

# VETERA MONIMENTA

A. P. Chanam

October 2022

Vincentian **Wisdom**  
Quotes • Charism



## Event

FY 2021-22 Ends  
All Conferences

## Training

Ozanam Orientation  
St. Isidore Catholic Church, Danville  
Saturday 10/1, 9:00 AM – 3:45 PM

## Training

Officer Training, Zoom  
Saturday 10/8, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

## Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday 10/18, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

## Event

Gianni's Fundraiser (see attached flyer)  
Monday 10/24, 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM

## Event

Spiritual Advisor's Training  
St. Callistus, El Sobrante  
Saturday 11/5, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

## Event

Thanksgiving Meal  
Family Resource Center  
Thursday 11/24, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

## Event

One Warm Coat Kick-Off  
County Wide  
Friday 11/25, All Day

## Bob Liles' Corner

### HOW DOES YOUR CONFERENCE AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES

One action that can cause dissension in a Conference is when it is not clear on who controls the purse strings and spending occurs that some don't agree with. It is best that every conference has clear written guidelines that were approved by the conference on who can spend money, how much and on what.

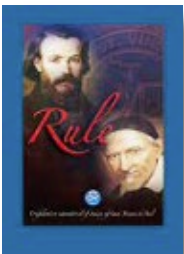
The District Council has very detailed guidelines for its spending. There are many ways to do it and there are good arguments for each method. The important thing is that everyone agrees on the guidelines and that they are followed. Even if everything is running smooth now, don't assume that will be the case when there is new leadership.

### Some possibilities are:

- 1) The president authorizes everything
- 2) The conference approves everything by consensus
- 3) The president and possibly others have a spending limit for certain items. If it is above that limit the conference needs to approve it.

## **Bob Liles' Corner - Expenditures Cont.**

- a) One person may have the authority to buy food to replenish the food pantry.
- b) The treasurer may have the authority to pay the solidarity dues requested by SVDP National through the District Council and other regular bills.
- c) The secretary may have the authority to buy thank you cards for donors.
- 4) The officers decide.
- 5) The president has a fund that he can use for whatever the president wants. This may be needed when an emergency occurs, and it cannot wait for a conference meeting. If at the next meeting the conference does not approve the expenditure, then the president may have no more money left in his fund to spend. If the conference approves the expenditure, then the fund is replenished.
- 6) Vincentians that go on a home visit can authorize funds to help the family if it is below a certain amount. Above that amount, they need a higher level of authorization.
- 7) If a Vincentian that does a home visit requests money from Seasons of Sharing, does that require approval, since it is not the council's funds? What if they are requesting funds from the Hope Conference?



### **Rule 2.6 A vocation for every moment of our lives**

The Vincentian vocation affects all aspects of members' daily lives, making them more sensitive and caring in their family, work, and leisure activities. Vincentians are available for work in the Conferences only after fulfilling their family and professional duties.

## **Our Vincentian Home Visit**

by The Contra Costa County  
Spirituality and Formation Committee

**Reprint from June 1, 2022 – Presentation at Christ the King (Part III)**

### **Home Visits are at the core of the Vincentian Ministry**



Not only did Vincent urge all the members of his Family – lay women and men, priests, brothers, and sisters – to make home visits; but he also wrote detailed instructions about how to make the visits well.

On the bottom line, the members of Vincent's Family were to regard those whom they visited as their "Lords and Masters". Vincent urged his followers to reverence those visited as they revered Christ.

## **Our Vincentian Home Visit Cont.**

**The following are his detailed instructions:**

“Then, after preparing their dinner, they will take them, at nine o’clock, some soup and meat in a pot, some bread in a white cloth, and some wine in a bottle. They will do the same for supper around four o’clock in the afternoon. When they enter the patient’s room, they will greet him or her in a friendly way; then, drawing near to the bed with a cheerful expression, they will encourage him to eat, raising the head of the bed, arranging the cover, setting up the little tray, the white tablecloth, plate, and spoon, rinsing out the glass, pouring some soup on the bread, putting the meat on a small plate, saying grace with him and feeding him the soup. They will cut up the meat and help him to eat it while saying some little-hearted, consoling words to cheer him up. They will also pour him something to drink, inviting him once again to eat. Lastly, when he has finished eating and the dishes have been washed, the tablecloth folded, and the tray removed, they will say grace with the patient, and leave him right away to go serve someone else”.

### ***What do you notice about these instructions?***

- Vincent went on many visits
- Vincent was very insistent about how to perform visits
- He believed that “you will see the face of Christ in those you serve”
- Prayer was very important
- Be kind and take your time during your visit
- He believed in planning before the visit
- What else can we say about Vincent’s home visits?

### ***What can we learn that can be applied today?***

- ❖ Remember spirituality begins and lives in the home visit
- ❖ When you receive a call for help, take time to review the request
- ❖ Pray with your partner and then with your Neighbor in need
- ❖ See Christ in the poor and the poor in Christ
- ❖ Serve the poor cheerfully, listening to them and respecting their wishes
- ❖ What else can we apply to today’s visits?

Based on the example set by Vincent is it any wonder that Frederic followed his love for the home visit?



**SVDP Contra Costa  
Makes a Splash at the  
2022 National Assembly**



**National Assembly Videos Now Available**

Thanks to the National IT team, National Assembly videos are now available! <https://vimeo.com/showcase/9774133>

From August 30 – September 3<sup>rd</sup> the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul 2022 National “Come to The Water” Assembly** took place in Baltimore, MD. Through the generosity of their Conferences Leadership, the District Council, and individual Vincentian Donors, 14 Vincentians from Contra Costa County were able to attend the Assembly. Over the next months, we will publish excerpts of their experiences for your review.

**National Assembly 2022 Experience**

Each month we will share the experience of different Conference or Vincentian Attendee

*Attending the National Assembly of St. Vincent de Paul was an incredible experience for us, two Vincentians from St. Callistus Conference in El Sobrante, Carol Brazil, and Audrey Nieman. More than the seminars on every aspect of our mission, we valued the chance to interact with others who shared our goals, concerns, and values. We met people from all over the country and were able to share our experiences and learn from each other.*



**(Left) Monica Wnuk, Vincentian from St. Joan, follows Bob Liles, The Most Holy Rosary and District Council president, through the Airport on the way home to see her best friend & husband. Frank Wnuk.**

*Still in high spirits from the assembly, we spent our final day on the pilgrimage to the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine. Our first stop was the Basilica where there is an altar where St Elizabeth is interred. The artwork in the Basilica was overwhelmingly beautiful with paintings and mosaics, and marble and stained glass everywhere and such an awe-inspiring place to pray! Then we saw the house where St. Elizabeth lived and where she started her school. Also, up the path away was the house where she lived until her death with its adjoining schoolroom and chapel. Inspired and tired, we were ready to depart.*

*Some of our greatest inspirations came from the musical concert by Dan Schutte and also from the masses celebrated in the Grand Ballroom which had been turned into a beautiful church. The most memorable homily was given by the Most Reverend William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore. This was the day after the midnight fire alarm when speaker systems in our rooms directed us to evacuate the building by the stairs. (We were on the 29<sup>th</sup> floor!) The archbishop said fire alarms should become part of the scheduled program since this was the second time at a national Assembly. He said that at the final coming of Christ, we would be directed to evacuate the building and take the stairs upward!*



**Baltimore is known for its seafood. National Assemblies are a place where many Vincentians like Ron Costanzo & Monica Wnuk can take the time to get to know each other and break bread (or in this case blue crab) together!**

*Meeting with 800 other Vincentians opened us to the bigger picture showing how our society fulfills our mission all over this country and worldwide. We heard from the National Council President, Ralph Middlecamp, and the International President General, Renato Lima de Oliveira who lives in Brazil and was on his way to the International Headquarters in Paris. Carol had her picture taken with Renato who brought out his large Brazilian flag when he heard Carol's last name was Brazil!*



**Stephen Krank, Vincentian Support for Contra Costa County got the chance to meet and talk with the International President General Renato Lima de Oliveira. "He is absolutely one of the most humble and welcoming people I have ever met," said Stephen.**

## Our Conferences in Action



# St Mary St. Vincent de Paul *Breaking News!*

We were the beneficiaries of Michael Risse's Eagle Scout project! He and his troop members collected cleaning & personal hygiene supplies for distribution to our neighbors in need at the pantry. They sorted the items and delivered them to the pantry, ready to go. Our clients have been very grateful!



The Contra Costa District Council of SVdP had backpacks to donate. The pantry surveyed clients for who had children that could use one. One of our volunteer families donated school supplies to go into the backpacks and organized it, so it was all ready for Thursday's distribution. Fabulous teamwork!

Mavis Sonnier, our conference Vice President applied for a grant from the Food Bank and the pantry was able to purchase 2 brand new refrigerator / freezers. The pantry is looking better than ever!



For more information, email: [stmary.stvdp@gmail.com](mailto:stmary.stvdp@gmail.com) Call: 925-937-2817



**You are Invited to join the  
Contra Costa County  
SVDP District Council  
for the  
2022-23 Conference Officer  
Training**

Oct 8, 2022, 09:30 – 11:30 AM

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89580008513?pwd=ZjFVYk5FdHI1bU1ERU0rTkIyeVlzQT09>

Meeting ID: 895 8000 8513

Passcode: 389750

**ALL ABOUT THE HOPE CONFERENCE (as of September 15, 2022)**

**By Dominick Scibilia**

Great news! Seasons of Sharing is extending its modified eligibility requirements that were set to expire on March 31, 2022, to now expire on December 31, 2022. This also allows for those who received COVID-related assistance prior to September 1, 2021, to receive assistance a second time through December 31, 2022.

As a reminder, here are the modifications:

- If an applicant's need is related to COVID-19 and they had already received COVID-related assistance prior to September 1, 2021, they are eligible to receive Season of Sharing Fund assistance a second time through December 31, 2022.
- If applicants have received assistance once in the five years before March 2020, they may be eligible to receive assistance again during the period that the Season of Sharing Fund's COVID-19 criteria are in effect.
- Rent/mortgage does not have to be delinquent -- eligible applicants who have been affected directly or indirectly by COVID-19 can apply for Season of Sharing Fund assistance with rent/mortgage for the months going forward.
- Requirement for sustainability going forward is waived for those who lost their source of income due to COVID-19 -- eligible applicants who lost their job, lost work, or lost their source of income can be eligible for Season of Sharing Fund assistance.

Assistance of up to \$5,000 may be provided to applicants regardless of the number of months of rent/mortgage the assistance will provide. Those applying for COVID-related assistance a second time, are eligible for another \$5,000 in assistance. W9 is needed from all the landlords

# **"COVID Money for our neighbors seems to be going away" What do we do now, and how do we do it?**

## **1) Do the Home Visit**

- 2) Assess their Needs
- 3) Assess their Resources
- 4) What is their (our Neighbors) plan or help them develop one
- 5) Share the Case with your Conference
- 6) What Conference Resources are available
  - a) What local Resources are available
    - i) Parish
    - ii) Twinning
    - iii) Other Ministries
  - b) What County Resources are open for Housing  
(This is the order in which you should apply for assistance)
    - i) Shelter Inc.
    - ii) Season of Sharing
    - iii) Catholic Charities

*Lastly, as a resource of last resort, please apply to the Hope Conference.*

## **7) Hope Conference**

- a) Complete the Application
  - b) Release of Information
  - c) W-9
  - d) Landlord Tenant letter
  - e) Documentation
    - i) Proof of Crisis
    - ii) Proof of Income (sustainability)
    - iii) Past Due Notice
    - iv) Signed Lease Agreement
    - v) Section 8 (Inspection report if applicable)
- 8) Vincentians & Conferences need to submit complete, readable applications and support documentation.**
- a) You will receive notice when your complete, readable applications with support documentation have been received.
  - b) Understand the submission dates: The Hope Conference meets every other week to review the cases submitted by Wednesday of the previous week. For September 2022, submission dates: Deadline 10/5/2022, 10/26/2022 Funding Meeting Dates are 9/19/2022, Submission Date Deadline 10/12/2022 Funding Meeting Date 10/26/2022.

*Please understand that submission is not a guarantee of funding. Hope Conference funding takes place only after a review of each case.*





The Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
of Contra Costa County



**SAVE THE DATE!**

# Gianni's

ITALIAN BISTRO



**The RotaCare Pittsburg Free Medical Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul  
Fundraiser at Gianni's Italian Bistro  
Monday, October 24, 2022  
4:30 - 8:30 PM**

**What:** Dine at Gianni's! 10% of proceeds & 100% of tips to benefit the Clinic  
**Where:** Gianni's Italian Bistro, 20165 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon **When:**  
Monday, October 24, 2022, 4:30-8:30 pm

**How:** To make a reservation or Order online for pick-up:  
[www.giannissanramon.com](http://www.giannissanramon.com) or (925) 820-6969

**Why:** Support the Volunteer-staffed Free Clinic that serves the uninsured  
Gianni's supports local non-profit organizations through their  
"Tips for Change" program, which provides 10% of the restaurant's  
proceeds for the evening and all tips to the non-profit

The RotaCare Pittsburg Free Medical Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul is a partnership between St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County and RotaCare Bay Area. Sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Alamo and Pittsburg, and co-sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Antioch, Brentwood, Danville, Danville-Sycamore, Delta-Antioch, Dougherty Valley, San Ramon and San Ramon Valley. Since opening in February 2011, the Free Medical Clinic has provided over 14,500 patient visits to low-income, uninsured patients. All proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the RotaCare Pittsburg Free Medical Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul!