



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

The Joy of Setting the World on Fire!

So, our vocation is to go, not just to one parish, not just to one diocese, but all over the world; and do what? To set people's hearts on fire, to do what the Son of God did. He came to set the world on fire in order to inflame it with His love.

-St. Vincent de Paul

When Blessed Frederick Ozanam, Emmanuel Bailey, and the other founding members of the Society gathered on Frederick's 21st birthday to form the first Conference of Charity, they most certainly did not foresee that their actions would give birth to a worldwide lay charitable organization. Most people outside of the society are aware of the fact that our essential elements focus on spirituality and fellowship before service to the poor. Spirituality and fellowship are the elements that fan the spark of God's love in our hearts, provide us with the foundation to serve others in the spirit of Christian love, and allow us to burn with a fire that can surely inflame the world.

The Society spread quickly because the members started conferences and recruited members everywhere they went. The challenge that has been passed on to us, is for us to continue their legacy by spreading the flame of God's love everywhere we go. In order to that, we must be on fire ourselves. Gone are the days when Vincentians met in a back room or pantry and no one knew who they were. Today, Vincentians need to be visible not in a boastful way but in humility and love. Our passion and love for the Lord and service to His people should burn in a way that ignites the same flame in the hearts of others.

Recruitment of new members should not be based solely on an "Invitation to Serve" from the pulpit. Our lives are the greatest visible sign of God's invitation to serve. Repeated studies indicate that most individuals join the Society because someone close to them or a person they respect asked them to join. Potential members are not moved by how and what we do but rather by why we do it. The most successful corporate advertising campaigns sell why they are doing what they do, not so much how and what they do.

My first fifteen years as a Vincentian, were focused primarily on serving the poor but, over time, my focus has changed and my vision has broadened. I still love visiting the poor but I also find great joy in recruiting new members, helping struggling conferences get back on their feet, starting new conferences, mentoring future leaders, and reaching out to establish collaborative relationships with other charities and faith communities.

While our conferences have boundaries, our Vincentian vocation does not. The only way for the Society to continue to grow is for us to grow and to spread God's love outside of the walls of our pantries and our home visits. Our love and passion is the flame that can help set the world on fire. Each of us can help recruit new members, donors, partners, future leaders, and even new conferences if we keep the fire burning brightly in our own hearts and lives.

The past nine months have been a struggle for so many people including Vincentians. COVID has not only taken away lives and jobs but it has stolen hope from the hearts of millions of people. In the face of this pandemic and political unrest, we must remember that no matter how strong it is, darkness can never overtake light. Darkness can only prevail if we allow the source of light to be extinguished. There is no greater light than that which radiates from flame of God's love that can burn within our hearts. Our vocational call is to keep that flame burning. As Vincentians, we can bring hope and light to everyone we encounter. May God's love burn within our hearts and inflame each of us so that we can help spread light and be active participants in God's plan to set the world on fire.

By Shirley Smalley

Adopt A Family

A Huge Success



Fate whispers to the warriors, "You cannot withstand the storm."

I confess that we veteran volunteers launched the 2020 Adopt a Family Program with some apprehension. Could we modify the program to match sponsor to family interaction while allowing for safe social distance? Would we have enough sponsors to support the increased number of families expected to seek help during this pandemic year?

In addition to those suffering from coronavirus and related illnesses, many of those who typically adopted families are struggling. Restaurant, travel, hospitality, small business and other industry workers found themselves furloughed or unemployed this season. Would we have to turn families away? Would we be forced to say "**sorry, we have no sponsors**" to the very people who for years have divided up family wish lists, pooled resources, held gift wrapping parties and led decorated car parades to deliver gifts to the families they were adopting?

Happily – the answer was a resounding **NO!**

The warriors whisper back, "We ARE the storm." (author unknown)

Similar to angels swooping in from all sides, **1340 sponsors** delivered Christmas to **1340 families** in the Diocese of Phoenix. Amazingly (and unexpectedly) this represents an increase from 900 families in 2018 and 2019. A special anonymous benefactor even donated 100 bikes to be given to young children.

Safety protocols were put in place every step of the way from initial interviews to socially distant gift deliveries. Preferred grocer gift cards replaced the uncooked Christmas meal makings, on-line shopping replaced in-store shopping, and curbside deliveries of big trash bags filled with wrapped gifts replaced sponsor visits to the family home. What did **not** need replacing, however, was the joy that sponsors felt as they shared talent and treasure with those who needed a special boost this year.

With a humble and grateful heart, **we thank each and every warrior** who touched this program in any way. **You did it!** Peace and blessings to all.

Submitted by Dottie Sullivan



Calling all Ambassadors!

by Bill Klink

We think of Ambassadors as diplomats serving overseas. That's not always the case. Vincentian Ambassadors serve right here in Arizona. Our version would be a Vincentian who has a real sense of what our Vincentian Endowment is all about and is willing to be on the lookout for others who may share that same vision.

Sometimes, when we are speaking with a fellow Vincentian or parishioner, he or she remarks: "I wish there was something I could do that would be a way to continue what I've been doing all these years after I'm not here." What that person is really saying is, "I'd like to leave a legacy".

As an "ambassador" you could direct those folks back to the Endowment (we have plenty of "Vincentian Endowment---Helping our Families, Now and Always" brochures you could help distribute. See the attached sample).

That legacy could take many forms---a monthly or annual gift, a special designation in a will or trust, or even designating a small portion from the sale of one's home, after that person goes to his/her Heavenly Reward. for the benefit of the Endowment **forever**. Every legacy gift is personal and special.

Many of you donate regularly, and for that we extend a heartfelt "thank you!" What if each donor invited one other person to help our Vincentian Endowment? It is the best way to assure that what we do today in 81 conferences will be made possible in *perpetuity*.

What an impact that would have. Not sure how all this would work? Just call me (602.919.0261) or email me (bklink@svdpaz.org).

I promise you won't be asked to serve in some far-off country or even another state.....just a simple request to lend a helping hand to assure every conference has the additional resources to serve the working poor **forever**.

General Membership Meeting

The next GM will be on Saturday, March 20, 2021
We will have more information as the next newsletter.
Hopefully we will be able to meet in person.



A PLAN TO ENSURE OUR FUTURE

"In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

They were all weeping loudly as they threw their arms around Paul and kissed him, for they were deeply distressed that he had said that they would never see his face again. Then they escorted him to the ship." Acts 20: 3-5

This is the story of Paul's final visit with his dear friends at the Church in Ephesus as he made final preparations to board his ship to Rome and his martyrdom there.

We are all on our own journey in life and the time will come for each of us to make that final boarding on the ship of life. How will our lives make a difference?

WHAT IS THE VINCENTIAN ENDOWMENT?

The Vincentian Endowment at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) in Phoenix, Arizona, is an opportunity for some of your many blessings to be put aside to help our neighbors in need for many, many years to come.

It is a separate fund which creates an annual distribution to all of our Conferences and one that will grow with your help.

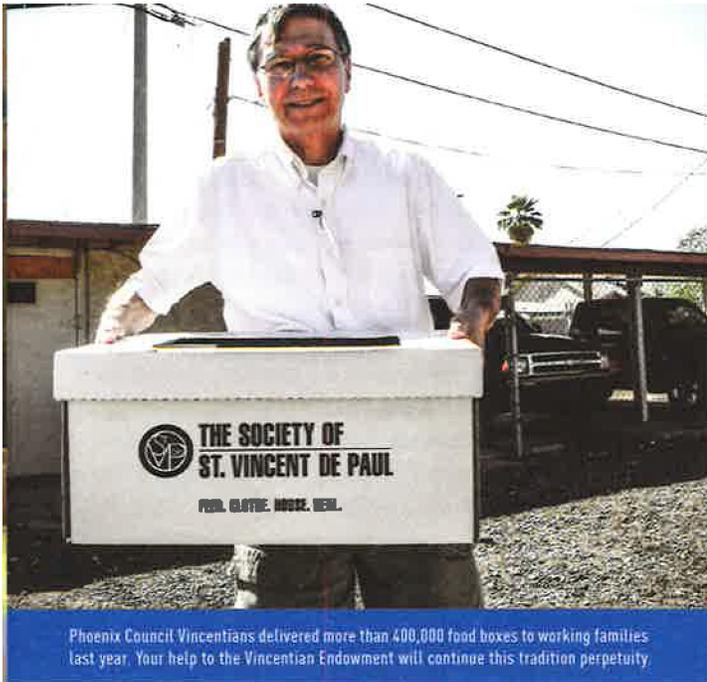
VINCENTIAN ENDOWMENT

Helping Our Families, Now and Always



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.



Thanks to the endowment, these distributions will continue in perpetuity to support our Vincentians and their work to meet real economic crises for working families and individuals in Arizona.

A GIFT THAT JOINS US IN SOMETHING BIGGER THAN OURSELVES

The goal of the Vincentian Endowment is to build its resources to \$5 million in the initial phase. Interest and earnings beyond contributions from the Vincentian Endowment will be exclusively used for services provided by the work of our Conference members, as they help families in a personal and caring manner.

The endowment's work is not only about the future but also about here and now. Several annual distributions have already been made to our Conferences - many of which arrived to help families "just in time!" A donation to our Vincentian Endowment will help thousands of Arizona families today and long into the future. Your decision to step forward and make this charitable dream a reality is more than just a donation to another charity. A gift to the Vincentian Endowment is a legacy that connects you to something bigger. Funds for the work of our Conference "Chapters" in the Valley and other counties in Arizona come from the generosity of thousands of private individuals, determined to make a difference. The work of our Conferences has always relied on these generous, private donors. You can make a decision today to continue the tradition and to build the foundation for our help to families right here in Arizona for decades to come.

A PLAN TO ENSURE OUR FUTURE

In the Gospel of Matthew, among the last words of Jesus to his disciples about preparations for his departure were:

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."

Then the righteous will answer him and say, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?"

And the King will say to them in reply, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25: 31-46

We invite you to carry on the message of this powerful Gospel through the Vincentian Endowment. Your gift will provide a way to invest in the future of Arizona and will help our neighbors — the least of these — for many years to come.



Phoenix Council Vincentians each year contributed more than \$3 million with one-time rent and utilities help to keep working families in their homes. Your help to the Vincentian Endowment can continue this critical work.

MANY WAYS TO SAY "YES"

There are many ways for you to make a lasting and tangible difference through the Vincentian Endowment.

Monthly Gift

This is a popular method of giving moderately on a monthly basis. More than 200 individuals are part of this monthly program that proudly states, "I Pay (Ten, Twenty or Thirty Dollars a Month!)." These donors are the generous heart of our Vincentian Endowment.

Estate Gift

Planned giving through your estate to include the Vincentian Endowment is easy and often quite helpful to family estate plans. Your gift will serve thousands of families for decades to come and will be matched by the hard work of thousands of our Vincentian volunteers.

IRA or Sale of Assets

Your financial planner can provide background on this method of giving. Many donors have found that giving through their IRA or sale of assets offers significant long term planning benefits for larger gifts. What gift could be more meaningful than knowing your years of hard work will be rewarded by good works perpetually done to help those in need?

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your consideration of a gift to the Vincentian Endowment. For more information, please contact Bill Klink from Vincentian Support Services. Bill has served as a Vincentian volunteer for more than 30 years.

Phone: (602) 919-0261 / **Email:** bklink@svdpaz.org

ABOUT THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

History and Programs

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is dedicated to feed, clothe, house and heal individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn for help. We have been serving our community throughout central and northern Arizona since 1946.

Programs include: services for the homeless; medical and dental care for the working poor; charity dining rooms that serve thousands each day; food boxes for hungry families; rent and utility payment help; thrift stores throughout the region; a bridge housing shelter and general assistance for individuals in need.

Conference Chapters

At the heart of this organization is the work of more than 80 neighborhood-and-parish-based "Conferences of Charity," made up of nearly 3,500 Vincentians (volunteers) who have chosen to pursue service to others as a path to personal spiritual growth.

Our conferences across Arizona help without regard to any qualifier, except need. That means any family who needs help is eligible - but only if enough financial resources are there to help. That's where your support of our Vincentian Endowment can serve families for years to come.

YOUR HELP MATTERS

At St. Vincent de Paul, we take seriously, and as a matter of character, our responsibility to be good stewards of the donor funds entrusted to us.

TAX ID: 86-0096789 / Arizona QCO Code: 20540

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

Who: Anyone who has not taken OFE (Ozanam Formation Experience)

What : 90 minute zoom presentation with an overview of the Society

When: Thursday, Jan. 21 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Or

Saturday, Jan. 30 from 10:30 am to noon

How: Please send name and email of those who have joined you during the pandemic or who have been around for some time and have not taken OFE Send to tucker_carmelita@yahoo.com. That's an underscore between tucker and carmelita (_). An invitation and link will be sent to those individuals. This does not replace OFE and our wish is to be offering in-person classes by summer or next Fall.

Sponsored by: Phoenix Diocesan Council Spirituality Committee

If you have any further questions please contact
maryannhunter44@gmail.com or call 928-699-9232.

The Diocesan Spirituality Committee will be presenting an "Introduction to the Society" through zoom on Thursday, Jan. 21 from 6:30pm-8:00pm and on Saturday, January 30 from 10:30am-noon. This DOES NOT replace taking Ozanam Formation Experience (OFE). But if you have new members or members who have never had OFE this is a chance to get familiar with the Society. Please send your referral names with their email address to Carmelita Tucker. Her email is tucker_carmelita@yahoo.com. She will then send an invite. Participants may then choose which presentation to attend. Thank you for your assistance in sharing the good news of our Society!

Mary Ann Hunter
Spirituality Chairperson

928-699-9232
Maryannhunter44@gmail.com

Did you know...

If you would like to honor your Priest with a special gift, we have Priest's Crosses for sale at VSS.



You can honor your special volunteers with the Jubilarian Crucifix. If you need more information please contact Michelle Emocling at: memocling@svdpaz.org or via phone at 602.261.6822

Volunteers Needed

Our Thrift Stores are always in need of Volunteers. If you are interested, please contact the store in your area.

We also opened a new store at Tatum and Greenway. Its called the Hope Chest, 4857 E. Greenway Road, Scottsdale.



Blessed Frederic Ozanam

The question which is agitating the world today is a social one. It is a struggle between those who have nothing and those who have too much. It is a violent clash of opulence and poverty which is shaking the ground under our feet. Our duty as Christians is to throw ourselves between these two camps in order to accomplish by love, what justice alone cannot do.

Frederic Ozanam

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 Martearler
Al and Regina Gilson
Pam Willis
Diane McCann

MOST HOLY TRINITY

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

OUR LADY OF LOURDS

Carol Voit

QUEEN OF PEACE

Susan Petrie
Mary Kay Dunlevy
Martina Bonilla

SACRED HEART—PARKER

Karen Rath
Mary Gonzales
Sandra Woulms
Dora
Gloria Lopez

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

Dennis Orr

ST. BRIDGET

Cheryl Crame
Sandra Jarr

ST. JAMES

Diane Stofko
Abel Noble

ST. JOHN VIANNEY SEDONA

Betty Winick

SACRED HEART—PRESCOTT

Richard Howell
Herb Bourgault

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

John Winters

ST. TIMOTHY

Karen Wilson

ST. LOUIS THE KING

Ed & Esther Escarcega
Raul & Elvia Lujan
Mario & Mary Fierros

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

Joyce Murphy

ST. GERMAINE

Pat Caldwell
Joe Zambito
Sue Christian
Freda Jeffries
Fred Widmer
Kathy Ferguson
Sandy Smith

ST. MARGARET MARY-BHC

Rev. Peter Dobrowski

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES

Sammy Valencia

ST. MARY—KINGMAN

Patty Couch
Roger and Rita Gaumont
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
Harry Steckler
Mary Taylor
Lucia Mastroianni
Terry DeYoung
Al and Alice LaRocque

ST. JOAN OF ARC

Paul Parent

ST. STEVEN'S

Pat Krause

ST. FRANCES CABRINI

Andre Carrillo
Rosemary McClair

SVDP EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Jagger Michael Diem
Nancy Phalen
Tom Van Boven
Jim Novotny
Joyce Zabalski
Evan Arriola
Ray Daoust
Barb Daoust
Cathie Nelson
Jayden Southern
Jake Doyle
Dr. David Goldfarb
Alice Ehmann
John Jakubczyk
Peter McQuaid
Kathleen Nageotte
Sharon Ehmann
Paul Joseph DeMuro
Gabrielle Chung
Ed Koval

REQUIESCAT IN PACE



Ron Woods
Our Lady of the Lake

Frank Bonk
St. Paul

John Gimon
St. Thomas Aquinas

***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.***



Year End 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
- Rain panchos
- Winter jackets

House.

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

Heal.

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



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

FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.



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%

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 Phoenix, AZ 85002 | stvincentdepaul.net



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

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***Words of Inspiration
From Our Patron
St. Vincent de Paul***



The means of obtaining this indifference from God is constant mortification; both interior and exterior. I will give you no other means. In the first place, let us reflect in order to discover whether we have an inclination to one thing rather than to another, and what are the objects which attract us most, in order to be on guard against them, to labor incessantly at separating ourselves from them, to root out from our heart all these inclinations, to disengage ourselves from all creatures, and to mortify our passions and senses at all times and in all places.

“On indifference,” May 16, 1659