

Vincintian Support Services

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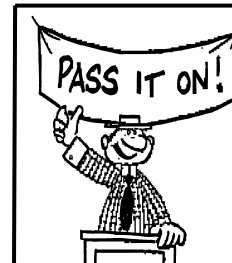
UP TO DATE Communicate

August 29, 2008



From: Vincintian Support Services

To: Conference Presidents
 Conference Back-Ups
 District Presidents



Share this
With Your
Conference
Members

INVITATION TO SERVE SET FOR SEPT. 27-28 Bishop again urges Pastors to cooperate

Can you use more helpers in your conference? Do you have enough members to make the home visits required to serve those in need?

The *Invitation to Serve* is the best means to recruit new members. As usual, Bishop Thomas Olmsted has set Sep. 27-28 as the weekend for this campaign. This is the weekend closest to the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul.

To save printing and postage costs, we did not send out the campaign packet this year, hoping you can locate the packet from any of the past eight years. If, however, you need something, just call 602-261-6803.

Bishop Olmsted's letter is reprinted on the back of this newsletter, should your Pastor be unaware of his wishes.

Clear all grant/donation solicitations

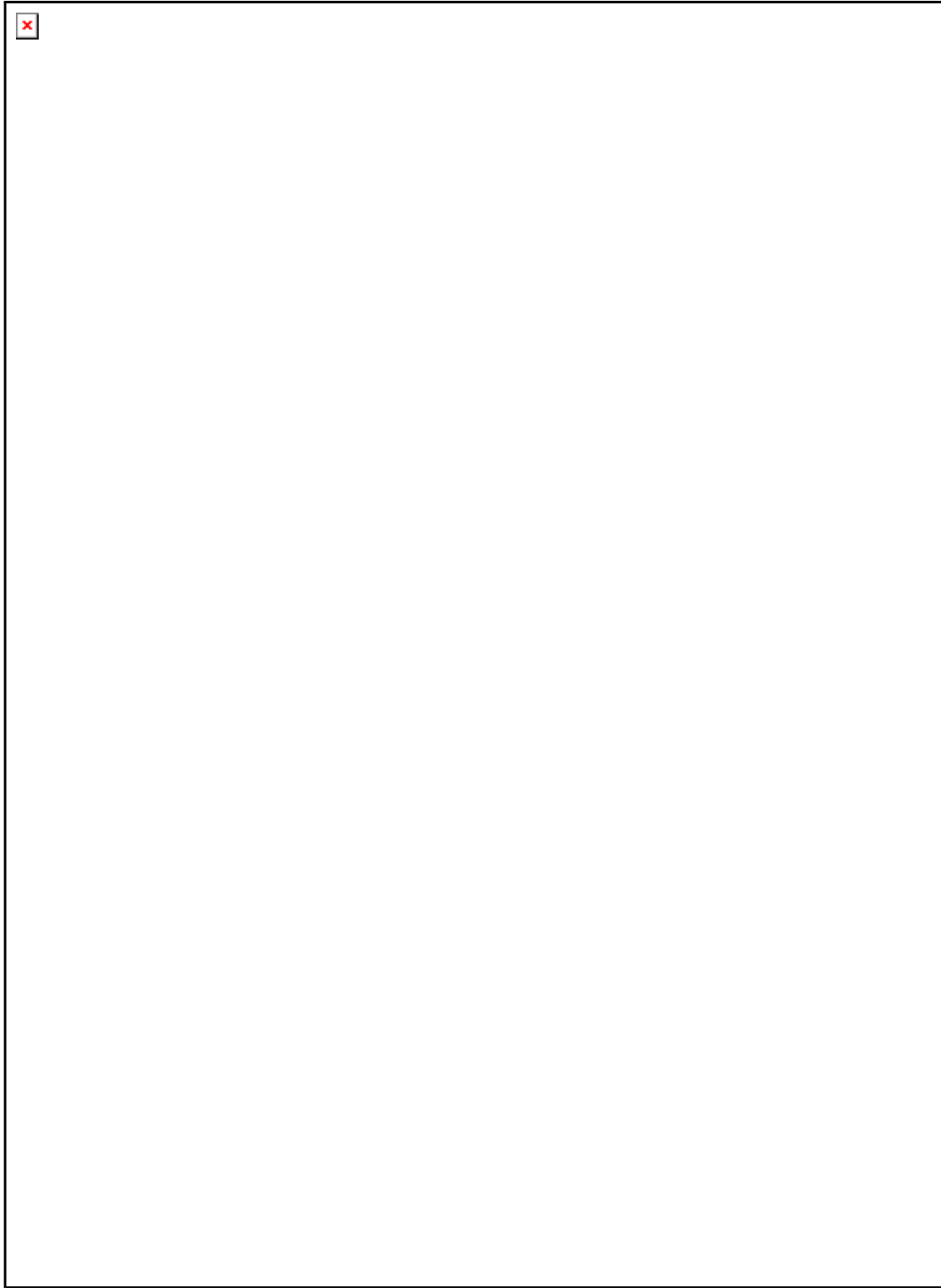
If your conference is planning to apply for a grant, or to solicit a contribution from a large company, major chain, grocer, etc., please first be in touch with Reese Shughart at 602-850-6739. Reese handles such things for the Diocesan Council. We don't want to discourage you from seeking new sources of income, but we're trying to avoid conflicts. If you're asking for \$5,000 and the Council has already asked that company for \$25,000, the donor may send you \$5,000 and tell us "we've already given" and the Society could lose \$25,000.

While you're talking with her, Reece can likely assist and support your conference in its pursuit of new funds. She is a talented, experienced fund-raiser.

This is a long-standing policy, but new members and officers are sometimes unaware of this, hence this reminder.

THROW OUT REPORTING FORMS RECEIVED FROM NATIONAL

We use our own Quarterly and Annual Reporting forms in the Phoenix Council. Do NOT use the form recently sent from National (St. Louis).





The Roman Catholic
Diocese of Phoenix

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 2008

Dear Pastors, Administrators and Parish Life Coordinators,

Each year the many volunteers and employees who serve the St. Vincent De Paul Society on the parish and Diocesan level reveal the compassionate face of Christ to members of our community who find themselves in difficult situations.

The ongoing promotion of the work of St. Vincent De Paul and the need to constantly recruit new members to this ministry requires the support of all of us who are engaged in pastoral leadership in the Diocese of Phoenix. One way to do that is by supporting the annual *Invitation To Serve* campaign.

The Phoenix Diocesan Council plans to run this campaign on the weekend of September 27-28, 2008. This is the weekend closest to the celebration of the memorial of St. Vincent De Paul. **At this time, I am asking your support for this recruitment effort.**

A member of your parish St. Vincent De Paul Conference may contact you and request permission to give a short, approximately 3 ½ minute presentation at the weekend Masses. This has proven to be the most effective tool for inviting new members to become involved in the work of the Society. If possible, I encourage you to look favorably upon this request. I also encourage you to place notices about the Society and the opportunities it offers to minister to the least of our brothers and sisters in you parish bulletin.

Thank you for your support of the work of the St. Vincent De Paul Society. For many years the Society has been a tremendous blessing to our local Church. Please join me in praying for the men and women who give their time so generously to this ministry and those who are assisted by their efforts.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

+Thomas J. Olmsted
Bishop of Phoenix
TJO/kg