



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

NEWSLETTER



Published by and for Vincentians

<http://www.stvincentdepaul.net/VindentianSupport.htm>

March 2010

Diocesan Council of Phoenix, AZ

Vol. 2 No. 3

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

General Membership Meeting

March 20th, 2010

Mass starts at 8:30 am

Rabbi Albert Plotkin



The Society of St. Vincent De Paul joins the greater Phoenix community in noting the passing of a good friend, a great humanitarian, and a remarkable man of God, Rabbi Albert Plotkin.

The term "community leader" often is used to describe persons of notoriety when their memory is being honored. In the case of Rabbi Plotkin "community builder" would be far more fitting. His entire life and career as a citizen/clergyman in Phoenix was dedicated to "building community"; bringing together people of different and diverse backgrounds and faith traditions without ever compromising his deep rooted and spiritual religious beliefs.

He saw good in all people-he saw God in all creation. For him the scriptures were a living word. He was a man of boundless energy and enthusiasm, filled with a spirit of joy and good humor.

He recognized, rejoiced in and embraced the "MITZVAH", that is the Society of St. Vincent De Paul. He was a frequent and inspirational speaker at several regional and national gatherings of the society held in Phoenix. He and congregation Beth Israel members were "hands-on" participants in serving in our charity dining rooms over a span of 30 years.

Farewell, brother, friend, and fellow warrior for the good, the decent, and the just. Rest now in the bosom of Abraham.

SHALOM

Remembering Rabbi Plotkin

By Eileen Bornheimer

When I first arrived at the center, Bob Bosler was making sure I got to meet all our volunteers.

One gentleman in particular was a fellow graduate of his from Notre Dame, Rabbi Albert Plotkin. It didn't take long to see the Rabbi's great compassion for those less fortunate and how he wanted to share his volunteer experience with the members of his temple. His charming way, sense of humor and sincere concern for others will be remembered. He was truly the spirit of Vincent and Frederic.

Our prayers go out to his family and friends.

Reflections on the Crucifix

It started a while back when I was sitting in church during adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. My eyes were drawn to the Crucifix above the alter and I started reflecting on it. I moved across the crucifix from top to bottom thinking about the various parts of Jesus body and the impact of the crucifixion.

Over the years I have read many commentaries about what Jesus went through from both a physical standpoint and an emotional one. Even after having read many of these, I am far from being an expert on the subject. It is, however, very difficult to not be affected by the sheer magnitude of suffering which Jesus experienced.

While sitting before the crucifix, my reflections brought me to a better appreciation of what our Lord went through in order to reconcile us to His Father. This document is a way of sharing my thoughts in the hope that anyone who reads this will grow in their love of Jesus, the man who suffered for us, the God who redeems us.

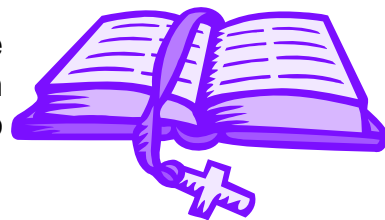
by Michel S. Syslo

We make a living by what we get, we make life by what we give.

Winston Churchill

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. When someone who has lost hope discovers there are people who truly care, then something magical, even miraculous, can happen.

Blessed Frederic Ozanam learned about the needs of the poor from visiting in their homes and assisting them, much as we do today. Vincentians know, because we see firsthand, the myriad life situations which trap and overwhelm the poor. Above all, we simply know that if we help, lives are changed for the better, including our own.

We also know that the poor are human beings, with hopes and dreams, difficulties and challenges. They all have stories to tell if someone is willing to listen. Vincentians are good listeners and we do not judge. And we know what St. Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederic knew: If you look through the eyes of faith, you can see the image of God in them.

I felt privileged – precisely the right word – to watch the Super Bowl in the company of the 350 homeless men and women who were our guests for the game in our downtown Phoenix dining room on the Human Services Campus. For a few wonderful hours, excitement, enjoyment and, perhaps, some hopeful thoughts about a brighter future filled that room in a heartwarming way. One woman told me, “You can’t imagine how much what you’re doing means to us.” I have never had so many people say “God bless you” to me on any single occasion in my life.

How beautiful it is that we can impact people’s lives in such ways through our love for them. I believe it is an extraordinary blessing that our Vincentian vocation affords us, every day, the opportunity to show our love for God by caring for the less fortunate of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

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

Morning of Reflection

From a Christian perspective, few things are more challenging and conflicting than love in action.

How much should I love? Do I count the cost? Should I look for measurable results? Do I love without seeking to possess?

At the morning of reflection held at St. Theresa Parish in Phoenix, on February 13, retreat master Fr. Billy Kosco examined THE REALITY OF LOVE for 162 assembled Vincen-tians.

There were representatives from twenty-nine parish-based conferences, one special works conference, two staff members, and (God bless them) a “snow-birds” couple from St. Rock Parish, in Flat Rock, MI.

Some serious car-pooling took place. Nine of our twelve District councils were in atten-dance.

Fr. Kosco used his own human spiritual journey as a template to address the many forces and facets of THE REALITY OF LOVE. His open-hearted, honest, and transparent ap-proach invited us to look into ourselves- to examine our own motives and approaches to living out the simple instructions left to us by Jesus: “LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.”

It was refreshing to discover through his humor-laced homiletic that often times it is our failure and setbacks that best schools us in THE REALITY OF LOVE, almost as though we grow stronger in broken places. Our thanks to Fr. Billy for his straight-on, “take no prisoners” approach. May God continue to bless him in his ministry as pastor at St. Henry’s.

Thanks also to St. Theresa Parish for hosting the event. They provided a warm, welcom-ing environment for a grace-filled day. †

Mother and Child

by Mike Syslo

This past Christmas morning was a special time for me. My wife and I were fortunate to be able to spend Christmas with our family (all except our son and his wife). It was a white Christmas, the first for us in many years. I awoke that morning before everyone else and had some time by myself to pray and do my morning readings.

I spent a little bit of time reflecting on the manger scene and the thought of our Lord's birth. I could picture in my mind Joseph taking the baby Jesus out of the manger and handing Him to Mary. Mary then took her baby and cuddled Him in her arms. She hugged Him and kissed Him. She softly caressed His face and whispered to Him, "My baby, my son, my Jesus, I love you so much." It was a pleasant scene, a comforting scene – one that most parents can truly appreciate.

As part of my daily readings, for the past two years, I have been reflecting on the 24 hours of the passion and death of our Lord. Each morning, I would read a few pages and reflect on what I have read. I'm not sure how many times I have gone through the book and started over. This has been part of my spiritual discipline. That morning I reflected on something very special.

This was that last part of the passion narrative. Jesus was taken down from the cross and He was placed in the waiting arms of Mary, His mother. Mary held Him close with tears streaming from her eyes and kissed Him. She slowly removed each of the thorns from His head and brushed aside His hair clotted with blood. She softly caressed His face and whispered to Him, "My baby, my son, my Jesus, I love you so much." It was an emotionally draining scene.

Mother and child together at birth and at death! I have heard it said that no parent should ever live to see their child die. The sorrow that fills the heart can be overwhelming.

There are no coincidences with God. If I had read a couple of pages more or less here or there during the last couple of months, then I would not have read this passage on Christmas morning. This, in my mind, was something special that God wanted me to reflect on. Jesus' birth was the beginning of our redemption. Jesus' death was the reconciliation with our Father. It was also a new beginning for mankind.

But I think the most important thing to reflect on is the mother and child. Mary's special role is two-fold. Her first role was to bring Jesus into the world to us. She spent many years forming Him as any mother forms her child. She spent many years caring for Him and loving Him as only a mother can. She spent many years learning from Him – learning – about Him and His Father in Heaven. She laughed when He laughed, she cried when He cried.

Her second role started with her son's death. Her role now is to bring us to Him. He gave her to us to be our mother, to form us, to guide us, to care for us, to love us. She laughs when we laugh, she cries when we cry. She is our mother and we are her children. What greater love can we humans understand?!



Friends of Cuernavaca

From January 7 to 16, Steve Jenkins (St. Gregory), Louise Precosky (Our Lady of the Valley), Michael Fleming (St. Timothy) and Brooke Burns of Phoenix along with Joseph Roberts and Deacon George Mounce of the Council of Seattle visited the Vincentians and families served by the Council of the State of Morelos in Cuernavaca, Mexico. On this trip, the visitors served meals to families and elderly, visited families in their homes, met the members of each of the 5 SVdP conferences and the families and elderly they serve, observed handcraft and cooking workshops at the SVdP Center and took tourist trips to Mexico City including the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and a popular tourist town near Cuernavaca called Tepetzlan.

In the school year ending in December 2009, the Society in Cuernavaca assisted 77 students with scholarships. These scholarships provide funds for books, school supplies, transportation, school uniforms and other clothing to needy students. In addition to the scholarship, the conferences assist the families of the students with food, clothing, weekly breakfasts, family counseling, and workshops for parents. A library in the St. Vincent de Paul Center there offers reading materials and tutoring.

Sponsors in Phoenix provided 49 of these scholarships and also provided assistance to 14 elderly persons. The generosity of individual sponsors, conferences, districts and the Council of Phoenix has enabled the Vincentians in Cuernavaca to develop a program that is recognized throughout the area.

In fact, the recently appointed Bishop of Cuernavaca, Bishop Alfonso Cortes, attended the SVdP general membership breakfast in Cuernavaca in January and pledged his support for the Society.

The Vincentians also assist elderly persons who are living without any substantial means of support. They may provide funds to purchase needed items, help pay for rent, utility bills, and transportation or provide food boxes and clothing. The members may visit elderly persons and help them in their homes. The elderly are invited to the Saturday breakfasts. In fact, there is an ongoing invitation to any elderly person in the community to attend these breakfasts. Over the past years, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of elderly attending the breakfasts. The Council hopes to offer more frequent meals to elderly persons.

In January 2010, an additional request was made for scholarships to assist needy children who are hearing disabled. A list of 14 children was provided with their ages and the grade in which the child is presently enrolled.

If a conference, council or an individual wishes to provide a scholarship to a hearing-impaired child (\$120 per six months) or assist an elderly person (\$140 per six months), please e-mail Steve Jenkins (sjenklink@aol.com) or call him at 602 277-3808 for more information.

The society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Charles Borromeo Conference Says "Thank You"

St. Charles Borromeo Conference held its annual Appreciation Dinner on February 4, 2010. This annual event allows St. Charles Borromeo Conference to say "Thank You" to all who have so graciously helped them to continue in their mission of charity to those in need in the Peoria Community.

The evening opened with Denise Vines, chairperson for the event, welcoming everyone and introducing the Appreciation Dinner Planning Committee. Cathy Niedfeldt, St. Charles Borromeo Conference President, gave a few words of welcome and thanks to Conferences who assisted St. Charles Borromeo Conference with their efforts in the Peoria Community. Cathy then thanked St. Charles Borromeo Conference members and associates who do the day to day work on the ground that keeps the Conference viable. St. Charles Borromeo Spiritual Advisor, Lena Gorton, led the attendees in prayer and set the tone for the evenings activities.

This year the theme for the Dinner was Black History. St. Charles Borromeo's Reid Hall was decorated in African colors of red, black, green and yellow. Historical biographies of famous black Americans were used as table favors and decorations throughout the Hall. After dinner Burt Gorton took the lead with a black history trivia question and answer session. Everyone was up on their history and quite a few prizes were handed out. Burt and his wonderful sense of humor made this the high light of the evening. Finally a door prize drawing was held for a gift basket, beautifully created by Paula Cano, St. Charles Borromeo Conference treasurer.

In attendance were representatives of various Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conferences, Vincentian Leadership, Support Services and Individuals who have been instrumental in helping with various programs throughout the past year. Approximately 50 individuals attended this year's event.

All in all, fun and fellowship was evident in the evening of appreciation.

NOTE:

This article has been written to prove how lives are changed by the interventions brought about by the work of SVdP.

Have you ever felt as if you have given a tremendous gift – a late Christmas – to someone who is in need... is hurting... and doesn't know where to turn? Our conference at St. Thomas Aquinas had that experience this past month.

We were contacted by Janie Perdue from Family Assistance downtown regarding a woman in our area who was overwhelmed with problems. Margie (her name changed to protect her) has been the victim of identity theft. The person using her identity has caused unbelievable problems for her. The latest situation which could NOT be solved by documentation from police reports nor Margie's pleas to the court is outrageous! A PayDay loan which was borrowed by the imposter has escalated in value to an astronomical amount and her wages are now being garnisheed.

Janie related to us that Margie had come to St. Vincent de Paul a few years ago in great need. She went through the jobs program and is now working and earning a good living for herself and her son. Things were looking up for her. Now this single Mom is left with very little after garnishment was deducted from her pay – no way to meet her rent nor bills that were due.

Our conference stepped up to the plate and along with a food box, a check for half her rent and a check from Family Assistance, her rent was paid for the month. Following a plea in our Sunday bulletin for beds the week prior, we had a lovely bedroom set, dining room set and several lamps donated which were in turn, passed on to Margie, who was in need. What a tremendous surprise when the rental truck pulled up in front of her house with these wonderful "gifts"!

Realizing that Margie is trying so hard to get herself self-sustainable, our conference also paid her overdue water bill. With the help of Family Assistance we are hoping she will be able to obtain the services of an attorney and win her case against the PayDay loan garnishment. Then....she will be on her way!

Many times as volunteers, we are saddened, frustrated and unable to assist with many needs but this time.... our hearts were gladdened by the hope and help we were able to give.

Jeanne France

President

St. Thomas Aquinas Conference

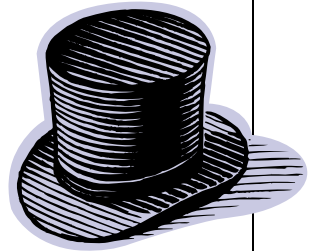
Just as a candle cannot burn without fire, men cannot live without a spiritual life!

Buddha

News from Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Prior to his death last month Ed Kittoch was one of our oldest Vincentians.

He retired from the U. S. Post Office in 1976 and already was an active Vincentian doing home visits since becoming a member in 1968.



Always willing to serve he made appeals during the Sunday Masses for support when the conference began to struggle in the early eighties at the request of his Pastor, Fr. Daniel McCready and agreed to become president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 1982.

The late John Reigelsburger brought Eddie (who had retired to care for his ailing wife) back in the early 2000's . Together they made home visits weekly until Johns demise in 2008.

Touchdowns for the needy



Immaculate Conception SVdP Conference and the St. Joseph's Montessori School in Cottonwood teamed up to feed the needy. And what a new and great idea!

One week before SUPER BOWL SUNDAY information regarding the contest (a barrel to collect non-perishables) was put in the newsletter. One barrel was for the Saints fans and the other for the Colts fans.

The Monday after Super Bowl Sunday the score was Colts-166 items and Saints-164.

Needy-the ultimate winners! Thank you, to all who participated. ❖

God Was Knocking at Our Door

A family had called our Camp Verde conference of SVdP for assistance in July 2009. A home visit was made on July 15, 2009. Six months prior to this visit the husband began to have problems with blurred vision in his one good eye. Three months later upon waking up to get ready for work, he found himself unable to see. Since then he had been out of a job; he thought the vision problem would eventually go away, but the blindness continued. He was seen by a specialist at a local ophthalmology center. The eye doctor informed him he needed surgery to regain his vision at least in one eye. The husband and his wife tried to raise funds from various organizations and from friends and family with little success. All the husband could think of was getting back to work. He has 3 children and a granddaughter who depend on him. His wife works at a fast food restaurant and her hours were cut to more than half because of the slow economy. Besides the medical conditions, they had also received shut-off notices on their utilities.

The two of us as the visiting Vincentians presented the case before our Conference. The conference voted to help with \$300 toward the immediate needs of preventing utility shutoffs and recommends that we look for additional funding outside of our conference because the amount needed was approximately \$3,000 even after the discount the medical center offered. A local charitable trust fund agreed to help with \$600 toward the surgery. Our president contacted Patricia Metrick, Manager of the Vincentian Support Team. We were given ideas and names of people we could contact and Patricia was going to try down in Phoenix also.

We contacted the Hispanic Ministry Director at the Diocese, Jose Robles, who we had successfully worked with in the past on another case. I spoke with Mr. Robles and he offered his assistance by contacting other organizations to help with the case. On the way back from a visit to Flagstaff he stopped at our parish of St. Frances Cabrini to speak with our president and myself about different ways we could help the family. Jose had contacted an agent at the Mexican consulate and was given a tentative approval of \$1500 toward the surgery.

Our president also brought up the situation to our District Council. Our Council voted to help with \$1000 toward the surgery for our guest and urged us to proceed with the surgery because the council would guarantee to cover the rest if needed, since the Mexican Consulate had not yet approved the funding and the surgery needed to be done as soon as possible. So we went ahead with the scheduling.

Continued on Page 13

The surgery took place and the husband is now able to again see the beautiful faces of his wife and their children. It's a slow healing process, but he can now to walk without assistance, and has hope to return to work. The Mexican Consulate came through with the tentative funding and the surgery costs were paid in full.

The family is a very close and humble family. When you visit the family you can feel the love and faith that they carry. God indeed worked His miracle through many wonderful and caring people.

Irene Ortega-Nash, Vincentian visitor and Co Secretary of St. Frances Cabrini Conference. ❖

Volunteer Code of Conduct - District Two

- Help others joyfully
- Pray frequently
- Be considerate of customers and clients
- Words can hurt
 - don't curse
 - don't criticize
- Remember children are present
- Bring complaints to the attention of a manager or the Board meeting

"Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:20



On the lighter side

Seven days without laughter makes one weak.
Mort Walker

What soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul. (Yiddish Proverb)

OOPS!

Last month we stated that this article was submitted by Saint Simon and Saint Jude. It was actually submitted by Saint Joachim & Saint Anne. Sorry about that.

What a 10 year old can teach us

Saint Joachim & Saint Anne

Love one another! That’s what Christ taught us to do. So we, as Vincentians, volunteer to help those who need assistance with food and utilities. One day in December we were attending to our duties when a 10 year old boy, accompanied by a lady and gentleman appeared with three boxes of food. We asked how we could help and the lady told us that he wanted to help the needy because he realized there were so many people in our community who were barely getting by. The young boy’s name was Bryson.

After our initial shock we tended to accepting the food. We took pictures with Bryson, our young volunteer.

We thanked Bryson and his family and wished him success in his future endeavors.✝

Are You Searching for a Missing Twin?

If so, the results of our January 21, 2010, Committee on Twinning may be of interest to you.

The 16 person committee, chaired by Board member Frank Barrios, was made up of sister and brother Vincentians from 15 different conferences, representing 10 of 12 District Councils. It was a real cross section of our Society in the Diocese of Phoenix, coming together for a common good.

The Committee’s task was to review annual reports submitted by our parish conferences for FY 2009 and to determine which Conference met established criteria for: financial assistance from the Diocesan Council and/or being approved for Conference-to-Conference twinning consideration (i.e. “making the approval for Twinning list”).

In other words of former committee chair, Bob Ramler, of happy memory, “Let them that leave, give. Let them that need get.”

The approval for twinning list for FY 2010 follows. We hope that the name of your “missing twin” is on the list. Only YOU can know for sure. Look for yourself. Remember- WE ARE FAMILY! We are one body- one body in Christ- and we do not stand alone.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
P.O. Box 13600
Phoenix, AZ 85002-3600
Frank Barrios
Twinning Committee Chairman
(602) 266-2400

2009 Twinning List & Relative Score

RANKING NUMBER	CONFERENCE NAME	GRADE SCORE
1	St. Louis the King	75.0
2	St. Charles Borromeo	73.2
3	Most Holy Trinity	72.0
4	St. Matthews	71.4
5	St. Joseph in Williams Az.	69.6
6	St. Agnes	69.3
7	St. Vincent De Paul	69.3
8	St. Jude	69.0
9	Holy Family	68.4
10	Immaculate Conception in Cottonwood	68.2
11	St. Anthony	67.9
12	St. Luke	66.8
13	St. Mary's Basilica	66.2
14	Queen of Peace	64.6
15	Sacred Heart in Phoenix	64.4
16	St. Henry	62.5
17	Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Glendale	60.9
18	Blessed Sacrament in Tolleson	60.7
19	St. Michael	60.4
20	St. Augustine	59.7
21	St. Martin De Porres	58.2
22	St. Williams in Cashion	56.8
23	St. Edward	46.0
24	St. Philip Benizi in Black Canyon City	41.3
25	Santa Teresita in El Mirage	36.5

Au revoir to St. Joan of Arc, Blythe



Our sister SVdP conference of St. Joan de Arc Parish in Blythe, California has been called home to the San Bernardino Diocese.

It was part of District 2 under the Phoenix Diocese Vincentian Umbrella along with Bullhead City, Lake Havasu, Parker, Dolan Springs and Kingman. Pictured above are the members who have been dedicated to the stewardship of caring for the downtrodden and frightened in their community. These outstanding and hardworking Vincentians were honored during a January Farewell Party hosted by the Sacred Heart Conference from Parker.

The "handover" from our Phoenix Diocesan President Joe Riley to San Bernardino Diocesan President Wendy was punctuated with well wishing and blessings from all, along with promises to continue prayerful and financial commitments.

P. Dollarhide
SVdP Kingman, AZ

Do you consider yourself to be an experienced gardener?

Are you interested in a new ministry experience?

We are looking for a team of two individuals who can work together and would love the opportunity to begin a campus vegetable garden! This would mean taking the garden from the conceptual visions listed below to its reality. Since gardening is a long-term commitment, a two-person team that can commit for three years is required. The team would be the leaders for the vegetable garden and would be supported by a staff member and experienced consultants.

Conceptual Visions:

In line with the mission/vision of St. Vincent de Paul: to serve the poor and provide volunteer opportunities.

Address nutritional needs of family dining guest families.

Provide opportunities for health promotion/nutrition education.

Connect families that come to family dining to nature.

Self-supporting in terms of funding.

Be visually appealing

Able to accommodate all ages and abilities.

Consideration to organic/green/native plants.

Low maintenance.

If this excites you, find your team partner and submit a brief description (no more than 1 page) that details your team's expertise and interest in this ministry. Please include your names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (if applicable) with your submission. Email your submission by March 26th to JErtl@svdp-phx-az.org. Interviews with qualified applicants will be conducted on Thursday, April 1st and Friday, April 2nd.

Want to help but can't commit to being a team leader? Watch for future opportunities to become involved with this and other gardening experiences!



OZANAM NEWS



Manor Moments Ozanam Manor Transitional

Ozanam Manor serves a vulnerable segment of the homeless population – physically or mentally disabled adults and those older than 50 – by helping them move from homelessness onto the path to independence.

Referral Number: 602-850-6900.

WISH LIST:

Body Wash
Hand Lotion
2010 Calendars

Shelter Stories

Frank M. lost his LPN job in 2008 and came to Ozanam Manor as a referral from the St. Vincent de Paul Medical Clinic in January of 2009. Frank has been the ideal resident and volunteered at several of our Open Houses giving tours and explaining our programs to visitors. These same programs helped him to get back on his feet. He met weekly with a mentor who assisted him with job development and work search. With the help of his case manager, Frank accessed food stamps and healthcare benefits and obtained his birth certificate which enabled him to receive his fingerprint card to assist in future employment. Frank was even featured in the Catholic Sun last November! Frank moved out in February with his Social Security retirement and is now able to live comfortably in his own apartment. Looking ahead, he would like to return to LPN employment part-time. Frank was thankful for the care and support he has received from St. Vincent de Paul.

If you are interested in volunteering, taking a tour or hosting your District meeting at Ozanam Manor, please call Mike Bell, Director of Shelter Services at 602-850-6901



Voice of the Poor
March 2010 Newsletter

www.voiceofthepoor.org

www.stvincentdepaul.net

State Legislature:

- HB 2161 (payday lending) was withdrawn from the House Banking and Insurance Agenda pending additional sponsors.
- SB 1070 (immigration – Pearce, et al) opposed by the AZ Catholic Conference and subject to an Action Alert by VOP passed the Senate (17 to 13) on a party line vote with the exception of Senator Carolyn Allen (Scottsdale) who voted “No”. The bill has been transmitted to the House. Basic provisions include creation of the category of felony trespass for unlawful presence and enforcement of federal immigration law by local authorities. The House companion bill, HB 2632 (also opposed by VOP), passed Military Affairs and Public Safety (5 to 2) on a party line vote (2/24/10).
- Budget bills including additional borrowing and approval to place a one-cent temporary (3 years) sales tax increase on the May 18 ballot were approved in the Sixth Special Session.* *Not approved* by both houses was HB 2250 proposing to reduce tax categories beginning in 2012 (individual and corporate income tax and a phase out of state property tax) at an estimated combined loss by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee of nearly \$1 billion over 10 years .

The temporary sales tax increase, supported by the SVdP Diocesan Board, will appear as Proposition 100 in the May Special Election. The legislature will meet during the first week in March to address the deficit of over \$2 billion for 2010 with provisions for further cuts if Proposition 100 does not pass on May 18. Health care cuts to AHCCCS and elimination of KidsCare proposed by Governor Brewer will be devastating to low income Arizonans, the health care industry and hospitals resulting in an estimated loss to AZ of \$2.7 billion in state and federal funding and 42,000 jobs. (AZ Republic, 2/25/10).

Voice of the Poor

Continued from Page 15

WHO are my legislators? Go to www.azleg.gov and click on "Find My Legislators" or call (602) 926-3559 (Senate) or (602) 926-4221 (House).

Rental/Utilities Relief – Two Programs Using Conference Referrals:

The Family Assistance Ministry (FAM) remains open and funded at Special Ministries. The program is based on conference referrals and a budget assessment used to determine a family's sustainability after one time help from FAM for rent and utilities. To refer a family to FAM and schedule an appointment, please call (602) 261-6856. *(Note: This number is for conference use ONLY and should not be given out!)*

HPRP (Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program) is a federal stimulus program administered by the City of Phoenix. SVdP is one of several non-profits referring potential clients living in Phoenix to HPRP caseworkers at Travis Williams Family Service Center. *Job loss must be linked to the economic downturn.* If there is an eviction notice, it should be FAXed to the HPRP office at Watkins with the program application (FAX line: 602- 850-6718) If you wish to receive updates on the program, please send your e-mail and conference name to HPRP@SVdP-Phx-AZ.org. Questions? Call the HPRP phone line at Watkins and leave a message: (602) 850-6706.

Free Tax Preparation:

VITA sites: Tax time is here! Low/moderate income families (up to \$50,000 annual income) are eligible for free tax preparation services including help with Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit at these sites. To locate sites near your conference, please go to <http://cir.org/seasonal-tax-vita.html> or call (602) 263-8856 or (800) 352-3792 for area codes 520 and 928.

Voice of the Poor meets monthly during the Arizona legislative session. The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, March 15 at 3:30 p.m. at Vincentian Support Services, 420 W. Watkins Road, Phoenix. To place an item on the agenda or to be added to the VOP e-mail network, contact Lucy Howell at (602) 695-1604 or at Howishome@aol.com



Committee News

Formation & Spirituality

meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm 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 & 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 Chair Lucy Howell at Howishome@aol.com if you would like to receive VOP information by e-mail. Next meeting date is March 15 at 3:30 at Vincentian Support Services—420 W. Watkins Rd.

Eldercare

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

Stores meets quarterly, at SVdP 10:30 am. Sub Committee meets once a month. If you have retailing, merchandizing, or just a sense of style, come join us! Please contact Shirley Smalley at (480) 473-8159

*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 deci-
sions.*

*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 con-

possible representation. Join in by coming down! Contact Chairman Tom Clouser at (623) 979-3520.

Food Service meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in Vincentian Support. 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 Vincentian Support. 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 at (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 §



St. Vincent de Paul's **OZANAM MANOR** invites you to an **OPEN HOUSE** **March 20!**

This unique transitional shelter is designed to help homeless adults, age 50 and over or those with disabilities, return to independent living. Learn how this shelter successfully helps people get back on their feet.



Come learn more about Ozanam Manor:

Visit us on Saturday, March 20 between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for a tour and then stay for lunch!

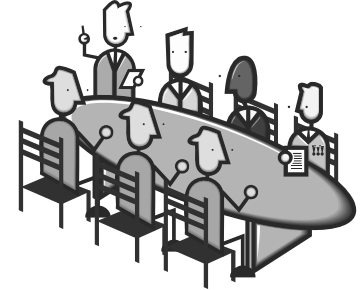
- Meet the residents.
- Tour the living quarters.
- Talk to Mike Bell, Director of Ozanam Manor.
- Meet the case managers and mentors.
- Learn more about homelessness.

Tell us you're coming!
602-850-6902

17th Ave	Map to Ozanam Manor— 1730 E. Monroe	1st Ave
	E. Van Buren St.	
	Alley	
Monroe St	Parking Lot - PARK HERE	
	Office	
	Ozanam Manor Executive	
	Parking Lot	
	2nd Alley	
Monroe St		
	E. Washington St.	



UPCOMING TRAINING AND FORMATION SESSIONS OFE CLASSES



April 10th, Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2—Sts. Simon & Jude Church—**Start with Mass at 8:30am

April 10th, Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2 — St Thomas Aquinas Church—** Start with 8:00 am Mass

April 17th, Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4—Sts. Simon & Jude Church—**Start with 8:30 am Mass

April 17th, Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4—St. Thomas Aquinas Church—**Start with 8:00 am Mass

May 8th, Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2—All Saints, Mesa—**Starts with Mass at 8:30 am

May 15th, Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4—All Saints, Mesa—**Starts with Mass at 8:30 am

May 22nd, Saturday, *Praying with the People we Serve*—8:30 am Mass in the Chapel, Vincentian Hall –420 W. Watkins Road

June 12th, Saturday, *Yes we do Reports* 9:00 am to 11:30 am: **“COATS” Program** 12:00 noon to approximately 3:00 pm. Held in Vincentian Support Services.

June 5th, Saturday, *Spiritual Advisor’s Workshop*—10:00 am to 12:00 Noon in Flagstaff - 2113 N. East Street (Thrift Store)

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

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 voicemail. 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.

FUTURE TRAINING

Conferences and/or Districts that wish to set up formation & Training sessions in their area should contact Patria Metrick at (602) 850-6717. the beginning of the year is usually busy, so think and plan now, and then call ■

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>CLINIC</i> Bill Dimpfel	<i>RESURRECTION</i> Janet Suljak	<i>SVDP EXECUTIVE OFFICE</i> Kasey Kelly Jason Smith Edith Stern Theresa Johnson Marla Nilson Charles Flaherty David Smith Ben Sarrat Larry Hall John Bogle Phyllis Anderson Erin Grace Bailey	<i>ST. JOHN VIANNEY SEDONA</i> Al Bimas
<i>JOHN PAUL II</i> Jim Murray	<i>OUR LADY OF THE LAKE</i> Mary Campbell Tony Muzzall Jeannie Anderson Deacon Gill Lopez		<i>ST. MARGARET MARY</i> Marlene Shaffer Marcella Paul
<i>ST. AGNES</i> Gunther Esner Sally Garcia			<i>ST. JOAN OF ARC</i> Lou Palluck Lupe Guilin Donna Scott Rosa Sanches Chuy Rascon Leonardo Lopez Larry Orasco Lorraine Dickerson Barbara Corral
<i>SAINTS SIMON & JUDE</i> Emilio Mendez Dottie Salviano Timmy Bowerman Lillian Dye	<i>OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY</i> Ray Gillette Fred Matheson	<i>SAN FRANCISCO de ASIS</i> Betty Mankowski	
<i>ST. MICHAEL</i> Billy Rodriguez	<i>ST. GABRIEL</i> Darrold Larson Rose DiElio	<i>SPECIAL MINISTRIES</i> Bill Bruein	<i>SACRED HEART, PARKER</i> Ann & Cliff Strawderman Victoria Ayala Carmen Villarreal Phyllis Gonya Richard & Dottie Howell
<i>ST. HELEN</i> Ray Hefley	<i>ST. GERMAINE</i> Heidi Behrens Nancy Lancaster Lynn Bosch Sue Christian Roger Codwell Bob & Dorothy Remillard Rick Matosich Josie Elks Calli Jo Howard Trey Kueper Joel Wernimont Martin Jeffries Betty Moroney Sr. Mary John Danny Smith Susan Tamburello Jody Behrens	<i>ST. FRANCES CABRINI</i> Bob Schaefer Mary Makey Irene Ortega-Nash Jim Johnson	
<i>ST. JOSEPH</i> Janet Halligna		<i>BLESSED SACRAMENT-Tolleson</i> Herminia Cavazos Maria Boggs Ruben Dominguez Dick Blankemeier John Corcoran Jim Fourie Tony Kalaygian Barb Lowman Jim Yzaguirre	<i>ST. MARY – KINGMAN</i> Janie Scott Rita Gaumond Marilyn Johnson Roco & Connie Rabiatti Bobbie Potts Ruth Jefferson Jeanne Anderson
<i>ST. JEROME</i> Kathy Jorgensen			
<i>ST. AUGUSTINE</i> Carolynn Chavez			
<i>ST. ELIZABETH SEATON</i> Maryjoe Young	<i>ST. FRANCES XAVIER</i> Chad Sphoolhoff	<i>ST. JOHN VIANNEY GDYR</i> Joan Cook Blanca Marinelarena	<i>ST. JAMES</i> Giovanni Di Maio Toni Di Maio Richard Craney Sarah Paul Virginia Tizzano
<i>IMMACULATE COMCEPTION</i> Roseanne Peterson			
St. Paul John Stenquist	<i>ST. MARY CHANDLER</i> Jerry Fishback	<i>ST. VINCENT de PAUL</i> Julia Mesa Pat Ryan Randy Cordova	<i>ST. CLEMENT OF ROME</i> Carol Ann Specht Ann Sumowski Eleanor Consoli Angelo Consoli
<i>ST. CHARLES</i> Gus Barazza	<i>ST. HENRY</i> Irma Hernandez Ron Hinckles		
<i>ST. JEROME</i> Nancy Barnes	<i>ST. WILLIAM</i> Josefina Rodriguez Ignacio Rodriguez	<i>ST. THOMAS AQUINAS</i> Jeri Goodman Susan Chevelair Dan Findler	<i>ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI OF THE WINSLOW CATHOLIC COMMUNITY</i> Mary Counts
<i>ST. PHILIP PAYSON</i> Joe Gaisel			
<i>ST. ROSE, ANTHEM</i> Rosie Oblinger	<i>ST. HENRY</i> Rosa Uribe	<i>OLPH GLENDALE</i> Lupe Aguilar	<i>SACRED HEART, PRESCOTT</i> Betsy Jones
<i>QUEEN OF PEACE</i> Freddie Ortega	<i>ST. CLARE OF ASSISI</i> Joe Power	<i>OUR LADY OF THE DESERT</i> Ernie Brehaut	

REST 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.



JEAN BAGLEY

ST. PAUL

RICHARD BOLAND

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

SID HARRISON & BOB HANSMEYER

OUR LADY OF THE DESERT

JUANITA MARTINEZ

ST. MICHAEL

JIM & JUNE NEWMAN

SACRED HEART, PRESCOTT

FRANCES GARCIA

ST. MICHAEL

ED KITTOCK

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

LORRAINE LIJEWSKI

ALL SAINTS

HECTOR ZAPATA

QUEEN OF PEACE

MARIO DIDOMENICO

ST. MARIA GORETTI

FLAVIO MARTINEZ III

ST. JEROME

***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.***

General Membership Meeting

March 20th, 2010
Mass starts at 8:30 am

Please invite your Conference Members to attend

RSVP to Sandy at 602-261-6803

Current resident or

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SUN CITY, ARIZONA
PERMIT NO. 249

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

