

## St. Vincent de Paul Society NEWSLETTER



Published by and for Vincentians Diocesan Council of Phoenix, AZ

http://www.stvincentdepaul.net/Vincentian-Support July 2021 Vol. 22 No. 7

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



We wish everyone and their families a safe and cool Summer season!

We look forward to seeing everyone again soon!

#### **Results of the June General Membership Meeting**

At the June 2021 General Membership Meeting, the Conferences overwhelmingly approved the two motions that were submitted for consideration.

The two motions were to authorize our Executive Team to enter into negotiations to purchase the properties on3rd Drive and West Maricopa Freeway, and to increase the Diocesan Council Board's spending authorization limit.



#### Celebrate & Live the Call to Leadership



During the months of June, July and August, Conferences and District Councils are often called upon to select a new President. Nominating committees find themselves praying as they sort through the names of Conference and/or Council members who are eligible to hold office in hopes of finding one or two Vincentians who are willing to step forward and serve as President.

Perhaps, just perhaps, this process of looking for new leadership is a little backwards. Leadership is a special and unique call from God; a call that comes with all the resources those called will need to serve. The call begins with Spirit of the Lord as it resounds in the heart of the person being called. As

followers of Christ, each and every person is called to spread the Gospel, to serve, and to lead. At different times in our lives, that call will be manifested in various ways. Each call comes in its own time and in its own way.

Discernment is one of the fundamental elements of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. And yet, even though this word is commonly used, it is many times misunderstood. Discernment is the quality of being able to grasp or comprehend that which is obscure. In other words, you and I are called to see beyond the obvious, to see with the eyes of faith. We are called to move beyond our comfort zone and to be willing to trust in God and His faithfulness.

A call to leadership may come as a gentle whisper deep within our hearts or a clanging voice that will not be silenced. It may come as an invitation from a friend or inspiration gained from a scripture reading or an article. It may even come through the process of elimination where no one else is willing or able to serve. But regardless of how it comes, a call from God is a sacred call and one that needs to be answered.

As Vincentians, we are called to regularly discern our vocational call, to take stock of our gifts and how they can be used, to evaluate our decisions related to those whom we serve, and to discern who God is calling to leadership positions. We serve in faith and hope; believing that all that we need has already been provided. God has sent us the leaders we need, called them by name, and empowered them to lead us.

During the election process, the Conference or Council and its members need to discern what leadership qualities the group needs at this moment in time. Each leader brings with them a distinct set of skills and gifts, and often the question becomes are these the gifts our Conference or Council needs today.

No one becomes President of a Vincentian Conference or Council by accident or just because no one else would do it. Not really. The providence of God not only guides us, but our Conferences and Councils as well.

If you are called to be a Conference or Council President accept it, name it, claim it, celebrate it and live it. If God needs you to serve His people, how can you refuse His invitation?

By Shirley Smalley



"A Network of friends, inspired by Gospel Values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with, and service to people in need."

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul National Assembly will be held in Houston, Texas August 25<sup>th</sup> through August 28<sup>th</sup>. Attending the regional and national meetings is a great way to learn more about the Society, to listen to inspiring speakers, to revitalize your vocational call, and to interface with Vincentians from across the United States.

The cost for registration for the full four days is \$375 if you register by July 15, \$425 if you register after July 15<sup>th</sup> and before August 15<sup>th</sup> and \$475 after August 15<sup>th</sup>. Hotel accommodation can be made at the Marriott Marquis Houston at a group rate of \$155 a night if your reservation is made before August 4<sup>th</sup>. The cost for this event may seem a little pricey but it is well worth the expense. It is important to note that conferences and councils may vote to pay for some or all of the expenses of their delegates and/or members. (See the National Q & A response to the reimbursement policies of the Society below.)

Being a Vincentian is not just about serving the poor. It is also about growing in holiness through not only service but through fellowship and being part of the larger Vincentian family. Learning, growing and building relationships with our brother and sister Vincentians from other areas of the United States enlivens and enriches us and our works. It helps us to see the bigger picture, to hear new ideas and to share our experiences in ways that may help others.

If attending the meeting doesn't seem that enticing, keep in mind that our Phoenix Diocesan Council is scheduled to host the 2022 National Assembly. Having a large delegation from Phoenix attending this one will provide us with valuable knowledge and insights into how we can make this event even better next year. Additionally, three of the workshop presenters for the Houston assembly will be from the greater Phoenix area, so why not attend and support them?

Please consider joining us in Houston. You can obtain information and can register by visiting the web site at https://meetingssvdpusa.regfox.com/2021-houston-national-assembly.

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(National Q & A 4/17/2014 Page 24) - The Rule, Part III, Statute 28 states: *Vincentians entrusted to undertake previously and duly authorized offices, missions, or tasks for the Society are entitled to the refund of the expenses incurred.* This is more than just an entitlement. Within the Spirit of the Society, all the works of the Society are works of the group and not the individual. If a member does not get reimbursed for expenses, the work becomes an individual effort and this often causes confusion when members then do what they want rather than what is agreed to by the Conference or Council. This does not directly address National and Regional meetings; however, in Part II of the RULE, International Statute 7.4: "Any matter that is not specifically governed by any Parts of the Rule and Statutes shall be governed by Tradition and, in the final instance, by the decision issued by the Board of the Council General." That said, on page 136 of the 2002 version of the manual, it states: "In accord with the long established practice, the individual Councils and Isolated Conferences are expected to assume financial responsibility for their delegates and committee members to attend meetings as necessary."

### **Election Procedures for SVdP Conference or Council Presidents**

By Shirley Smalley



Throughout the various levels of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the only elected office is that of President. The newly elected President in consultation with the Conference or Council membership appoints all other officers. <u>The outgoing President</u> or the clergy of a given parish may not under any circumstances appoint a Conference or Council President.

The election of Conference and Council President is held by secret ballot in accordance with an approved set of procedures that are consistent with the Rule, Statutes and Bylaws of the Society.

The term of office of a Conference, District or Diocesan Council President is three years, once renewable... Once a President has served two consecutive three-year terms, that person will not be eligible for re-election as President until a three-year term has elapsed under a different President.

Each Conference or Council should have at least a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer all of which are appointed by the President after consultation with the members. The President may appoint other officers.

All officers appointed by the President serve at the pleasure of the President, Such appointment terminate automatically when a new President takes office. An incoming President may reappoint an officer or officers and others who served under the previous President. (Rule Part III: 12)

In most cases, the First Vice President of a Conference or Council serves as the chairman of a nominating committee. Depending on the size of the Council or Conference, two or four members should be appointed to serve on that committee. The purpose of the committee is to determine who is eligible and interested in becoming a Presidential candidate and to interface with Conference or Council members about Vincentians who they believe have demonstrated leadership qualities and shown an interest in becoming an officer. Potential candidates are contacted and asked if they are willing to run for the office of President. Individual Vincentians may also contact the nominating committee and express their interest in running for office.

As soon as eligible candidates have been obtained, the date for an election must be set and all voting members must be notified of the upcoming election date. *The President is then elected by secret ballot and only full-enhanced members who are present at the meeting may cast a ballot. No absentee ballots may be issued or counted*. Once the process has been completed, arrangements should be made to commission the newly elected President.

In the Diocese of Phoenix, all newly elected Presidents take office on October 1st and serve through September 30th. In the event that a President resigns or otherwise vacates their office prior to the end of their term, an interim President is elected to serve until September 30. A new full term President is then elected to take office on October 1st. No interim Presidential term shall be counted in the term limit for a given Vincentian.

#### **Prayer for Discerning Conference/Council Servant Leaders**

Gracious and Loving Father,

We humbly place within your care our Conference/Council, its members, its works and the poor whom we serve.

We trust in Your Divine Providence and believe that you have given us all that we need to be a living sign of your presence in the world.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to aid us in discerning new servant leaders that will support and guide our work and growth in holiness according to Your Divine will and plan.

Fill our hearts with the gifts of wisdom, fortitude, knowledge, and understanding.

Instill in us the desire to serve not only the needy but one another through positions of leadership that embody a selfless servant's heart.

Enkindle within our Conference/Council unity, simplicity, humility and the fire of love that burned in the hearts of St. Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederic Ozanam.

Strengthen us so that we may support our servant leaders in ways that lighten their load and enables them to know that they do not undertake the responsibilities of their office alone for we are but one family united in love and service.

Help us to grow in unity, fellowship and holiness so that our Conference/Council and its members may radiate your love and care for the poor, the needy, the vulnerable, the forgotten, and the entire world.

We ask all these things through the power of your Holy Spirit and in the name of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

#### **Co-Presidents:**

Please note that co-presidencies are a last resort and highly discouraged for the Conferences in the SVdP Diocesan Council of Phoenix. Such positions are not recognized at the National level and can only even be considered at the Conference level. If one of the co-presidents steps down, that person cannot be replaced during that term as they were elected as one entity with their partner president. It is also impossible for two people to be of one mind. Often one co-president carries more of the responsibilities of the office and the other just goes along with the stronger of the two. According to our Conference bylaws, having co-presidents requires proof of a hardship and the advance approval of the District president.

The most effective slate of officers is a president with a strong vice-president. Keep in mind that the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president of any Conference or Council automatically assumes the duties of the president in his/her absence. It should also be noted that other officers may be re-appointed by an incoming president and that these positions have no term limits. It is, however, in the best interest of the group, to periodically change the people serving in those positions.

## Vibrant Can Be A Vincentian Quality!



Have you ever thought or referred to your Conference as vibrant? Well, our Diocesan aggregated youth Conference not only thinks of themselves as vibrant, they included that word in their very name - ACS Vibrant Vinnies. The word vibrant is not just a part of their name, their members bring that word to life on a regular basis. Even during the pandemic, this Conference was so vibrant that they had to cap the number of their members in order to keep their Conference from growing too large. How many of our

adult Conference have ever experienced this problem? Additionally, this vibrant Conference is never at a loss for members interested in filling officer positions including that of president.

Just a few months ago, these young Vincentians hosted a District 11 meeting. They decorated the meeting space, provided the evening meal, welcomed the attendees at the front door and escorted them to their seats, held a raffle for a prize they came up with, and had twenty-three of their members attend all or at least part of that meeting. Few adult Conferences have that many members attend any District meeting.

It can easily be said that these young Vincentians bring a unique energy and enthusiasm to the Society that should inspire and challenge all of us. Ask yourself if you could get twenty-three of your Conference members to help host and attend a District meeting? Perhaps more of us should think of ourselves as Vibrant Vincentians!

Shirley Smalley

Congratulations to River, Past President of the Vinnies. River has been accepted to Notre Dame. He plans on continuing his mission as a Young Vincentian and open a Conference there.



## **Vibrant Vinnies** Acting as the hands and feet of Jesus even in a Pandemic.

Vibrant Vinnies Conference has stayed very busy during the pandemic. We have continued to help at the food pantry at St. Joan of Arc, the new Hope Chest Thrift Store, and helped sort food at the warehouse at Watkins. We have also had two clothing drives, a food drive that brought in 800 pounds of food, and assembled and passed out blessing bags to our homeless. Currently we are collecting backpacks and Band-Aids that will be donated to Sunnyslope in a few weeks.

Our May meeting included the Vinnies assembling 150 blessing bags that were passed out at Sunnyslope and outside Ozanam to any who wanted one. Our Conference raised the funds and purchased the items needed for the blessings bags which included, sunscreen, socks, lip balm, granola bars, water, rosaries and religious cards. Our current Conference president, 8th grader Natalia stated, "I love serving others because it puts a smile on my face and the faces of people I serve!" The Vinnies passed out the bags as many waited for a shower and they were all so appreciative. Some of the homeless simply needed a hug. We then went into Sunnyslope and helped sort shoes, clean the floors, and even did some filling in the office.

This past week we had a great opportunity to play Bingo with the residents at Ozanam Manor. The Vinnies enjoyed sitting next to the residents playing the game and socializing. Sabini, a 7th grade

Vinnie said, "can we come back and do this every week?" The Vinnies made patriotic cards that were passed out to residents thanking many of them for their service. We also brought in donations of towels and bed sheets, which they were especially grateful.

Our outgoing President, River Vogelsang, has graduated from Vibrant Vinnies but hopes to start a Conference at his high school. River reflects on his 4 years in Vinnies as the "best thing I have ever done." "I learned to not judge and look for the face of Jesus in everyone I encounter and I feel so good after the Vinnies projects." His sister is following in his footsteps and is now the Conference Vice President. Meadow has stated, "I watched my brother grow in his faith and love serving others for the past few years and I wanted to be involved, I want to help change the world!"

The world has changed in many ways, but to the children of Vibrant Vinnies, serving has not stopped and is more important than ever. We continue to go where we are needed to tirelessly support the working poor and homeless in any way we can. We are never too young to serve! St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us!

Written by: Angel V. Vibrant Vinnies Liaison



July 2021





#### **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 John Corcoran Forrest Dougherty Dale Nickekl Mary Zarlengo

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Joe DiGiovanni

OUR LADY OF THE DESERET Richard Gordon

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE Cindy Smith

QUEEN OF PEACE Susan Petrie Mary Kay Dunlevy Martina Bonilla SACRED HEART— Dora Gloria Lopez

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA Dennis Orr

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

ST. DANIEL THE PROPHET Phil Murphy

ST. GABRIEL 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 Karen Wilson Mike Anderson ST. LOUIS THE KING Ed & Esther Escarcega Raul & Elvia Lujan Mario & Mary Fierros

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI 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 Irene Sosnicki Lucia Mastroianni Terry DeYoung Al LaRocque

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 Jon Ehlinger Louise Kasmikha Chris Lowrev 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 Doyle 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



# Summer Wish List

Help support those we serve each month.

Just as your own needs change depending on the **season**, so do ours! We're asking for specific **food** items and **personal items** for all ages and sizes.

# Feed.

- Peanut butter
- Canned meats
- Canned tuna
- Dry rice/beans
- Cereal/oatmeal
- Canned chili w/ beans
- Pasta noodles
- Pasta sauce
- Canned fruit
- Cases of water

## Clothe.

- Men's sneakers/boots
- Cooling towels/bandanas
- Men's jeans (28-48)
- Men's clothes (XL-XXL)
  - Men's underwear
- Women's bras (36C & up)
- Hats/ball caps
- Sunglasses
- · Rain panchos

Belts

THE SOCIETY OF

## House.

- Rolling luggage
- Clean backpacks
- Gently used yoga mats
- Laundry soap/pods
- Bike U-locks

**NF PAIII** 



- Lip balm
- Sunscreen
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Toothbrushes/paste
- Body wash
- Lotion
- Combs/brushes
- Shaving razors

FEED. GLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.





# **Nellie Sanchez**

St. Edward the Confessor

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.



July 2021

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.

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