

Vincentian Support Services

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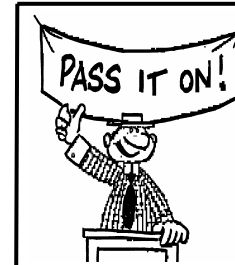


UP TO DATE Communicate

March 7, 2008



From: Vincentian Support Services
To: Conference Presidents
 Conference Back-Ups
 District Presidents



Share this
With Your
Conference
Members

Celebrate our 175th Anniversary!

Yes, it seems just like yesterday, but it's actually been 175 years since Uncle Freddie and the boys, with the help of Sister Rendu, gave birth to their wonderful Conference of Charity, and later named it for the Saint who most epitomized their love for the poor – St. Vincent de Paul.

For most of us, what is now our Society has led us into activities, social, charitable and spiritual, that are the most challenging, most fulfilling and most satisfying in our lives.

The enclosed Papal Blessing -- proudly put it up on your wall -- is a reminder that, over those 175 years, the Holy Fathers have been among the strongest supporters of the Society and often have publicly declared, *"I am a Vincentian!"*

With these things behind us, what stands in our future?

The Diocesan Council wants **YOU** to decide that. How would you like to celebrate this anniversary? What will your conference and your district do? Remember, it is YOUR conference and YOUR district and YOU must speak up and make suggestions.

Every Vincentian is asked to come up with one or more suggestions, and to pass them along at their conference meeting, then for the conference president to pass them up at the district meeting. And, of course, district presidents control the Board of the Diocesan Council.

Please note these dates on your calendar

March General Membership Meeting: March 29th in Phoenix

June General Membership Meeting: June 14 in Flagstaff
starts with Mass at 11:45 am

June Board meeting: June 25th in Phoenix

Workshop for *New* Spiritual Advisors -- May 10th

Yes, this is a switch. The workshop for NEW Spiritual Advisors will now be held in the Spring (it takes that long for October's class of new conference and district presidents to secure a SA and for them to get into the swing of things). Mark your calendar. Starting time is 8:30 am and we'll end about Noon.

The workshop for "experienced" Spiritual Advisors will be held on Sept. 13th, starting at 8:30 am. It will continue to be a refresher course with a roundtable format that has proven to be so popular and successful. Of course, any Spiritual Advisor is welcome to attend either (or both) workshops.

UPCOMING TRAINING & FORMATION SESSIONS

April 12th Saturday **OFE #1 & #2** All Saints Newman Center NO Mass Class #1
starts 8:30 to 11:30 am, lunch provided, then Class #2 from Noon to 3:00 pm

April 26th Saturday **OFE #3 & #4** All Saints Newman Center NO Mass Class #3
starts 8:30 to 11:30 am, lunch provided, then Class #4 from Noon to 3:00 pm

April 26th Saturday **OFE #1 & #2** St. Joan of Arc (Blythe, Calif.) NO Mass Class #1
starts 9:00 to Noon, lunch provided, then Class #2 from 12:30 to 3:30 pm

April 27th Sunday **OFE #3 & #4** St. Joan of Arc (Blythe, Calif.) NO Mass Class #3
starts 9:00 to Noon, lunch provided, then Class #4 from 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) 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 when the session has been cancelled. Thank you.

Clases en Español

1 de Marzo Sábado **OFE #4** en Santa Inés, 1954 No. 24th St. 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

MUY IMPORTANTE: *Tiene que llamar a Alberto en su celular (602-321-8649) para que estén incluidos en las clases.*

HELP US HELP YOU

We have received some very limited input from conferences that are having a conflict with their Pastor or Parish Administrator regarding SVdP collections at their church – *how they are done, who does them, who counts the money, what records SVdP receives, when we get our money, and more.*

We are currently addressing these problems and need specifics from those conferences that are unhappy with the procedures in place at their parish.

Please provide details to Mike Syslo, PO Box 13600, Phoenix AZ 85002 as soon as possible. Thank you.

This only involves procedures in place for existing collections. Regrettably, we cannot help you with getting your Pastor to *allow* you a collection or more frequent collections.



NEW STORE TO OPEN SOON

Growing, yes we're growing! And among the latest surprises is a new SVdP Thrift Store opening in **Chandler**, Arizona at 2051 No. Arizona Avenue #106. The **Grand Opening** will be

April 1st (and this is no April fool's joke) but a "dress rehearsal" opening is planned for March 24th.

Come by and see the wonderful new ideas coming from the Stores Committee and approved by your Board. And be prepared for the announcement of another "new" store opening soon in Apache Junction (well, actually the current store, but at a new, improved location!

VISIT OUR LAST “NEW” STORE ON ITS 1ST BIRTHDAY

Mark your calendars for March 10! On this day, Ozzie's Furnishings, 3931 E. Indian School Road, is kicking off three weeks of sales to mark its 1st Anniversary.

To celebrate this anniversary and Easter, the store is hosting an Easter egg hunt. Some items will be marked with special egg stickers. When you find and purchase an item with this sticker, you will receive a coupon for a discount on your next purchase. The promotion starts Monday and ends on March 29th.



There are always treasures to find at Ozzie's! The store offers high-quality furniture and home décor accessories that range from contemporary to classic. Each piece has been lovingly donated by people who want their fine family furnishings to be cherished in a new home.

The proceeds from Ozzie's help SVdP provide basic needs for the homeless, food for the hungry, healthcare for the uninsured, and general assistance for those in need. Visit this store and you'll say, "This isn't my father's thrift store!"

Please Join St. Vincent de Paul for an
Open House / Open Heart Tour

2008 SVdP Monthly Tours

First Wednesday & Third Thursday at 10 am

Mar 20

Apr 2 & 17

May 7 & 15

Jun 4 & 19

Jul 2 & 17

Aug 6 & 21

Sep 3 & 18

Oct 1 & 16

Nov 5 & 20

Dec 3 & 18

Fourth Thursday at times noted:

Mar 27 @ 5:30 pm

Apr 24 @ 7:30 am

May 22 @ 5:30 pm

Jun 26 @ 7:30 am

Jul 24 @ 5:30 pm

Aug 28 @ 7:30 am

Sep 25 @ 5:30 pm

Oct 23 @ 7:30 am

Call (602) 261-6814 for reservations.

Financial Literacy Classes

with Tanya Luther, CPA

March 22nd Saturday - 10:00 am-Noon Hall of Banners
April 8th Tuesday - Noon-2:00 pm TAC Conference Room
April 26th Saturday - 10:00 am-Noon Vincentian Support Center
May 13th Tuesday - Noon-2:00 pm TAC Conference Room
May 31st Saturday - 10:00 am-Noon Hall of Banners
June 11th Tuesday - Noon-2:00 pm TAC Conference Room
June 28th Saturday - 10:00 am-Noon Vincentian Support Center

IMPORTANT NEW PROCEDURES:

FAM Appointments will now be by Conference Referral Only

**Conference members only may call:
602-261-6856**

Leave message on the referral line with your name, conference and the name and contact number for the family you are referring. If you would like a follow up call, leave your contact number on the voicemail.

Families will receive a call from our office and a phone interview (pre-screening) will take place.

An appointment will be scheduled if the family qualifies based on the pre-screening. An appointment does not guarantee that the family will qualify for financial assistance.

See program specifics on the following page.

FAM Basics for Conferences Pre-screening Families

To qualify for an appointment and consideration for assistance with rent, mortgage or utilities, our telephone interviewers will screen candidates using some basic guidelines. Our financial assistance is from a government grant, so we are bound by their guidelines or FAM will not be reimbursed.

- **There must be children under the age of 18 living in the home full time.** We require proof of the children at the time of the appointment. In most cases, the children's names on the lease and their social security cards or birth certificates are sufficient, but occasionally we need the client to bring court custody or legal guardianship papers to the interview.
- **The household must have an income.** Our database has a complete monthly income and expense outline to determine sustainability. Our prescreening volunteers can usually set up an appointment if the candidate's total income is \$300.00 more than their rent.
- **We need to see proof of the unexpected crisis** (for example, car repair bills, hospital bills etc.). If the family has a new job, we will call the employer and verify information. The ideal appointment is one where the crisis is over and the family is trying to "catch up" on bills.
- **We are unable to assist with rent for anyone on subsidized housing; however, we can help with the utilities.** If the family is not able to afford their Section 8 rent, they should notify their caseworker to have it adjusted.
- **The grant does not allow help with any deposits but we can assist with rent and/or utilities.**

WHAT TO BRING TO THE INTERVIEW. Once an appointment has been scheduled, our phone screeners review with the client a list of documents needed at their interview. A letter confirming their appointment, application with detailed instructions and directions to the O'Meara Center on Watkins will be mailed.

REMINDERS

1. All financial assistance is by appointment only. For conferences, the Vincentians advocating for the client must to call 602-261-6856 to leave a message referring the family with contact information and confirm any Conference co-funding (if applicable.) Clients are not to call this number. This line will be checked daily.
2. If the family does not bring required documentation to the appointment, their assistance will be delayed. Our financial assistance is one-time only. The family will not be able to receive future assistance from us.
3. We also encourage the family to contact their local Family Service Centers, CAP or CAN office for further assistance. No walk-ins will be seen at our center.
4. We encourage all clients to take a free Financial Literacy class to help them organize and take control of their finances, understand needs vs. wants and prepare for unexpected emergencies.

LIONS VISION CENTER
1016 N. 32nd Street, Suite 2
Phoenix, AZ 85008
(602) 267-7573

LIONS VISION CENTER
9451 N. 99th Ave., Suite #3
Peoria, AZ 85345
(623) 583-9340

HOURS

Monday through Thursday
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Friday 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM

HOURS

Monday and Tuesday
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2, 2007

Vision Package Prices Including Eye Exam

Package prices includes: eye examination, glaucoma check, frame and clear plastic lenses

Single Vision	\$ 60.00	(\$45.00 cash deposit due at time of appointment)
Bifocal Vision	\$ 70.00	(\$55.00 cash deposit due at time of appointment)
Trifocal Vision	\$ 75.00	(\$55.00 cash deposit due at time of appointment)
Progressive Vision	\$140.00	(\$90.00 cash deposit due at time of appointment)

Package Prices With Own Prescription

Package prices includes: clear plastic lenses and frame

Single Vision	\$ 45.00	(\$25.00 cash deposit required to order glasses)
Bifocal Vision	\$ 55.00	(\$30.00 cash deposit required to order glasses)
Trifocal Vision	\$ 65.00	(\$35.00 cash deposit required to order glasses)
Progressive Vision	\$120.00	(\$80.00 cash deposit required to order glasses)

EYE EXAMINATION W/GLAUCOMA CHECK ONLY - \$30.00

IMPORTANT: All package prices are minimum cost. There could be additional charge depending on your vision needs.

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN CASH OR MONEY ORDER. NO PERSONAL CHECKS, DEBIT CARDS OR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.