



# 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



## VINCENTIANS ARE EVANGELISTS!

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me."*  
Lk 4

Our Vincentian vocation is rooted in a specific call to holiness. The fullness of that call is clearly articulated in the Gospel of Luke, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. Therefore, he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor." (Luke 4:18)

The Church is by her very nature missionary and, as Vincentians, we are therefore called to proclaim the Gospel by word and deed to the ends of the earth. In other words, we are called to be evangelists. One of the definitions of the word evangelize is to advocate for a cause with the object of making converts. This type of advocacy is at the very heart of our vocation.

Most of us have a relatively narrow view of what an evangelist is. When we hear the word evangelist, we often think of the apostles, the early disciples, the Church Fathers, martyrs, pastors, teachers and even the modern television evangelists but nothing could be farther from the truth. As Vincentians, we have been anointed to proclaim good tidings to the poor and the joy of service to everyone we meet.

Throughout history, we can see how the witness of a faith-filled life when combined with good works has great power. A power that draws others into a relationship with God and helps to build up His Kingdom here on earth. As Vincentians, our prayer life and our actions enfold the heart of the Gospel message. We help to make the message of the New Testament come to life. The very nature of doing that draws others towards God and into the mission of the Society.

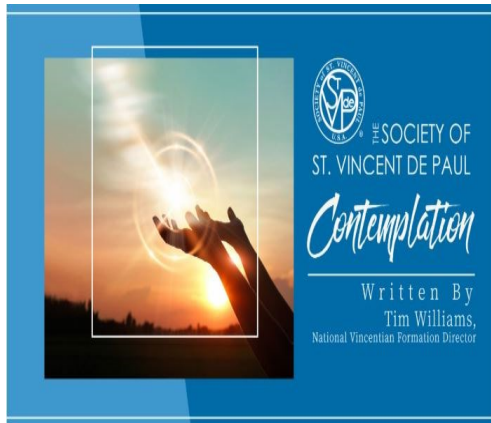
Evangelization is at the core of being a Vincentian. We evangelize when we practice our faith. We evangelize when others see us serving in Parish liturgical ministries and celebrations. We evangelize when we go into the homes of the poor and share God's mercy and love with them. We evangelize when we invite others to serve with us or join the Society. We evangelize when we share the real facts about poverty, alienation and homelessness with our friends, neighbors, co-workers, and families.

Our Vincentian vocation is a call for a lifetime and for all situations. No matter where we are and what we are doing, we must remember that call and that our words and actions can serve as a conduit that converts others to a place of love and compassion. If we are living out our vocational call with authenticity and zeal, others will be drawn to support and join us. Others will change their view of the poor. Others will come to know God more fully or from a different perspective.

Father Mychal Judge, a Franciscan friar and priest who died serving in the Twin Towers on September 11<sup>th</sup>, wrote the perfect prayer for evangelists. Let's remember his sacrifice and use his prayer to remind us that we have been anointed to bring glad tidings to others. That we need to go where God wants us to go. To meet who God wants us to meet. To say what God wants us to say and to leave our own agendas behind.

### Father Mychal's Prayer

Lord, take me where You want me to go;  
Let me meet who You want me to meet;  
Tell me what You want me to say, and  
Keep me out of Your way. Amen



## Challenges, Young and Old

*“But, you say, how can we draw youth to us? We call them eagerly, and no one comes.”* So said the President General of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in a Circular Letter. It is an ironic problem for the Society to face, the challenge of recruiting more youth members to join an organization that was founded by 19- and 20-year-olds.

It is an inexorable reality of human life that we all grow older, even if we are Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The founders themselves remained

Members for the rest of their lives, long after graduating from the Sorbonne. The photos we have are of white-haired men, not college students.

We always recognize and celebrate longtime Vincentians at our General Assemblies, as we should. Their example of dedication is inspiring. Lest we forget, though, the longest-serving among us, like the founders, began in their youth!

Ours is still - or should be - a Society for young Members. Indeed, our Rule calls on *“Members of all ages”* to *“strive to preserve the spirit of youth”*. [Rule, Part I, 3.5] Doing this does not mean trying to listen to the latest music, learn the latest slang, or pass ourselves off as young. After all, the first Conference, despite its youth, was quite out of step with its own times and fads, but in touch with something more radical, something more disruptive, something deeper, something greater, something...younger.

The young seek what we all seek, because all of us, young and old, have God’s word written on our hearts. As a young Frédéric Ozanam put it, the young have felt *“the hunger for truth crying out”* but have been left empty by *“the barren philosophy of the modern Apostles”* in which they *“have not found food for [their] souls.”*

*“The religion of your forefathers appears before you today,”* he continued. *“do not turn away, for it is generous. It also, like you, is young. It does not grow old with the world. Ever renewing itself, it keeps pace with progress, and it alone can lead to perfection.”* [Baudard, 20]

It is not enough, then, to *“call them eagerly”*, unless we also *“welcome young Members into all Conferences.”* [Rule, Part I, 3.7] Their youthful enthusiasm revitalizes the older Members, while the timeless experience of serving the poor deepens the spirituality of the young.

That Circular Letter was not written by the current President-General – although it could have been. It was written by Adolphe Baudon in 1851. It turns out that seeking young members is not only an ironic challenge for the Society - it is an old one.

## Contemplate

How can I truly be more welcoming to young Members?



# BRICKS to build the foundation

## Recruiting New Members

The Mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul “a network of friends, is inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.” Volunteerism, therefore, is the heart of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and our work helping neighbors in need.

Recruiting new members to the Society is crucial to the ability of Conferences to carry out their work of meeting their neighbors in need. New members help to share the workload, provide energy, and bring innovative ideas to even the most active Conference. In order to hold a successful recruitment drive, however, your Conference needs to develop a clear and thoughtful strategy. Bringing new members into your Conference requires commitment so it is crucial to carefully consider your Conference’s needs, motivations, and desired outcomes in pursuing a program of recruitment and renewal.

**Personal Invitations:** It has been proven that the best way to recruit new people for the Society is through a personal invitation. Challenge every member of your Conference to invite one friend or family member to join the Conference. If you do that, your Conference could easily double in size. This is because people tend to trust the recommendations of people close to them, people whose opinion they value.

Are there parishioners who members of your Conference think might be particularly suited to or interested in the work of the Society? Every parish has people who are concerned by the social issues in their communities and are looking to turn their concern into action. By identifying these parishioners and inviting them to join the work of the Society, you just might pique their interest. Unlike the other strategies identified below, personal invitations can be extended as part of an ongoing recruitment effort.

If you have enjoyed being a Vincentian, then you probably have talked about it to family members, friends, and other parishioners. Spreading the word about something good can prove to be contagious. If being a member of the Society has truly had a positive impact on your life, then you likely want to share that with others.

Conference meetings are not necessarily the most effective way to motivate potential members to join us. Most are motivated not by our spirituality and fellowship but by a desire to serve others. Start by encouraging them to participate in some activity of the Society. Invite them to participate in a special work such as accompanying you on a home visit to observe how we serve those needing help. Exposure to who we are and what we do is one sure way to make someone want to know more. Of course, keep in mind that all you can do is invite them. It is the Holy Spirit that will move them to sign on the dotted line..

Be sure to assign a current member to work beside your potential recruits during their participation in one of your activities or special projects. Get to know them and start talking about what it means to be a Vincentian. As they show an increasing interest in the Society, you can invite them to a Conference meeting or a special Conference event such as a social or retreat.

**Bulletin Announcements and Electronic Postings:** Consult with your parish staff about making use of parish communication tools such as a notice in the church bulletin, information on parish emails, or an announcement on a parish bulletin board/web page to get the word out about the Society and your desire to bring in new members.

Posting short YouTube videos or even postings things on Facebook and twitter are often effective at attracting younger members. Keep these postings short and focused on your works and upcoming events. When using these types of postings, be sure to keep them upbeat and current

**Pulpit Talk:** Aside from personal invitations, a brief and focused talk from the pulpit inviting parishioners to join your Conference will probably be the most effective tool for recruiting new members. Consult the National SVdP website for a detailed description of the *Invitation to Serve* program at <https://members.ssvpusa.org/growth-revitalization/planning/>

The benefits of gaining a new member is like finding a diamond in the slag of one of the world's diamond mines. You have no idea of its real value until you chip away the exterior to reveal its inner composition by getting to know them, and spending time polishing its surface by providing training, motivation, and guidance. Remember it is the Holy Spirit, our mission, our passion and zeal, and the power of serving others that leads others to join the Society and keeps them there.

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#### Bulletin Announcement Samples:

Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
Turning Concern Into Action  
Around Our Community  
& Around the World

We are seeking new members – parishioners who are looking for the opportunity to put their faith into action in service to their neighbors in need.

Information meeting – (details of meeting)

Contact \_\_\_\_\_ for questions or further information

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Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
We are called by faith to serve our community.  
We believe we have a responsibility to turn  
our concern into action.

Are you looking for a meaningful form of service?  
Our Parish Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
is seeking new members to help serve our neighbors in need.

Information meeting: (details of meeting)

Contact \_\_\_\_\_ for questions or further information

# The truth behind the top five homelessness stereotypes

Unhoused guests are often portrayed as lazy, mentally ill, criminals, drug addicts and homeless by choice — but these attitudes don't fully reflect reality. To increase awareness and understanding, St. Vincent de Paul explores these stereotypes below to better understand the real-world circumstances. We consulted SVdP staff who work directly with unhoused guests daily, to help us unpack these stereotypes and understand why they aren't always true. We hope this understanding fuels compassion and action in the community.



## 1. People who are homeless are lazy.

The National Coalition for the Homeless estimates as many as 40-60% of people experiencing homelessness nationwide are employed. However, there are obstacles that unhoused guests need to tackle before finding employment. First, surviving on the streets. Seeking food, water, hygiene supplies, and/or a safe place to sleep, are among their top priorities every day. Consequently, living in survival mode all the time doesn't allow time to address things beyond basic needs, like employment.

Additional complex barriers to finding employment while street living are:

- Not having an address to put on a job application.
- Not having a phone number to schedule a job interview.
- Not having a safe place to rest after work.
- Not having a place to shower to look presentable at a job interview.
- Not having clean clothes, including professional clothes for a job interview.
- Not having money to take the bus or pay for gas to get to a job interview.
- Having a disability.
- Not having a photo ID to present at a job interview.
- Having additional documents stolen, like a social security card, visa or green card on the street.
- Being mentally ill.

SVdP's Washington Street Shelter Manager Jennifer Olsen also sees the challenges to success, including employment, that unhoused guests face after developing a pattern of lack of self-worth. Olsen focuses on building rapport with them in the beginning and making them feel like they're somebody to help them find that motivation and rediscover their role and place in society.

"Once they get motivated, they take baby steps like applying to get their ID or their birth certificate," says Olsen.

From there, it's working with that motivation momentum to help them tackle the next step towards employment.

## 2. People experiencing homelessness all have mental health issues

Not all people experiencing homelessness have mental health issues. According to a 2019 report by André House, a service provider adjacent to downtown's Human Services Campus, they found that 23% of unsheltered people identified a serious mental illness.

While there's no denying that significant percentage, that's still less than half and certainly many fewer people than is usually imagined by people perpetuating this stereotype. While there certainly are people experiencing homelessness who struggle with mental health conditions,

a mental health condition itself does not keep people on the streets. There are plenty of people who struggle with mental health while in their own homes. It's the lack of connection to mental health support systems and lack of trust that keeps people with mental health issues on the street.

"Some people won't tell you, even though they know they should be on medication and have been diagnosed with specific mental conditions," says Jim Baker, SVdP's director of Security and Dining Rooms. "They're not comfortable talking about it, so what we try to do is build a level of trust with them, and that relationship starts with the food."

For unhoused guests who do find treatment facilities for their mental health, very often, they don't feel fully supported by their clinic according to Jennifer Olsen, SVdP's Washington Street shelter manager.

"They've constantly been switched navigators or case managers leading to a lack of consistency with their therapies," Olsen says. "We try to be that bridge in between them and their clinic to help them keep moving forward."

### **3. All homeless people are criminals.**

Nationwide, people experiencing homelessness are 11 times more likely to be arrested than those housed and charged with the same crime. Usually, this crime is a direct result of their homelessness too. They are also more likely to be victims of violence with a currency of 14-21% compared to the general population.

"If they don't have a criminal record they will because they're going to get citations for trespassing or urban-camping infractions," says Jim Baker, "A lot of folks end up doing things they would have never done, had they not ended up in the state of homelessness."

*Jim Baker, SVdP's director of Security and Dining Rooms, brings his insights as a former police officer and his compassion as a practicing Christian into his social work with those SVdP serves.*

The consequences of a criminal record can create long-lasting setbacks for unhoused guests when it comes to housing, however, it does not impact their ability to get off the streets. By actively putting in the effort to improve their situation and with support from SVdP programs, unhoused guests have been able to get into housing regardless of their background.

That's been the case especially at SVdP's Washington Street shelter, where Jennifer Olsen serves as manager and works directly with unhoused guests, including those with criminal records. With homelessness experience herself, Olsen understands that their situations can get discouraging, which is why she's there as a support system to help them overcome the hurdles that follow their criminal record and give them hope.

### **All homeless people are drug addicts.**

According to a 2019 report by André House, 25.7% of people who were experiencing unsheltered homelessness between November 2018 and March 2019 identified a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.

Nevertheless, the streets are a place where substances are widely used, so people who may have never used drugs before suddenly start to use them to cope with their circumstances according to Olsen.

"When they're homeless, their drug addiction is more for survival because they don't feel safe where they're at, so they use to get through their day to day," Olsen says. "Once we offer them shelter, they're more willing to accept going into treatment because now shelter is their safe space."



Whatever their story had been that got them into homelessness, that doesn't mean that they can't reset their lives. They just can't do it alone; they need to have support networks that can help them recover. This is what SVdP's integrated programming is here for. With care and compassion, SVdP social workers have helped hundreds of guests with drug addictions get back into housing through community partnerships and connecting guests to resources for their substance abuse treatment.

## 5. Homeless people are homeless by choice.

St. Vincent de Paul does not believe that people want to live on the street. When we offer people a real, tangible path out of homelessness through our rehousing services, the majority of people jump at the opportunity to better their situation in which they may have previously felt hopeless, alone and defeated.

The issues are complex and interwoven that lead people into homelessness. It's rarely a choice. At the core of homelessness is finding a place that people can afford to pay to live in. SVdP recently dug into this issue in an interview with MAG Regional Homelessness Program [Manager Katie Gentry](#), who explains how the Valley's homelessness surged because of a lack of housing that people can afford and offers some solutions to the housing crisis.

Along with the rise in rent and mortgage prices, comes the complicated factor of fixed incomes for unhoused seniors, a challenge seen particularly in SVdP's Ozanam Manor, an interim housing community for unhoused seniors, veterans and adults with disabilities.

"We work with senior guests who have either Social Security retirement or disability where they're getting less than \$1,000 per month," says Julia Matthies, Associate Chief Program Officer who has overseen Ozanam Manor for many years. "Apartments at Phoenix market rate are going to be higher than that which doesn't leave a lot of money for anything else aside from housing."

SVdP Associate Chief Program Officer Julia Matthies has worked for many years with the seniors living in SVdP's Ozanam Manor, helping them to achieve permanent housing. The goal then is to help guests find subsidized housing that they can afford, which means looking at a select number of apartment complexes that have those subsidies built in. According to Matthies, the waitlists for such apartments have grown as the housing market shrinks so it's not uncommon for there to be one- to two-year waiting lists.

## THE TAKEAWAY

When acknowledging stereotypes about homelessness and taking a closer look at the nuance of individual situations, it is evident that behind these generalizations lies a more complicated reality. Homelessness is a complex set of circumstances that affect thousands of Arizonans every day. Starting with assessing our own perceptions and telling the real stories and lived experience of those on the street, we can help shape the way homelessness is perceived and the extent to which we support the efforts and resources that unhoused people actually need to succeed in finding housing.

*Excerpts taken from the SVdP Diocesan Council of Phoenix Newsletter. Read the full article at <https://stvincentdepaul.net/news/top-5-homelessness-stereotypes>*



## ***From the Desk of the Conference Resources Committee***

### **Clarification of Financial Request Statement**

In last month's newsletter, the following statement was posted in this section. *Financial requests for aid to the needy are presented to the Conference for approval. Conference guidelines may preauthorize Home Visit teams to make payments up to a preset amount but requests for funding assistance over that amount should be approved by the membership not by an officer or budget/financial subcommittee.*

The requirement to have the conference approve an amount above the preauthorized home visit team amount for payments for neighbors can be done by a predetermined specified number of voting members for approval. This process must be contained in the conference guidelines. The number of required votes should be in relationship to the number of full members in the conference and cannot be a set group or officers only. For example, a conference can require a majority vote of five full members in addition to the team for authorization of time sensitive payments that exceed the team limit if that payment needs to be made between meetings.

### **Parliamentary Updates**

While Conferences and Councils use a consensus model for conducting meetings, there are times when we must follow Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised and use motions or resolutions..

#### **During a meeting:**

**Minutes** are approved as submitted or corrected. If corrections are made, they should be noted in the minutes of the meeting where they are corrected and also noted on the original minutes.

**Treasurer Reports** are given and the president asks if there are questions, challenges or corrections. Once those items are dealt with, the report is filed not approved. An annual audit is the means of approving the Treasurer's reports.

**Consensus:** Most conference and even council decisions can be made by consensus. Consensus is obtained by asking the voting membership if they have any objections. If there are no objections, the matter is approved. If there are some objections, the matter can be discussed and even modified so that consensus can be achieved. If after discussion and consideration of all options, if consensus cannot be reached, a formal motion may be in order.



Ule of Order continued

**Motions:** Motions must be made for the approval of Diocesan Council matters such as approving the Diocesan Council Budget, for corporate financial matters which occur primarily at the Diocesan Council level, the revision of Diocesan, District, and Conference bylaws and policies and when no consensus can be obtained. Note that all bylaws for the Diocesan Council of Phoenix and its Council and Conferences are approved by the General Membership through a majority vote of all conferences in good standing.

A motion must be clearly stated and seconded by two separate full members. Once made and seconded, the motion comes to the floor only when it is restated by the president/chair. After discussion and possible amendments are made, the chair calls for a vote. There is no such thing as a friendly amendment and all amendments must be voted on before the main motion is voted on. If the amendment passes, the amended motion is subsequently discussed and then voted on.

**Remember to be in "Good Standing" a Conference must:**

- Hold in-person meetings at least twice a month. Hybrid meetings with a combination of in-person and remote attendance to accommodate the needs of homebound members may be conducted, however, members attending from out of the parish area must meet all full member requirements in order to vote.
- Have an active Spiritual Advisor and include Opening and Closing prayer and a Spiritual reflection at every meeting.
- Have a full slate of conference officers that meet the full enhanced member requirements.
- Follow the SVdP Meeting Agenda for all meetings.
- Have Secretary minutes and a Treasurer's Report at each meeting.
- Obtain verification that all members, volunteers & employees are Safe Environment compliant and approved.
- Provide person-to-person services to our neighbors in need and, as often as possible, through Home Visits
- Conduct home and pantry visits in pairs.
- Be represented at 80% of their District Council and 50% of the Diocesan General Membership Meetings.
- Complete and submit Quarterly and Annual Reports in a timely fashion.

The candidate will complete the Formation Policy requirements as defined in the approved Formation Policy of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Phoenix Diocesan

Council. **(Conference Bylaws, Article 7: All full-enhanced (active) members must complete the basic Ozanam Formation Experience (OFE) classes as defined by the Phoenix Diocesan Formation Policy.)**

In addition to the OFE requirements, the Conference members may read, reflect and share their lived experiences on each section of the SVdP Member Handbook with the candidate. If this process is added, each member must have a copy of the handbook.

A Conference member will be assigned as a sponsor for the candidate. The sponsor will meet with the candidate to respond to questions and to describe the activities of the Conference.

The candidate will be given the opportunity to make at least two Home Visits with different Conference members. The exception would be in a Conference with Special Works where the candidate will be given opportunities for person-to-person service with those who are poor.

The Spiritual Advisor, Conference President, and/or designated Membership Coordinator will lead the candidate in prayerful discernment emphasizing the Society's primary purpose of growth in holiness and guiding them in Vincentian Spirituality.

At the conclusion of the candidacy period, the candidate will have a meeting with the President to discuss the candidate's experiences in the Conference. The candidate discusses the activities and services that they feel called to do as part of their ministry.

At this point, if the candidate has discerned that they have a calling to be a Vincentian (Vincentian Vocation), they may request to become an **Active Member**.

After the President, Spiritual Advisor and the candidate discern readiness for Active membership the Conference takes formal action, normally by a resolution, to accept the candidate into Active membership. **(Rule: Part III-Statute 3)**

The candidate is then Commissioned as a new member of the Society and given the SVdP pin. This commissioning should take place at an appropriate time and occasion, normally at a Conference or Council liturgy or at a Festival Meeting. **(Rule: Part III-Statute 4)**

The Commissioning Ceremony for a New Member is found in the Vincentian Celebrations book or online.

The new member will continue walking the Vincentian Pathway through reflection and sharing on the Serving in Hope Modules and the other resources offered by the National Office. The Council will offer opportunities for Vincentian Formation by sponsoring the Ozanam Formation Experience (OFE), retreats and various activities.

*Adapted from Document 1671 of the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc.*

## *ServWare News*

**Did you know, within ServWare there is the ability to set-up and manage special programs, such as Thanksgiving food distribution.**

ServWare includes the ability to define a special program a conference uses to provide a specific service to your Neighbors. Once an administrator defines the program for your conference, Neighbors can be enrolled in the program. As Neighbors are added to the program, a report can be used periodically to see the total families and people enrolled in the program. The report can also be used to coordinate the distribution of the assistance included in the program. Once the assistance is provided, it is entered on the Neighbor record in ServWare. The special program report can be used to validate that all the assistance provided has been recorded.

At a recent Super Users meeting, several conference Super Users shared how the Special Programs functions and reports have helped them to better coordinate various special programs. Some of the programs the conferences are using this for, include:

- Thanksgiving Dinner Food Distribution
- Back to School Programs
- Christmas program or Adopt A Family

Any Conference interested in learning more about using the Special Programs in ServWare, can contact Jenney Clark ([jclark@sudpaz.org](mailto:jclark@sudpaz.org)) or Rebecca Gourrinat ([rgourrinat@sudpaz.org](mailto:rgourrinat@sudpaz.org)).

***General Membership Meeting  
December 16, 2023  
420 W. Watkins Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85003***



The National Assembly was great and allowed me to meet young Vincentians from our country and the world. The Poverty simulation help remind me of how hard it is to be poor. I enjoyed the speakers and the food. Trent Hammer - Youth Participant

I attended the recent National Council Meeting for SVdP for a number of reasons, but came away with a renewed sense of my vocation after witnessing Vincentians from all over the US, as well as Canada and Mexico, attesting to our calling through their attendance, participation and interactions with each other. The gathering provided insight and confirmation of what our Mission, in this world, is all about: Being the Face of Christ for the many, who do not know Him. Mike Anderson

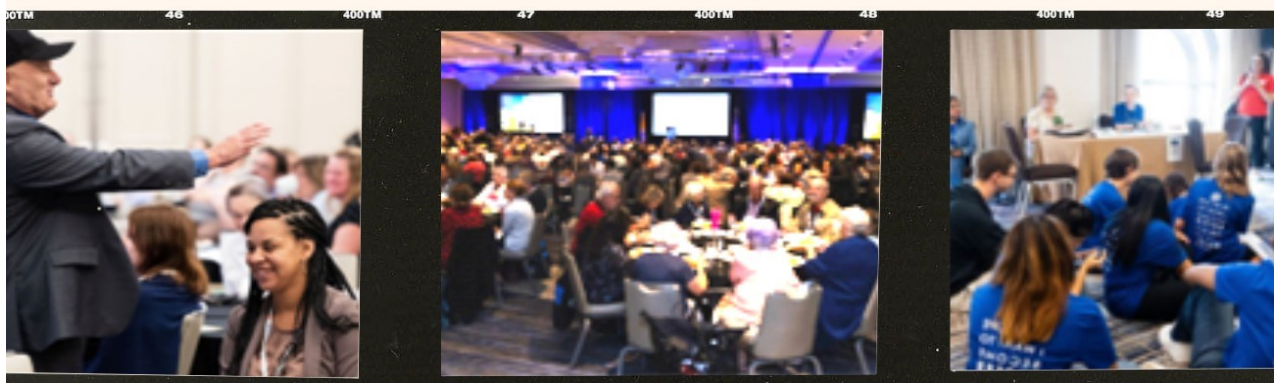
Very Impressive! As a first-time attendee I was very impressed! The spiritual aspect was so good for my soul, each presenter incorporated Christ into their presentation. There were numerous workshops available, and the topics were so interesting it was hard to choose which one to attend! Gae Carpenter

I have attended National Assemblies for nine years and am always reenergized afterwards. It always emphasizes our spirituality and fellowship so we can better be of service to others. Mary Ann Hunter

Although the Assembly was a little exhausting as the days were packed fill of workshops and events, the information and spirituality were worth it. I appreciated the information from the presenters but the most valuable part of the event was when we had time to discuss and share with Vincentians from other Councils. Sharon Sammartino

While the workshops and keynote speakers at the National Assembly were wonderful, the most impactful part of the event was being able to share and celebrate our common mission and faith. The zeal of being a Vincentian filled every space and encounter. The love and commitment to helping others was a powerful sign of God's presence in the world. Everyone left looking forward to coming to Phoenix next year. Shirley Smalley

I found the National Assembly spiritually uplifting. It also allowed me to meet Vincentians from across the country and to share ideas and best practice. Stacy Cotroneo





## Gonzalo Honored

Gonzalo Ortiz, President of St. Williams Conference recently received an award honoring his service to the community.

*Below is part of the speech made by Vice Mayor, Mike Pineda who presented Gonzo with the award:*

Gonzo is someone that understands the affects that food insecurity can have on the lives of our kids and their families. Food insecurity happens when a child or family do not get the necessary meals needed on a regular or consistent basis. Just image a child arriving at school with hunger on his or her mind. That child is not thinking about school...there're thinking about where their next meal will come from. We know children grow to be healthy and perform better in school when they receive the meals and nutrients they require on a daily basis.

Gonzo has been addressing the issue of food insecurity for more than 25 years, through St. Vincent de Paul, at St. Williams in Cashion. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus.



***Congratulations***

***Gonzo***

## *You and the Horse You Rode In On*

Our Lady of the Desert - St. Vincent de Paul in Dolan Springs is located in a poor rural community. We have seen neighbors come for food using various modes of transportation to pick up their food, bikes, scooters, wheelbarrows etc, but at our food distribution on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> was the first time ever that they came on horseback! Yes, we were able to set the food on the horses like saddlebags, and everyone was happy. The volunteers were absolutely thrilled at the sight.

*Charlotte Kiffer, OLOD Conference President*

### *Our Lady of the Desert Dolan Springs*





## **District and Conference President Training**

**When:** Saturday, December 2, 2023

**Where:** VSS Board Room  
420 W. Watkins R

**Who:** 9:00 am -12:00 pm – Returning Presidents  
(District & Conference)

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm – New Presidents  
(District and Conference)

To register please contact:  
Mary Ann Hunter  
[maryannhunter44@gmail.com](mailto:maryannhunter44@gmail.com)  
928-699-9232

What is needed: your name, District # or  
Conference Name, your email, and if you want  
morning or afternoon session.

## **OFE CLASSES – 2023**

**ALL CLASSES RUN 9AM – 3PM**



**Oct. 14 OFE 1 & 2; Oct. 21 OFE 3 & 4**  
***Church of the Resurrection -3201 S Evergreen Rd., Tempe***

**Jan. 20, 2024 OFE 1 & 2; Jan. 27 OFE 3 & 4**  
***St. Gabriel – 32648 N Cave Creek Rd., Cave Creek***

**Feb. 10, 2024 OFE 1 & 2; Feb. 24, 2024 OFE 3 & 4**  
***Vincentian Support Services – 420 W Watkins Rd., Phoenix***

**Apr. 27, 2024 OFE 1 & 4; Apr. 28, 2024 OFE 3 & 4**  
***St. Germaine – 7997 E Dana Dr., Prescott Valley***

**To register contact: Mary Ann Hunter**  
**928-699-9232 (Text or Call)**  
**[maryannhunter44@gmail.com](mailto:maryannhunter44@gmail.com)**

**What is needed to register?**

***Your name; email, phone number, address, and your conference name***

## ***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**

Judy Allard  
Barbara Velleman

### **BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Lee Matthews  
Eddie and Terry Wilson  
Pat Galea

### **HOLY CROSS**

Mary Powell  
Andy Torres  
Dee Shack  
Mary Jo Kent  
Sharon Culley

### **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Michael McCann  
Frank Simmons  
Rosie Bell  
Linda Lee Chambon-Gay  
Sue Dori  
Scott Marthaler  
James Reed  
Tom and Barbara Reed  
Peg Shandera  
Lu Stitt

### **MOST HOLY TRINITY**

Jackie Jennings

### **OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

Lynn Schmidt  
Joe DiGiovanni

### **OUR LADY OF THE DESERT**

Rita Hughes  
Tony Mueller  
Valerie Panagopoulos  
Peggy Merrill  
Duke Merrill  
Mary Austin  
Art Austin

### **PRINCE OF PEACE**

Greg Roark

### **QUEEN OF PEACE**

Susan Petrie  
Mary Kay Dunlevy  
Martina Bonilla

### **SACRED HEART PARKER**

Edith Smith  
Dora Norris Family  
Fr. John Ikponko  
Vernon Norris Family  
Peggy Knapp  
Ana Lopez  
Tomasia Torres  
Terry Watts  
Marmelejo Family

### **ST. ANTHONY**

Kathy McDonald  
Cecilia Laubenthal  
Marnee Ballay  
Cheri Massie  
Ken & Lorraine Hesketh

### **ST. BRIDGET**

Cheryl Crame  
Joe Fellhauer  
Terri Lyn Gardner

### **ST. DANIEL THE PROPHET**

Phil Murphy  
Don Fraiser

### **ST. GABRIEL**

Clare Marion  
Jack McAward  
Dolores Galligan  
Robert Fitzer  
Louise Fullam

### **ST. GREGORY**

Edd Harrington  
Beverly Heart

### **ST. HELEN**

Charlie & Jean Olds

### **ST. JAMES**

Diane Stofko  
Abel Noble

### **ST. JOHN VIANNEY SEDONA**

Pam Klauser  
Kathleen DeWeever  
Ray West

### **ST. JOSEPH MAYER**

Dennis Baile, Sr.

### **ST. MARGARET MARY**

Ray Baca  
Mary Esquibel

### **ST. MARY'S BASILICA**

Robert Nue

### **ST. TIMOTHY**

Margaret Hewett  
Karl Rusnock  
Thea Podrybau

### **ST. LOUIS THE KING**

Esther Escarcega  
Mary Fierros

### **ST. CLARE OF ASSISI**

Joyce Murphy

### **ST. ELIZABETH SETON**

Bob & Pat Purtill

### **ST. GERMAINE**

Don Rien

### **ST. MARGARET MARY-BHC**

Rev. Peter Dobrowski

### **ST. MARY—KINGMAN**

Patty Couch  
Roger and Rita Gaumond  
Diane Schatz

### **ST. MARY'S BASICILA**

The Boozer Family

### **ST. MARY-ST. JUAN DIEGO**

Zoe Rainey  
Angie Welsh  
Winnie Bridgens  
Carl Cunningham  
Allen Vaughan  
Rich Gray  
Irene Beard

### **ST. MARY MAGDALENE**

Nancy Weise

### **ST. JEROME**

Nancy Barnes  
Yvonne Hurley

### **ST. MATTHEW**

Alicia Garibaldi  
Carmen Alfonzo

### **ST. JOACHIM & ST. ANNE**

Gene Harmeling  
Lucia Mastroianni  
Joan Katchur  
Corlaine Mortenson  
Philomena Kamara

### **ST. JOAN OF ARC**

Paul Parent

### **ST. FRANCES CABRINI**

Donna McDonald

### **ST. THERESA**

George Dorley  
Twila Stern  
Tim Coughlin  
Colin Campbell

### **SVdP EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Emily Trust  
Paul and Claudia Critchfield  
Jan Hoeschler  
Reve Holleran  
Jerry Bailly  
Bruce Talone

### **Sandy Bruner**

Paula Garlick  
Dennis Gougion  
Abigail Etheridge  
Joan Goldfarb  
Megan Ford  
Cannon Jon Lewis  
Reve Holleran  
John Lees  
Bob Ryan  
Kendra Krause  
Tommy Pitre  
Mary Jane Rynd  
Kevin Conry  
Dale Lehe  
Sheila Alvarez  
Mr. and Mrs. John Bracken  
Tegan Searing  
Carla Francesca Martin  
Diane Hoeschler  
Mike Weigel  
Mark Hamblin  
Baby Hailey  
The Porscha Family  
Mary Teller  
Brock Weatherup  
Mary Lou Goldstein  
Glenda Dubes  
Judy Edwards  
Edmund Voyer  
Bessie McNair  
Fr. Tom Enneking  
Melvin Goldstein  
Bill Mulholland  
Margaret Pawlak  
Rob Sobczak  
Dominic Svorinic  
Jon Ehlinger  
Louise Kasmikha  
Chris Lowrey  
Paul Zabilski  
Nathan Turner  
Steve & Lucy Howell  
Marie Gallego  
Greg Ryan  
Lisa Eicher  
Jagger Michael Diem  
Nancy Phalen  
Tom Van Boven  
Jim Novotny  
Joyce Zabilski  
Jayden Southern  
Robert Jacobs  
John Jakubczyk  
Peter McQuaid  
Kathleen Nageotte  
Ed Koval  
Nicole Hazen  
Mayuka and Family  
David Park  
Mary Jo Matthews  
Lloyd Bach

# REQUIESCAT IN PACE



**Frank Barrios**

*Former SVdP Board President*

**Ed Curtis**

*OLPH Scottsdale*

**Lydia Mendoza Rodriguez**

*Sacred Heart*

***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 VINCENTIAN ANNUITY

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

## SAMPLE ANNUITY RATES

	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%



**THE SOCIETY OF  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

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](https://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](mailto:plannedgiving@svdpaz.org).

P.O. Box 13600 Phoenix, AZ 85002 | [stvincentdepaul.net](https://stvincentdepaul.net)





St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Vincentian Support Services  
P.O. Box 13600  
Phoenix AZ 85003

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### ***Remembering our Dead***

*Please submit the names of all full, associate and retired Vincentians from your Conference who have passed away this year. Send the names of those members who have passed away during 2023 to Sandy Edwards at [sedwards@svdpaz.org](mailto:sedwards@svdpaz.org) or Mary Ann Hunter at [maryannhunter44@gmail.com](mailto:maryannhunter44@gmail.com).*

***General Membership Meeting  
December 16, 2023  
420 W. Watkins Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85003***