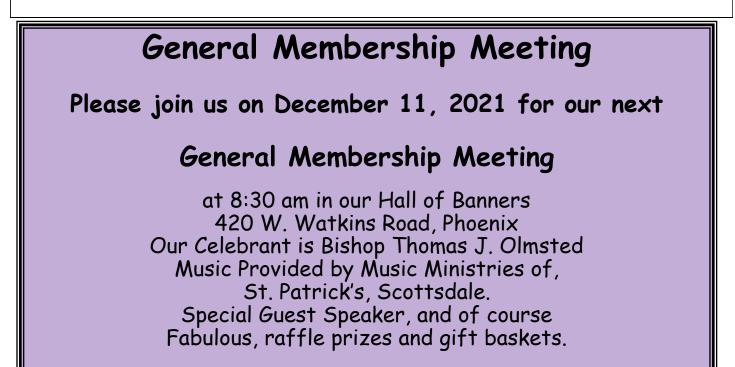


St. Vincent de Paul Society NEWSLETTER



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



We mourn the sudden passing of Two of our Vincentians

Amy Rodriguez:

Amy was a wonderful Vincentian who was committed to serving those less fortunate in our community in her role as a Conference member as well as a member of our Board of Directors. She was passionate about the work of the Society and how we could continue to reach out to more people in need. Amy will be greatly missed by her fellow Vincentians and friends throughout our Diocese. We thank God for the special blessing she was to all who knew her.

Steve Zabilski

Sharon Vogt:



Sharon served as President of St. Germaine Conference in Prescott. This year was Sharon's second year as President. Before moving to Prescott, Sharon was a member of St. Clement of Rome in Sun City. Sharon will be dearly missed.



Celebrating A New Year!

Happy New Year is a very familiar phrase that we most often associate with January 1st but the cycles of the Catholic Church begin a new year long before the first day of January. For Catholics, the new year is not based on the beginning of the calendar, school, or fiscal year but on our

liturgical year that begins on the first Sunday of Advent. We celebrate with bells, the lighting of the candles on the Advent wreath, and the anticipation of the coming of long-awaited Messiah. It is a season of not only waiting but of preparation, renewal, and a focus on not only the birth of Christ but our hope in His second coming.

It is fitting that unlike the calendar year that bursts forth with celebrations and resolutions at midnight on December 31st, the Church launches its new year in preparation for the miracle of the Incarnation. It is a time of prayer, penance, and a making a renewed commitment to grow in holiness. I have never been able to make or keep New Year's resolution but I love making changes during Advent that can help me grow closer to God and to a spiritual awakening where I can more fully enter into the Christmas season and the great gift of a God's presence among us.

The Internet, Catholic bookstores, and many of our parishes abound with spiritual resources and reflections to help us focus on the Advent season but few if any materials exist to help us walk through Advent as Vincentians. This season should be a time for us to reset and re-evaluate the spiritual life of ourselves as well as our conferences and councils. I can remember the struggle of being a conference Spiritual Advisor before the National Council started publishing Quarterly spiritual reflection based on the weekly Sunday readings. These reflections are certainly a great resource for conferences but all too often they have led us into a pattern of spiritual mediocrity and repetition. As we begin this new liturgical year, we have a great opportunity to commit to other ways to grow in holiness. Are we attending mass regularly as a conference? Are we attending parish missions and programs together? Are we participating in Diocesan Mornings of Reflection? Are we hosting conference or council mini retreats? Are we entering fully into the time of spiritual sharing during our meetings or are we holding back and not sharing our struggles, our hopes, and our victories with our brother and sister Vincentians?

Both Pope Gregory XVI and Pope Pius IX enriched the Society with indulgences. Vincentians have the unique opportunity to gain a plenary indulgence on the day of their admission into the Society, and when participating in Festival meetings provided that they go to Confession, receive Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the Pope, and promise to observe faithfully the Rule of the Society. How many of us even know the day of our admission into the Society or that we can obtain an indulgence by attending a Festival meeting and completing the other requirements? Who knew that to get a Vincentian indulgence you have to not only go to Confession and receive Communion you must also be faithful in observance of the Rule?

Continued on Page 3

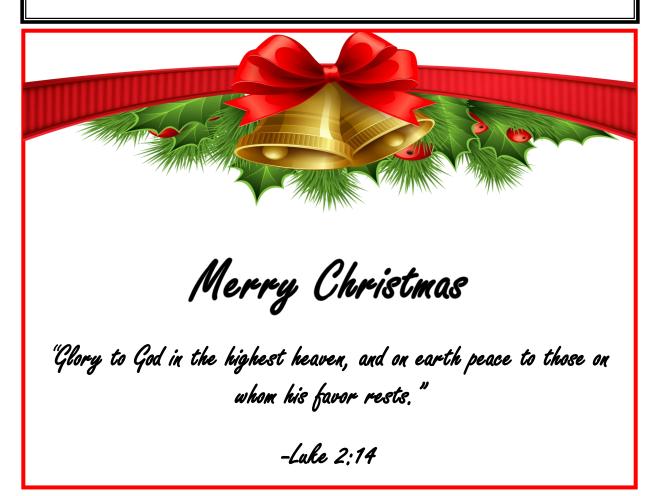
Celebrating A New Year!

My new liturgical year and Advent resolution is to be a better and more creative Spiritual Advisor for my conference and to, on a personal level, be more committed to experiencing new ways within the Society to grow in holiness. If my vocational call is to be a Vincentian, then I am also called to seek and find ways to grow closer to God through, with, and in the Society. While being a Vincentian cannot and should not constitute the totality of my faith life, Vincentian spirituality must be carefully and fully woven into the very fabric of who I am as a Christian disciple. The Catholic Church and the Society have much to offer if we only open our hearts and avail ourselves of their treasures.

Our Diocesan Council's Morning of Reflection in March might be the perfect time for us to attend a Festival meeting full of promise and the opportunity for an indulgence obtained for ourselves or for someone else. As we wait and prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, may we commit to expanding the spiritual life of our conference beyond the walls of our meetings and into new arenas and diverse ways that we can journey together in holiness.

Festival meeting & Conference masses: Rule Part III, Statue 9 & the Manual pg. 10

By Shirley Smalley





From the Desk of the Conference Resources Committee

From the Desk of the Conference Resources Committee New Conference Rental Assistance Payments Policy:

All conference and District Councils are reminded that as of January 1, 2022, all rental payments for those whom we serve must not include the use of checks or money orders. If you have questions, please see the Frequently Asked Questions & Answers on this policy contained in this Newsletter or contact Marc Anderson.

Conference Rosters:

Conference and Council are required to maintain a current and accurate roster of their members. Please make sure your membership roster is current and that all changes are sent to Vincentian Support Services in a timely fashion. Correct information allows our Diocesan and National Council to maintain effective communication and notifications.

Conference and Council Audits:

Did you know that all Conferences associated with the SVdP Phoenix Diocesan Council are required to have yearly financial audits? Article 18 of the current Conference bylaws states, "Each Conference will undertake annually an audit and report the results to the attached District Council and shall submit in a timely manner quarterly and an annual report to their District Council."

January is the perfect time for Conference and Councils to have their audits conducted. See the requirements below.

- 1. Audits need to be performed annually for each District and Conference.
- Annual audits may be conducted by any of the following: (1) One or more members of the Conference or District not associated with the Treasurer's position (2) A qualified non-member such as a CPA or Certified Internal Auditor, or by (3) The Council's Conference Accountant.
- 3. Officer Change Audits (OCA) must be performed for each District or Conference in the fiscal year of a change in officer for either the President or the Treasurer. It is recommended that this audit be conducted within 120 days after the officer change occurs.
- 4. Officer Change Audits (OCA) must be conducted by (1) One or more members of a Conference outside of their District (2) A CPA or Certified Internal Auditor, or by (3) The Council's Conference Auditor with preference for the Council's Conference auditor.
- 5. Within every five (5) years, each Conference must have one (1) audit performed by or performed in conjunction with the Council's Conference auditor.

Conference Rental Assistance Payments Policy

FAQ's

What is the new policy?

• Effective January 1, 2022, all rent assistance payments to landlords on behalf of those we serve must be made by credit card, debit card, or PayPal type service. Rent payments may not be made by cash, check, ACH or wire transfer.

Why has this policy been adopted?

• The SVdP National Council auditor and attorney, believe that once the total payments made by a Council or Conference for services or for rent payments to a landlord equal or exceed \$600 in a calendar year, a Form 1099 must be mailed to the recipient and filed with the IRS. The Phoenix Council Board has adopted this policy to be in compliance with the guidance provided by SVdP National Council.

What is Form 1099?

• There are several versions of Form 1099. The primary purpose of these forms is to report to the IRS each year certain payments made by businesses to others. This is an effort by the IRS to reduce under reporting.

Are there exceptions to the Form 1099 requirement?

- Yes a few:
 - Payments made to corporations
 - Payments made to real estate agents or property managers acting on behalf of a landlord
 - o Payments made to tax-exempt organizations (including governments)
 - Payments made via a third-party payment network (credit card, debit card or PayPal type service, but this does not include online bill payments)

What forms of payment are acceptable?

- Payments made to the landlords using a debit or credit card
- Payments made to the landlords using a payment service such as Pay Pal. It must be confirmed that the payment service issues Form 1099 as may be required.
- Providers of these payments methods are required by law to issue Form 1099's.

Will landlords accept the new way of making payments?

• This depends on the landlord. The initial feedback from the Conferences is that some will, and some will not. Some of the landlords who do not currently accept these payment forms may be making adjustments in their processes to accommodate.

What are the options should a landlord not accept these payment forms?

• The policy adopted by the Board suggests finding other ways to assist financially such as providing food and or utility assistance.

What should a Conference do to prepare for this change?

- Conferences should contact the landlords that they have a continuing relationship with and explain the change and ask what payment methods/services they accept. If possible, conferences should meet with the landlords in person. This will help further the relationship and is an opportunity to reinforce the SVdP mission and how their tenant and their business benefit as a result.
- Reach out to your banker if necessary to arrange for the issuance of debit and or credit cards tied to the conference bank account(s). Consider activating any alerts for the credit and debit cards that may be available. This will allow conferences to track the card use in real time.
- Consider prepaying January rent prior to January 1st

How does a conference set up an account such as PayPal

- There are several payment services. Before creating an account, you will need to confirm that the service issues Form 1099 as part of their processes.
- These providers have been confirmed as meeting the requirements
 - o PayPal
 - o Zelle
 - o Venmo
 - Cash App
 - o Pay Lease
- Most of the pay services can be accessed online. Use their website to set up an account.
- For the name on the account use the Conference trade name. You can find your trade name on the Arizona Secretary of State website.
- You will need the SVdP EIN 86 0096789

May we use other payment methods such as a money orders, cashier's checks and ACH transfers?

• No. These methods do not incorporate the required 1099 reporting.

May payment for the rent be made directly to the neighbor that is being assisted?

• While there is no rule that payments cannot be made to those being assisted, it has been a long standing SVdP practice to not provide funds directly to a person being assisted. This is to ensure that the funds are used for the intended purpose.

May prepaid gift cards be used as a payment method?

• Yes assuming the landlord will accept. Prepaid gift cards are considered a credit or debit card and in compliance with the policy.

• Prepaid gift cards should be used when the neighbor being helped will have access to the card information. When used for a particular case, prepaid cards should be purchased for the total amount due including fees but no more than the amount being paid. This limits risk.

When making payments what options may be available?

- Many landlords provide tenant portals, conference members with the neighbors permission may be present to facilitate the payment thru the portal
- Some landlords have indicated that they have portals for groups like SVdP to help their tenants. Contac the landlord to inquire about these
- Some of the Conferences have reported that Walk in Payment Stations (WIPS) are available in Fry's and Walmart stores. The WIPS may also be an option to make rent payments. The tenant or the landlord may have more information about use.

May we use our bank issued conference debit or credit card to make a payment thru the neighbors tenant portal?

• This practice is strongly discouraged. This exposes the conference to significant risk of fraudulent activity with their credit and debit card accounts.

What happens if a conference does not use the approved forms of payment?

• All members of the Society must recognize that we are one organization. Acts that are not in compliance with existing laws or rules put the entire organization at risk. At a minimum this would put our entire Society at risk of incurring severe IRS penalties. It could also jeopardize our status as a public charity, meaning that we would no longer be tax exempt and that our donors would no longer be able to deduct for tax purposes contributions to SVdP.

What if we have questions that are not answered here?

- Please contact Marc Anderson (SVdP CFO) at 602 261 6802 or manderson@svdpaz.org.
- We will update this FAQ as questions are raised by the conferences.

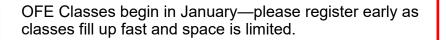
The Stores Committee



The SVdP thrift stores associated with the Diocesan Council of Phoenix are a great source of support to the poor, the working poor, and to our Conferences and Councils. Our greater area Phoenix and outlying thrift stores offer individuals from across the Valley and our state's rural areas an opportunity to shop and purchase goods for a reasonable price, to donate items they no longer need, and even to have the

opportunity to volunteer. Stores that thrive are located in areas with a balance of donors, shoppers, and volunteers. The success of any thrift store is due in large part to the volunteers that step forward to work in it. Volunteers provide needed assistance and support. They bring in shoppers and donors. Along with the store staff, volunteers help to set the tone for the entire store.

As a result of the pandemic, our stores are more in need of volunteers than ever. A store volunteer does not need to be a Vincentian. Many of our most faithful volunteers are individuals who love the Society and its works but do not feel called to be a member of a conference. Look around among your family and friends and ask yourself is there someone I know that is just waiting to be asked to help out in one of our stores. A personal ask is still the most common way that people step forward to volunteer. You can be the recruiter that helps us help other by finding us the hands and feet of Christ to serve in our stores. Volunteers make a difference and so can you.



Drive Through Food Giveaway Sunday, December 19, 2021 7:30 am to 9:30 am Please check your email for flyer.





OZANAM FORMATION EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON

Jan. 15, Saturday (OFE 1 & 2) & Jan. 22, Saturday (OFE 3 & 4) – Sts. Simon & Jude – Phoenix – 9am – 3pm

Feb. 5, Saturday (OFE 1 & 2) & Feb. 12, Saturday (OFE 3 & 4) -St. James – Glendale 9am – 3pm

Mar. 12, Saturday (OFE 1 & 2) & **Mar. 26, Saturday** (OFE 3 & 4) – Vincentian Support Services Board Room – Phoenix – 9am – 3pm

Pre-registration required as class size will be limited

Register by text, email, or phone by sending your name, email, phone number, address, conference name, and class date/ dates to

> Mary Ann Hunter maryannhunter44@gmail.com 928-699-9232

Attending both classes is one qualification for acceptance as a full member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.





Society of St. Vincent de Paul Phoenix Diocesan Council Aid Program

(formerly referred to as Diocesan Council twinning) The purpose is to identify poor Conferences that need financial assistance and to authorize that those identified conferences will receive funds that have been allocated for this purpose. (Committee Charter approved by the Diocesan Council Board 09/2017)

History of the Program: For more than forty years, the SVdP Diocesan Council of Phoenix has recognized that some conferences associated with our Council, through no fault of their own, do not have access to sufficient donor funds from their parish and/or District to operate as a conference.

assistance there are certain conferences that cannot provide any financial help to the poor without reliable funding from sources other than their Parish and/or their District Council.

For the past several years, funds for this Diocesan Council program have come from a portion of the fees charged to conferences by the Food Reclamation for food boxes and direct contributions from conferences, District Councils and private donors. Funds accumulated in this account are distributed to approved conferences in "good standing" at or before each Diocesan Council General Membership Meeting (GMM).

Applications are accepted annually starting in December and must be submitted to Vincentian Support Services (VSS) on or before a date set by the Conference Resource Committee.

Conference requests for Diocesan Council Aid are evaluated on, but not limited to, the general standards and factors listed below. The committee will evaluate the listed items in light of the conference, its history, current area conditions, and in context of the responses and explanations provided on the application and during the interview process.

In addition to reviewing the conference's application, Annual Report, interview and recommendation from their District president, the committee will make their decisions in consultation with the Diocesan Council president.

Over the course of the past Fiscal Year the conference:

Conference Operating Standards
Had a full slate of officers

- Had a Spiritual Advisor
- Held regular conference meetings - at least twice a month
- Had a set of approved written Conference guidelines that were distributed to • all members
- Attended at least 80% of their District Council and 50% of the Diocesan . Council's General Membership Meetings
- Completed and submitted their Quarterly & Annual Reports in a timely manner .
- Required all members to be compliant with the Diocesan Safe Environment • Training standards and requirements

Financial Activity

- Received less than \$40,000 from their parish and/or District Council
- Made use of other SVdP programs and resources: grants, FAM, legal, dental, medical, Capital Asset Funds, etc.
- Identified and reached out to Community resources that could provide additional assistance for those in need
- Submitted twinning requests to other conferences for food and/or financial support
- Conducted Fund Raisers or Special Events to help bring in additional funds
- Spent at least 80% of conference funds with a minimum of 60% of those funds being used for client aid
- Requested financial support from their District

Serving "Those in need"

- Provided hours of operation and/or means of contact that afforded "those in need" easy access to the conference and its services
- Provided and documented Spiritual Aid to those whom they served
- Provided and recorded referrals to those whom they served
- Conducted Home visits with at least 20% of all client contact/interactions being in-person visits provided in the home of the people being served

Any conference that is in "good standing" may submit an application for Diocesan Council Aid. The standards and items listed above are provided to increase understanding of the program and the factors that will be used in the decisionmaking process.

This year, applications for Diocesan Council Aid (formerly referred to as Diocesan Council Twinning) will be due no later than Thursday, December 30th. Applications including a cover letter may be obtained from Vincentian Support.

Please feel free to contact Ally Geinosky, Diocesan Council Aid Subcommittee Chair at allyngee@gmail.com or 815-281-1135 if you have questions or need additional information.

Newsletter Articles

If your Conference would like to submit an article for the January Newsletter, please submit your article to Sandy Edwards by December 27, 2021.

Email to: sedwards@svdpaz.org

BRICKS to build the foundation

Safe Environment

In 2006, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) implemented the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People designed to responds to the needs of past victims of sexual abuse, to protect future generations, and to re-establish trust through increased fidelity and vigilance. In this Charter, the American Bishops articulate a commitment that includes guaranteeing effective response to all allegations of sexual abuse of minors; ensuring the accountability of our Safe Environment Policies and Procedures; and the protection of the faithful for the future.

Since that time, Bishop Olmsted and the Phoenix Diocesan Safe Environment Office have adopted policies and procedures that include participating in a training program known as the Safe Environment Training (SET) program that includes a foundation course, annual renewals, and periodic background checks.

According to the policies and procedure of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix, as of July 1st, 2009, all full and associate members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and those volunteers associated with a conference and it works within our Diocese must:

Complete and submit a volunteer application

Complete a Safe Environment Training (SET) foundation course

Participate in a background check through the submission of their Social Security number

Complete an annual renewal class between July 1st and December 31st of each year

And, if required by their parish, participate in a face-to-face interview

There are no exceptions to these requirements. All Vincentians and parish-based Vincentian volunteers must comply with all Diocesan SET requirements before they can attend meetings and/or serve in our works and ministries.

Currently, the Safe Environment Training (SET) program for the Diocese of Phoenix is managed through Catholic Mutual and may be accessed by visiting <u>www.phoenix.cmgconnect.org</u>. This site allows participants to create a file, submit an online application, take a foundation and/or renewal classes, and submit Social Security numbers to a third-party vendor for secured a background check. Completing the initial process and approval is required before a member or volunteer is accepted into the Society and/or its works. Regardless of when a participate completes their initial process, their renewal will be due between July 1 and December 31st of each year. Earlier completion deadlines may be set by individual pastors according to the needs of their parish and/or school.

As Vincentians, we are called to follow the guidelines set out by our Bishop and implemented by his staff. We, as a Society, have a unique and important place in the life of our parishes and our community. Through our work, we encounter children, youth, and vulnerable adults in situations and in ways available to few other individuals and groups within the Church. Our Vincentian vocation calls us to reach out, to serve and to protect those who are at greatest risk of being abused, neglected, or underserved. Fully embracing and participating in the Safe Environment Training program is one way that we can help protect others.

All Safe Environment renewals are due on or before December 31ast. If you have not completed your annual renewal, please do so immediately. If you are having difficulty accessing the system or completing your renewal, contact your parish SET coordinator or Shirley Smalley, Conference Resources Committee chair, at msmal14727@aol.com.

Blessed Frederic Ozanam Intercession Prayer Line

O God, our Father, You alone have the power to bestow those precious gifts of Yours which we rightly call miracles. If it be Your will, be pleased to grant such a gift on behalf of...

ALL SAINTS MESA Tom Margalski Judy Allard Nancy Hackert Veronica Nord Maureen Julian

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION Caroline Steele Bob Bruce

HOLY CROSS Rose Burmich Sharon Smith Martin (Lefty) Wolf

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION James Reed Mike Vize Barbara Reed Lindsey Plas Lynn Treimer Lee Martealer Al and Regina Gilson Pam Willis Diane McCann

MOST HOLY TTRINITY Jackie Hennings

OLPH SCOTTSDALE Brian O'Donnell John Corcoran Forrest Dougherty Dale Nickekl Mary Zarlengo

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Joe DiGiovanni

OUR LADY OF JOY Alan Cisar

OUR LADY OF THE DESERET Richard Gordon

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY Pat Gerencser

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE Cindy Smith QUEEN OF PEACE Susan Petrie Mary Kay Dunlevy Martina Bonilla

SACRED HEART— Dora Gloria Lopez

ST. BRIDGET Cheryl Crame Sandra Jarr Joe Fellhauer Vince Gutierrez Bill Cowperthwait Terri Lyn Gardner

ST. DANIEL THE PROPHET Phil Murphy Dan Fraser

ST. GABRIEL Maureen George Lois Zeph Dolores Galligan Carmine Lockwood Robert Fitzer Phil Longobardi Louise & John Fullam Martha Fitzer

ST. JAMES Diane Stofko Abel Noble

ST. JOHN VIANNEY SEDONA Betty Winick

SACRED HEART— PRESCOTT Richard Howell Herb Bourgault

ST. MARGARET MARY Mary Esquibel

ST. MARY'S BASILICA Robert Nue

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE John Winters ST. TIMOTHY Mike Anderson Margaret Hewett Karl Rusnock Thea Podrybau

ST. LOUIS THE KING Ed & Esther Escarcega Raul & Elvia Lujan Mario & Mary Fierros

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI Richard Jessen Joyce Murphy

ST. GERMAINE Joe Zambito Kathy Ferguson Joe Ferguson Sandy Smith

ST. MARGARET MARY-BHC Rev. Peter Dobrowski

ST. MARY—KINGMAN Patty Couch Roger and Rita Gaumond Diane Schatz

ST. MARY MAGDALENE Nancy Weise

ST. JEROME Nancy Barnes Yvonne Hurley

ST. MATTHEW Evelyn Guerra

ST. JOACHIM & ST. ANNE Gene Harmeling Lucia Mastroianni

ST. JOAN OF ARC Paul Parent

ST. STEVEN'S Pat Krause

ST. FRANCES CABRINI Andre Carrillo Rosemary McClair SAN FRANCISCO de ASIS Kathy Paleski

SVDP EXECUTIVE OFFICE **Bill Mulholland** Pat O'Brien Theresa Alejo Margaret Pawlak John Walsh Dave Najor **Dominic Svorinic** Dottie Sullivan Jon Ehlinger Louise Kasmikha Chris Lowrey Paul Zabilski Nathan Turner Steve Howell Jimmy Walker Michelle Small Marie Gallego Greg Ryan Lisa Eicher Melvin Goldstein Jagger Michael Diem Nancy Phalen Tom Van Boven Jim Novotny Joyce Zabilski Evan Arriola Ray Daoust Barb Daoust **Cathie Nelson** Jayden Southern Jake Dovle Robert Jacobs Dr. David Goldfarb Alice Ehmann John Jakubczyk Peter McQuaid Kathleen Nageotte Sharon Ehmann Paul Joseph DeMuro Gabrielle Chung Ed Koval Josephine Salazar Frank Labriola Laura Grafman Nicole Hazen Mayuka and Family Tim Jeffries **David Park** Mary Jo Matthews Tom Thieken Sheila Algaiez

REQUIESCAT IN PACE



Amy Rodriguez

St. Raphael & Board Member

Sharon Vogt

President St. Germaine Conference

Tom Weier St. Clare of Assisi Conference

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. The Dream Center

THE VINGENTIAN ANNUITY

Supporting St. Vincent de Paul not just for a lifetime, but **forever**.

	SINGLE LIFE	TWO LIVES
AGE 60	4.4%	3.9%
AGE 70	5.1%	4.6%
AGE 80	6.8%	5.7%
AGE 90	9.0%	8.2%



FEED, CLOTHE, HOUSE, HEAL,

A gift through the Vincentian Annuity will give you the security of a fixed income over your lifetime and provide support for St. Vincent de Paul that will last forever.

As an example, Helen, an 80-year-old widow and St. Vincent de Paul volunteer, recently established a \$50,000 Vincentian gift annuity. For her age, the annuity rate is 6.8%, meaning she'll receive \$3,400 annually for the rest of her life. And, she may take an income tax deduction of about 50% of her gift this year. Best of all, her gift will support St. Vincent de Paul's work for generations to come. Annuity gifts start at \$10,000.

TO SEE IF AN ANNUITY IS RIGHT FOR YOU visit plannedgiving.stvincentdepaul.net.

Take a look at our planned giving tools, including a benefit calculator. To discuss giving options, contact Donna Rodgers at 602-261-6884 or plannedgiving@svdpaz.org.

P.O. Box 13600 Phoentx, AZ 85002 I stvincentdepauLnet