect* training, you are not allowed to do a home visit**▪

Morning of Reflection a great success



On a glorious February morning in Avondale, the room was filled to Capacity, an estimated crowd of over 160 attended this most inspiring Morning of Reflection.

Father Greg did not disappoint us. The retreat master used humor to make many points, bringing a relaxed atmosphere to the morning. Father left us inspired and reminded us what it meant to be a Vincentian. *"It's not about me"*.

A recording of this fantastic presentation was recorded and will be available to you in the very near future.

Another Morning of Reflection is scheduled for October 10, 2009.

For those who chose to spend a quiet morning with our Lord, the Spirituality, Formation & Training Committee thanks you.

Speak Up

by Mike Syslo

Have you ever had the experience to read something that made an impact on you and then a short time later read something else totally randomly on the first subject that affirmed what you read? And, then once again a little later? When that happens to me, I believe that God is trying to tell me something and I better listen close. In this particular instance it was three unrelated statements that reinforced an idea. And, you know the importance of the number three; it is the biblical number reflecting perfection.

In the middle of January, we celebrated the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. My wife and I attended a special Mass and celebration honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. On the program cover page, there was a quote from Mr. King that read: *“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”* That statement has stayed with me since then. I have shared the thought with friends and co-workers.

Then recently I read a quote from Frederic Ozanam. It was from the book *Life in Letters*. It read: *“When, finally, rampaging pauperism comes, raging and desperate, face to face with a financial aristocracy whose bowels are shut, it is good to have mediators who can prevent a collision whose horrible disasters cannot be imagined, who can make the two camps listen, and who can bring to the one, words of resignation, and to the other, counsels of mercy, and to all the word of order, that loving reconciler. There is what we will accomplish if we are worthy of it.”*

And, then, not long after that, St. Vincent de Paul inspired me as I read an excerpt from one of his talks: *“Everyone is a part of the mystical body. We belong to each other. Not even in the animal kingdom, do we hear of one animal being insensitive to the sufferings of another. It is impossible that one part of a person’s body is injured, hurt, or attacked without the other parts being painfully aware of this. It is inconceivable! All of our members are so united and interconnected that damage done to one part is damage done to all. A fortiori, Christians who are members of the Body and of each other should share the sufferings of each other. It is impossible for anyone to be a Christian and not see the afflictions of our brothers and sisters. Nor is it possible for a Christian not to weep with them, nor to suffer with them. Whoever does not respond to the cries of the poor is lacking love. This person is a “Christian” in name only since they lack even the most basic of human qualities. To live like this is to be less than an animal.”*

So what does all of this have to say to us as Vincentians? Very simply: “Speak up!” When it comes to things that are important, say something. When it comes to the lives of those we are serving, let it be known. When it will affect God’s poor, children, and vulnerable adults, make sure people know. Vincentians are not simply grocery delivery clerks. More is asked of us, more is expected of us.

As Vincent told us, we are all part of Christ’s body. What affects one part, what impacts one part, impacts us all. We are all one in the eyes of God. He loves each one of us equally. He expects us to help each other when the need is there. Frederic urges us to be the mediator between the haves and the have-nots. We need to use our words to bring order to the world. This cannot happen unless we speak up when it is important. Our alternative is to slowly die when our words -- words that can cause change -- remain unspoken. We can be the catalysts of positive change in this world. Or, we can remain silent, and let the bad grow worse. The more we remain silent when words should be spoken, the more we become paralyzed through acceptance of what is. Speak up!



Peanut Butter Product Recall Update 2/27/09

Mike Syslo
Director of Operations

Regular peanut butter in jars is not being recalled at this time. So you may choose to distribute peanut butter in jars to those in need.

The Peanut Butter Product Recall continues and we have procedures in place to identify and deal with recalled items, so we recommend that our Conferences do the following:

1. check all peanut butter products against the recall list as thoroughly as possible; and
2. dispose of all products identified as recall items.

The list of recalled products is still growing. So you need to be vigilant about checking the list. The latest information can be found on three websites: www.cdc.gov; www.usda.gov; and www.fda.gov. Look for recalls and select “food.”

At the food reclamation center, all of the food we receive from Kroger/Fry’s is scanned and the computer identifies recalled items. We will dispose of those items.

In the meantime, we have allotments already built that may contain some of the recalled items since they were put together before the recall. When you get this product, treat it as above in steps 1, and 2.

We will give you further information later.

Voice of the Poor

March, 2009

www.voiceofthepoor.org

www.stvincentdepaul.net

Impacts of Budget Cuts Devastating to Working Poor

Voice of the Poor members have been participating in meetings about cuts to the City of Phoenix and '09 State budget. Cuts of \$153 million for the last 5 months of '09 to DES (Department of Economic Security) are drastic with 140 employees laid off next week and the remainder on mandatory 9 day furloughs. *These cuts will result in a wholesale dismantling of the delivery system for Arizona's safety net.*

- The State Housing Trust Fund (source of eviction prevention funding to 51 agencies statewide - half in Maricopa County including SVdP's JP II Conference FAM (Family Assistance Ministry) has been "swept" to the state's General Fund. Date of last funding to agencies is expected to be June.
- Cash assistance (TANF), serving 38,000 poor families (mostly single mothers), will be cut 20% to an average amount of \$210 per month (far below the old level of 20% of the federal poverty level).
- Child care wait list starts 2/18/09 – no new children taken with wait list of 5,000 anticipated by June.
- General Assistance (for disabled adults waiting for approval for federal disability) has been eliminated – February was the last check.
- Cuts to funding for homelessness (CASS) have been made by both the City of Phoenix and the State. The closure of CASS Overflow may be a reality. (Additional overflow from CASS have been sleeping in the SVdP Human Services Dining Room for weeks).
- AZ 211 has been shut down. *All requests for resource assistance should be referred to Community Information and Referral. (CIR.org – all information formerly on AZ 211 is on this site)*
- The City of Phoenix Family Services Center on 7th Avenue will be shut down.

The wait to apply for unemployment insurance can take days. Average time for processing food stamp (SNAP) applications in AZ is now 55 days (30 days is a federal requirement).

On the positive side, KidsCare and KidsCare Parent Healthcare have been funded (3:1 federal to state matching grant) and Governor Brewer stepped in to put funding back for a number of safety net programs. While the stimulus package (American Reinvestment and Recovery Act) signed this week does include relief for states - when, what and how are as yet unanswered questions. The same is true for the foreclosure package announced by the president.

*Cont'd**VOP Cont'd***What can we do as Vincentians?**

1. Continue to stretch our resources as we best we can.
2. Offer prayer, comfort and listen to those who come to us for assistance.
3. Contact your State and federal elected officials with stories of those you serve OR contact Voice of the Poor with your stories. We can write and edit for you.
(Lucy Howell at howishome@aol.com or (602) 695-1604)

We do not have the resources to make a dent in this economic crisis and those we have collaborated with in the past are likewise challenged.

4. Urge state officials to look at all options before making more cuts to human services.

Who are my State Legislators?

Go to www.azleg.gov and click on “Who are my legislators?” in the left-hand column. Easiest and best way to contact your members is to call and leave a message or e-mail them (all contact information is found on this site).

Arizona Delegation to Annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering (2/22-2/25):

Five Vincentians (Terry Wilson, Ron Meyer, Ruth Ballas, Frank Barrios, Lucy Howell) joined by Debbie DiCarlo (St. Paul’s Peace and Justice Coordinator), Sister Mary Rogers, D.C. of Tuba City and Reverend Sean Carroll, S.J. (Kino Border Initiative, Nogales, Sonora) were among over 500 Catholics convening in Washington, D.C. Ron Meyer organized the AZ group into teams for Hill visits to all 10 offices of the AZ congressional delegation on Tuesday afternoon, 2/24.

The teams presented issues from the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops on healthcare, global warming and environmental impact on the poor, Cuba and foreign assistance. Teams also addressed issues affecting Arizona’s poor: (1) Fair Share for Arizona for Section 8 vouchers, LI-HEAP (emergency utility assistance) and CBDG (community block grants) (2) Continued support for homeless services and the Housing First Model (3) Request support for changes at federal level to assist families on the verge of foreclosure (4) Support for access to affordable healthcare by working poor adults and (5) Support for reform of immigration policy regarding family reunification.

Voice of the Poor meets monthly at Vincentian Support on Watkins Road. Meetings are open to all. Next meeting will be Monday, March 16 at 3:30 p.m.

The New RULE and Spirit

Statutes of the National Council of the United States

PART III. STATUTES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT

The following three statutes very clearly spell out the only way to remove members, officers, Conferences or Councils from the Society. This is a very serious matter and, therefore, the possibilities are very limited.

17: Suspension of Members, Conferences, and Councils

The President General can suspend members, Conferences, and Councils. However, the President General has delegated authority to suspend Members, Conferences, or Councils to the National Council President. When the National Council President has made such a decision, the Member, Conference, or Council suspended will cease to exercise any office and may not act on behalf of the Society under any circumstances.

An appeal of the suspension may be made to the National Council's Conciliation Committee, which will make the decision known through the National President. Should the member, Conference, or Council choose not to accept the appeal decision, a final appeal may be made to the President General.

Any member, Conference, or Council using means other than those provided by the Society to resolve internal disputes renounces Vincentian communion and leaves the Society, unless Council General agrees that the matter should be placed before the courts.

18: Annul the Election of a President

The President of the National Council may, for serious reasons, annul the election of a member as President of a Conference or Council. Such member will immediately cease to exercise the office and may appeal to the Board of the National Council.

Upon notification of a complaint for an election, the National Council President must issue a final decision within sixty days.

19: Removal of a President

Periodically, difficulties due to various causes such as medical, physical, mental, time management, lack of the conciliatory spirit a servant leader needs, or even insufficient ability for the role of President may impair the ability of a Conference or Council to carry out its work. If the situation becomes unmanageable, and the next higher Council cannot resolve the matter and the President refuses to resign, the next higher Council, through delegation of the National President, may remove a President in order to protect the Society. The President may appeal to the Board of the National Council.

Ozanam Manor Open House

Learn More about our Unique Ozanam Manor Transitional Shelter at an Open House

Ozanam Manor, St. Vincent de Paul's service that helps elderly and disabled homeless adults return to independent living, will host a series of "open house" opportunities to visit the shelter and meet its residents and staff.

They will all be held on Saturdays after the General Membership Meetings from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Stop by after a meeting or just stop by and you will receive a tour, even if you have only a little time – or have a tour and join us for lunch in the garden afterward at 12:30.

Upcoming dates are:

- March 21,
- June 13 (tentative, depending on scheduling of the June General Membership Meeting), and
- September 19

Ozanam Manor is located in Central Phoenix at 1730 E. Monroe St., near 17th Street and Van Buren. Call 602 495-3050 or e-mail mikebsvdp@aol.com for directions.

We look forward to meeting you!

Mike Bell, Ozanam Manor Director



“Like Saint Vincent, you, too, will find the poor will do more for you than you will do for them.”

Emmanuel Bailly
First Conference President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The season of Lent reminds us that we do not journey through life alone. Our Lord's constant companionship gives us the strength and peace we need to live and love one another as He calls us to do.

Making God present to the poor through our loving, reassuring presence and letting them see the joy in us as we serve them enriches both their lives and ours. Restoring hope to those who have none is truly a life-changing act of love.

At a time when there is so much need for hope, it is worth noting that the current financial crisis has an historic parallel with special significance for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. France in the 1840s was engulfed in even greater economic turmoil. There was desperate need for the Society and God blessed it beyond Frederic Ozanam's imaginings. Without a doubt, He continues to do so. We can – and should – be heartened by that as we deal with the very difficult circumstances which are impacting so many lives.

Hope, together with faith and love, is at the very heart of our Vincentian mission. As we journey through Lent and through our life, let us be confident of the strength and peace we have in Jesus. And let it inspire us to be people of hope for one another and for those we joyfully serve in His name.

God bless.

Joe Riley

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul - St. Charles Borromeo Conference

Says "THANK YOU"

It is an annual event and a chance for The St. Charles Borromeo Conference to say "Thank you" to all who have so graciously helped us to continue in our mission of charity to those in need in the Peoria community.

This year the theme was "the Presidents" and St. Charles Borromeo's Reid Hall was decorated in red, white and blue. Historical information about the 44 presidents who have served our country along with American Flags were the center pieces for the dinner tables.

In attendance were representatives of various Society of St. Vincent de Paul conferences, Vincentian Support, and individuals, who have been instrumental in helping with their ministry throughout the past year.

The event was opened by Denise Vines, the Chairperson for the dinner, who gave an overview of the night's activities. Jim Kelleher, Conference President, gave a few words of welcome and thanks. Burt Gorton, Conference Spiritual Advisor, blessed the event and shared an hysterical view of how a child might interpret the Bible. During dinner, Noel Washington, eighth grader from Coyote Ridge School in Glendale, played patriotic music for everyone's enjoyment. After dinner Burt led a rousing round of historical trivia on the Presidents.

Everyone enjoyed the food and the activities. The crowd was entertained and enthusiastically participated in the trivia question and answer session. Finally a door prize drawing was held for a gift basket beautifully created by Paula Cano, Conference Secretary.

Submitted by Denise Vines

Eileen Bornheimer remembers Mike

John Feit and I had been working together for close to two years when we discussed expanding Vincentian Support Services. With that decision made along came Michael Syslo, a long time Vincentian with both Conference and store experience from Texas and California areas. He had recently moved to Phoenix and was looking for a job. Who know!!

Well, for those of you who remember those days long ago, we were quite a team. As challenges grew we would have meeting of the mind and always managed to work things out without any problems. (It's not true that Mikie, along with Nancy and the two Steve's had me banished to Lake Havasu).

A friendship between Mikie and me grew not just out of respect for one another but most importantly in Vincentian Spirituality. Even with the many miles that have separated us over the years, this has never changed. We still find time to discuss the happening within the Society and I still consider him a true friend.

Sorry to say Mikie, but moving to St. Louis won't get you off the hook. Your knowledge of the Society will now be a big part for the National Office not just us here in the Western Region, and I'll have your phone number!!?!?

My love and best wishes to you and Martha. God Bless...

United in Love: St. Vincent de Paul in Mexico



The loving arms of St. Vincent de Paul Society embrace the poor and needy in Arizona on your behalf. But are you aware that the Vincentian embrace extends across the border into the heart of Mexico? In 1988, God brought two men from separate sides of the border into a friendship that led to the founding of a St. Vincent de Paul Conference in Cuernavaca and its adoption by the Phoenix Council of St. Vincent de Paul. The blessed beginning of this ongoing collaborative effort began when Steve Jenkins, a Phoenix Vincentian, was a boarder in the villa of Emil Taboada, a successful retired businessman while he was in Cuernavaca studying Spanish. Mr. Taboada told Steve about his dream of starting an outreach program for the poor in his city. Steve, a former president of the Phoenix Council of St. Vincent de Paul and an economist, briefed him on the goals and organizational structure of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This was the beginning of **the St. Vincent de Paul Council in Cuernavaca...**

For twenty years, Steve has been returning to Cuernavaca every six **months** with material goods (toys, toiletries, handmade quilts and children's clothes.) and on-site assistance with free breakfasts for the poor and home visits. He communicates the care and concern of Phoenix donors who support the **conferences in the Cuernavaca Council** with monthly stipends for the education of the poorest and brightest school children in the community and the elderly in need. (For twenty dollars a month donors supply the funds for bus tickets, books and school supplies - not provided by the government - that are needed to keep a child in school until he/she graduates.) Education is the best and quickest path out of poverty and into a promising future. For example, one scholarship student will graduate from the College of Veterinary Medicine this spring and another is studying three foreign languages in hopes of a career in international relations.

In January, 2008 I joined a group of seven Vincentians on Steve's annual winter trip to Cuernavaca. On home visits, when we listened to personal stories of undiminished hope and deep faith in God despite abject poverty and suffering, the poor ministered to us. Deeply moving moments of grace when hearts were joined, tears shed, barriers erased and a unity forged were a felt experience of the living, breathing body of Christ. As we sang in church this weekend: "God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!"

Maureen Stewart, St. Bridget's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul

For more information contact: sjenklink@aol.com

Committee News

Formation & Spirituality meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the Vincentian Support Center. 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 Vincentians both educationally and spiritually. We need your ideas and wisdom. Call Chairman Jim Prendergast at (480) 836-8082 to volunteer.

Development and Community Relations

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, and increase the donation of time, talent and treasure to the Society from those within the sound of our "voice." Joe Riley is current Chairman, (623) 544-1166.

Voice of the Poor. Contact Howishome@aol.com for Lucy Howell, Chair, if you would like to receive VOP information by e-mail. Next meeting date is Monday, January 19 at 3:30 p.m. in Vincentian Support Services.

Eldercare meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 2:00 pm in the Vincentian Support Center.

Call Victress Jenkins at (602) 250-2333 for information.

Youth is temporarily shut down awaiting reorganization.

Stores meets quarterly. If you have retailing, merchandizing, or just a sense of style, come join us! Ray Daoust 480-905-9478



The Harvest is great but the workers are few...

go therefore and ask the harvest-master to send workers into his fields..."

We desperately (yes, we mean that) need Vincentians to join the committees that form the backbone of our Society. We cannot have staff and one or two other people making decisions.

Some of these committees meet in the evening, others during the day, and we're open to change if a large number of new members prefer a different meeting time. Come. Speak up. Participate. Lead.

It's your Society.



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 problems and opportunities faced by

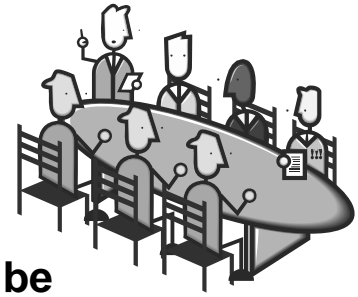
conferences, it seeks the widest possible representation. Join in by coming down! Chairman is Tom Clouser at (623) 979-3520.

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. Andy Andreano is Chairman, (602) 261-6818.

Facilities. Meets on the Monday preceding the Board meeting, at 9:30 am in Frank Kubinski's office. Reviews and plans for the current and future physical needs of the Society. Looking for people with backgrounds in civil engineering, architecture, the construction trades, and related areas. Call Chairman Jerry Tong to help (480) 897-7922.

Safety. This committee is interested in safety problems anywhere in the Council – stores, dining rooms, Watkins campus, etc. Meet at 9:30 am on the 2nd Wed. of the month in Vincentian Hall. Chairman is Frank Kubinski 602-261-6819 ■

UPCOMING TRAINING AND FORMATION SESSIONS



New Members are encouraged to serve clients, be mentored, and attend a few meetings before taking the Ozanam Formation Experience (OFE).

OFE CLASSES

- Mar 14th Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2** – St. Timothy, Mesa - Mass at 8:30 am – Lunch provided, afternoon session 12:20 to 3:30 pm
- Mar 28th Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4** – St. Timothy, Mesa - Mass at 8:30 am – Lunch provided, afternoon session 12:20 to 3:30 pm
- Mar 28th Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2** – St. Clare of Assisi, No Mass - Starts at 9:00 a.m. – noon – afternoon session 12:20 to 3:30 pm – lunch provided
- April 25th Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4** – St. Clare of Assisi, No Mass - Starts at 9:00 a.m. – noon – afternoon session 12:20 to 3:30 pm – lunch provided
- June 6th Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2** – Blessed Sacrament, Scottsdale - Mass at 8:30 a.m. Classes start immediately after - lunch provided – then 12:30 to 3:30
- June 13th Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4** – Blessed Sacrament, Scottsdale - Mass at 8:30 a.m. Classes start immediately after - lunch provided – then 12:30 to 3:30

Please call in your reservation to attend to (602) 261-6803.



PLEASE CALL IN YOUR RESERVATION TO: (602) 261-6803. If we don't answer, leave (1) your name, (2) your conference name, and (3) your home phone number on the voice mail. We do not call you back to confirm, but only to tell you if the session is *cancelled*. Without a reservation, if the session is cancelled, we cannot call you and you may make an unnecessary trip. Thank you.

REMINDER

Our Bishop expects that ALL members of St. Vincent de Paul attend the 'Call to Protect'. Please call your parish Secretary for dates and times. ■



St. Francis of Assisi of the Catholic
Community of Winslow

Our Hearts to You

Valentine goodie bags were given to one hundred students on Wednesday, February 11th, 2009 at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank located in Winslow, AZ. Chief Steve Garnett from the Police Department, and Chartwell Food Service helped with donations for our goodie bags. Dodie Montoya, our Spiritual Advisor was the Chairperson for this function. Dodie was also instrumental in getting over one hundred Christmas pouches for the children at Christmas.

Thanks to all who donated and helped with this project♦



QUILTED LAST SUPPER PANEL RAFFLE

We are pleased to announce that the winner is Lourdes Palacios, a loyal employee with St. Vincent de Paul for over 25 years. **CONGRATULATIONS LOURDES!!**

Thanks to all who participated - **MORE TO COME**

Called to Protect - Classes offered at St. Tim's

The schedule for these classes is:

★Tuesday, March 10th at 6:30 p.m. **OR** ★Saturday, March 21st at 9:30 a.m.

You can register on-line at <http://www.sttimothymesa.org/> or by calling 480-775-5200.

Prison Ministry

If you are interested in the Prison Pen Pal Project, please download the attached form. For more information you may contact Sister Elizabeth Racko at sistereli_racko@yahoo.com



SSVdP Pen Pal
Project.doc

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

<i>ALL SAINTS</i> Sister Esther Marie	<i>SVDP DINING ROOMS</i> William Lanford VirJean Moore	<i>SVDP EXECUTIVE OFFICE</i> Marla Nilson Charles Flaherty	Alan Cisar Bill Poortvliet Alice Garcia
<i>ST. JOSEPH</i> Kathleen Henes	Jesus Yanez Joseph Yanez Edna Yanez	David Smith Ben Sarrat Larry Hall	Elias Francisco Sosa Daniel U. Sosa
<i>SVDP ADMINISTRATION</i> Christina Skaates Peggy Auer Beatrice Villaseñor Joy Carter Jerry Gilbreath Laura Heist Clark Jackson Ruth Kubinski Stuart Newell David S. Shughart Romeo S. Celaya Bob & Mert Phillips Brian Rossi Jim Sherman Cody Lehe Jo-El Detzel	Mary Fields Mark Ross Francis Naughton Larry Seeger Christina Wacknov <i>OUR LADY OF THE LAKE</i> Bill Woods Tony Muzzall Jeannie Anderson Bobbie Potts <i>OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY</i> Ray Gillette Fred Matheson <i>ST. GABRIEL</i> Leslie Fink	John Bogle Phyllis Anderson Erin Grace Bailey Peggy Barrett Judy Casey Bill Collier Victoria Coury Charlie DeFrancesco Gladys M. Friedman Dan Geddes Eugene Hicks Evan Jahanski Jeffrey Mark Mae Jolley Rusty Lyon Rosie Lyon Linda Shultz	THE VALLETTA FAMILY Kevin Tawney Dorothea Merrick Christina Mulhern Kathleen Nageotte Wayne Parker Ginny Lenio Verna Warren Joyce Zabalski Nancy Powers Ben Avery <i>OUR LADY OF THE DESERT</i> Marie Hedrick Eva Neal <i>OUR LADY OF THE DESERT</i> Marie Hedrick Eva Neal
<i>HOLY CROSS</i> Bob McNamara	<i>ST. GERMAINE</i> Roger Codwell Ray Koffman John Buckley Pat Burnett Robert Remillard Rick Matosich Nancy Phillips Josie Elks Calli Jo Howard Trey Kueper Jerry Shriner Joel Wernimont Martin Jeffries Betty Moroney Sr. Mary John Danny Smith Susan Tamburello Jody Behrens	<i>ST. WILLIAMS</i> Herminia Cavazos Paul Cavazos <i>ST. GREGORY</i> Jeanette Jenkins <i>QUEEN OF PEACE</i> Yolanda Leon Violet Daskocil <i>SPECIAL MINISTRIES</i> Bill Bruein <i>SVDP CLINIC</i> Kitty Williams Jocelyn Davis Baby Davis	<i>FOOD RECL. CTR</i> Tom Joos George Lucchi Mark Angel Burgos Leticia Burgos Marlene Ramirez & family Martin Ramirez & family Dominique Bustos Brian Diaz
<i>OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL</i> Dr. Herman Van derbroeck			
<i>SAINTS SIMON & JUDE</i> Tom Lane Bob Bradwohl Dottie Salviano Kimmie Bowerman Jim Redfield Lillian Dye			

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 Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with the Holy Spirit. 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.

Carl Pachek
St. Agnes

Bill McCarthy
St. Vincent de Paul

***May the Angels lead them into Paradise,
may the martyrs receive them at their coming and lead them
into Jerusalem, the holy city. 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
Bl. Frederic Ozanam**



In the morning, 150 associates approached the holy table together... Letters were received from more than 15 French cities where already conferences are flourishing; almost an equal number are being organized this year. We see nearly 2000 young men engaged here in a peaceful crusade of Catholic charity... Thus, in this proud age of ours, it is wonderful to see develop, outside all political and philosophical systems, a tight-knit group of men determined to use all their rights as citizens, all their influence as educated persons, and all their professional knowledge to honor Catholicism in time of peace and defend it in case of struggle.

“Life in Letters,” July 12, 1840

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



Everyone is a part of the mystical body. We belong to each other. Not even in the animal kingdom, do we hear of one animal being insensitive to the sufferings of another. It is impossible that one part of a person’s body is injured, hurt, or attacked without the other parts being painfully aware of this. It is inconceivable! All of our members are so united and interconnected that damage done to one part is damage done to all. A fortiori, Christians who are members of the Body and of each other should share the sufferings of each other. It is impossible for anyone to be a Christian and not see the afflictions of our brothers and sisters. Nor is it possible for a Christian not to weep with them, nor to suffer with them. Whoever does not respond to the cries of the poor is lacking love. This person is a “Christian” in name only since they lack even the most basic of human qualities. To live like this is to be less than an animal.

“On Charity,” May 30, 1659

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