



December 2022

Vincentian **Wisdom**
Quotes • Charism



Training

Officer Training

St. John Vianney, Walnut Creek

Saturday 12/3, Mass 8:30 AM

Workshop 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday 12/13, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

Spirituality and Formation Committee

Tuesday 12/13, Noon – 1:30 PM

Meeting

District Council Meeting

Saturday 12/17, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Training

Spanish Language Ozanam Orientation

St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg

Saturday 1/14/23, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday 1/17/23, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

Spirituality and Formation Committee

Tuesday 1/17/23, Noon – 1:30 PM

Bob Liles Corner - THANK YOU!

As I attend conference meetings and pantries across the county, I am constantly amazed by the love exhibited by the Vincentians for their work.

Every Vincentian seems to have a lot more patience than I do with our neighbors in need that don't fill out the forms properly, don't supply the needed paperwork and sometimes don't do what they promised to do to become sustainable and then fall back into debt.

But then I think about all the times that I fall back into the same old sins, yet God forgives me every time.

So, thank you for living the Vincentian life and working with the poorest among us.

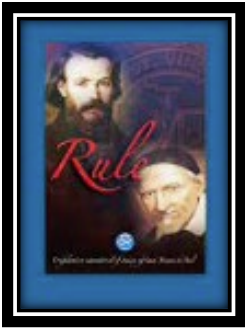
You are the cream of the crop, **Bob**

A Message from Your Executive Director

During Advent, we reflect and prepare for the glorious gift that God gave us – His son Jesus Christ. I reflect on the glorious gifts that you, my fellow Vincentians give to our neighbors in need, each other, and the Society every day.

Because of your vocation to serve, and dedication to finding the neediest of our neighbors and giving them help and hope, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County shows the world that we can make a difference. I am filled with gratitude for all of you and wish you joy, health, and the love of Christ this holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Claudia



THE RULE 3.1 MEMBERSHIP

The Society is open to all those who seek to live their faith loving and committing themselves to their neighbor in need.
(See Article 6.4 of the Rule).

CONFERENCE STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

In the latest Frederic's E-Gazette the National president of SVdP, Ralph Middlecamp, wrote an article on Council and Conferences standards of excellence:

<https://ssvpusa.org/vincentians/11-3-2022-servant-leaders/>

Here is an important thought from his article:

Most of us bristle a bit at the suggestion of compliance, but St. Vincent suggests that we should see following our structure and the guidance contained in our Rule as liberating. It may be why those who came before us used the title of "excellence" as the goal of this process. It is a blessing that the structure of the Society has been laid out for us, and our time and talent don't need to be spent in changing that.

The article has a link to a questionnaire, <https://members.ssvpusa.org/information-for-members/standards-of-excellence/>, that your conference needs to fill out at a meeting and then submit to the District Council. There are only about 35 questions. They are yes and no, but there is also a comment section to support the answer and to put in a plan to achieve compliance.

March is being discussed as a deadline for its completion. July is being viewed as a follow update to review what changes have been made. This may become an annual event and be submitted along with the annual report.

Please use it as a guide to make your conference the best conference that it can be and for giving the District Council information on how to help your conference be the best that it can be.

Hope Funding Availability

The Hope Application, Release, and Forms necessary to submit your completed applications are available on our SVDP Contra Costa website <https://www.svdp-cc.org/>. If you haven't been on, go to the Members Dropdown Menu and select Applications. **Hope will only accept the new application and release form moving forward.**

If you have any questions, please contact The Hope Conference at hopeconference.svdp@gmail.com or Vincentian Support Services at s.krunk@svdp-cc.org.

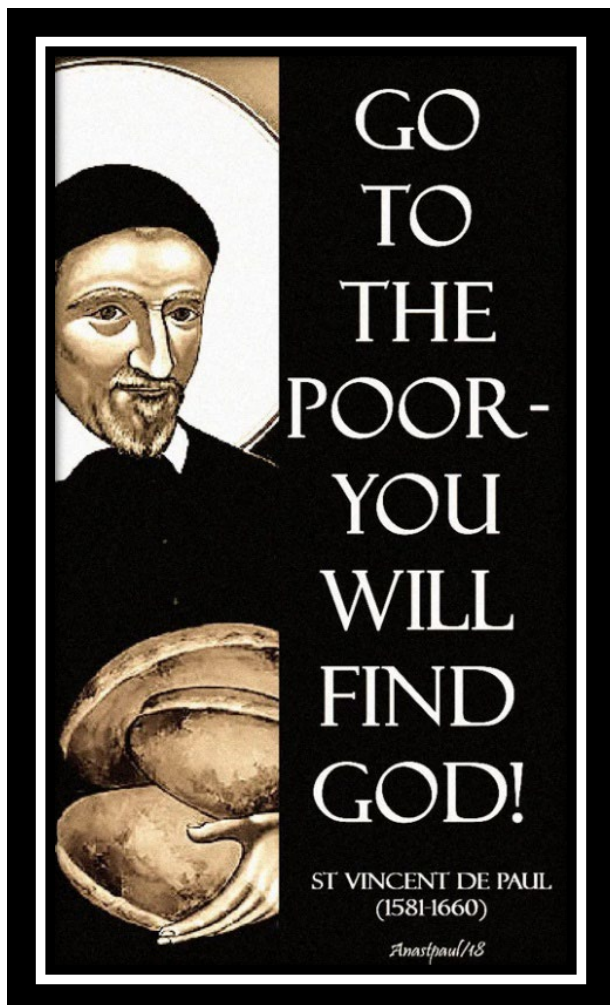
Our Vincentian Home Visit by The Contra Costa County Spirituality and Formation Committee

Home Visits in the SVDP

Ozanam wrote often about home visits:

He stated that the home visit to the poor was “our principal work.” He reported regularly on the number of visits that various conferences had made. He saw the visitor and the visited as intimately united.

In 1836, he wrote, “We rejoice that the number of families that we are going to visit is growing, because it seems to us that they form, with the members who visit them, two parts of the same society. Those who are helped provoke and revive the charity of those who help them: In this way, they assist each other, they live in the same spirit, and all find shelter under the mantle of St. Vincent de Paul.”



Home Visits in the Scriptures

Mark 1:29-31: Jesus visits Peter’s mother-in-law and heals her.

Mathew 2:1-12: Wise men visit Jesus at his birth and bring him gifts. The account repeats three times that they come “to do him homage.”

Mathew 25:36: Jesus declares that visits to the sick and those in prison will be one of the standards by which we are judged.

Mathew 26:6: Jesus visits the home of Simon the Leper, where a woman anoints him in preparation for his death and burial. He states that wherever the gospel is proclaimed, what this woman has done during his visit will be remembered.

Luke 1:39-45: Mary visits Elizabeth to assist her. They stay together for three months.

Luke 10:38-42: Jesus visits the home of Martha and Mary, where he teaches them about the “one thing necessary.”

John 11:1-45: Jesus visits Martha, Mary and Lazarus and raises Lazarus from the dead.

Are there more to report?

Being a Vincentian is Both an Art & Prayer

by Stephen Krank



Lord Jesus, sent to us to fulfill the scriptures,
We proclaim the glory of Your name,
And share the good news with all who listen.

May our faith heal us of all afflictions
As we live and serve in hope
Of perfect union with You.

Amen

Lord we thank you for every day,
Appreciating the brightness of Your creation,
Letting the day's troubles wash past,
Powerless to distract us from our true hope,
Born of faith,
As we seek always to act in charity.

In the name of the Father,
And of the Son,
And of the Holy Spirit,
Amen!



These prayers, and 498 more Vincentian Prayers, are a collection of the daily prayers posted by SVdP USA on their Twitter account. These 500 prayers are available for free and can be printed from your own printer. Let Stephen Krank know you are interested, and he will email them to you. s.krunk@svdp-cc.org (The prayers, not the paintings).

The beautiful paintings pictured here are the works of Jim Noe, long-time Vincentian, past District Council President, and Top Hat award recipient.

Guest Speaker at the December 17th District Council Meeting

By Bob Liles

Kindlen Robles, Director of Funerals and Cemeteries – Diocese of Oakland, is not going to be selling cemetery plots. He wants to talk with us about collaborating to help our neighbors in need. I cannot count the number of times when someone has come to me and said that they spent all of their money to bury a family member and now they cannot pay the rent. It doesn't have to be that way. He wants to share the specifics of their ministry programs that would help educate conferences on the work they do at Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services. All Vincentians are welcome to attend this session, starting at 11 AM on December 17.

Zoom Meeting ID:854 9814 7771 Passcode: 622055

*God still loves the world and
He sends you and me to be His love
and His compassion to the poor.*

— MOTHER TERESA

Mother Teresa was a luminous messenger of God's love who is well noted for her charity, compassion and courage. Everyday she went into her community to find and serve Him in the "unwanted, the unloved and the uncared for." She founded the Missionaries of Charity, which continue to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the poor and ensure that her charitable spirit lives on.



Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the program used for?

The program is used to provide cemetery and funeral assistance to individuals in our community who would otherwise be unable to afford proper services.

Who does the program serve?

The program was established to serve individuals in need in our community, including the poor and destitute, as well as victims of violent crimes. We also assist special organizations in our community.

What level of assistance is available?

CFCS offers two levels of assistance for cemetery and funeral services, indigent and financial assistance. Indigent services are for individuals who are unable to make any payment. We provide these individuals with complete funeral burial or inurnment services in accordance with the Order of Christian Funerals. Financial assistance is for individuals who need extended terms. The program allows them to have the dignified services that they would be otherwise unable to pay for.

How can I help?

Donations are readily accepted at all of our CFCS locations. To learn more please call us at (800) 498-4989.

Do I have to be Catholic to receive aid?

No. The program serves all those in need in our community regardless of religious affiliation.

Where is this program available?

The Mother Teresa Program is available at:

- St. Joseph Cemetery & Funeral Center
- Queen of Heaven Cemetery & Funeral Center
- Holy Cross Cemetery & Funeral Center
- St. Mary Cemetery & Funeral Center
- Cathedral of Christ the Light
- Cooper Chapel
- Sorensen Chapel
- Holy Sepulchre Cemetery & Funeral Center
- St. Michael Cemetery & Funeral Center

THE CFCS ADVANTAGE

As a resource you can trust today and tomorrow, we're enabling families to make educated decisions about end-of-life services.

- Flexible and Affordable
- Welcoming Staff
- Convenient Locations
- People You Can Trust
- Open Source of Information
- Complete Resource for Funeral, Cremation and Cemetery Services

cfcs

Living Our Mission

CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES



A MINISTRY OF THE
DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

Call (510) 605-4922
to speak with a qualified,
caring advisor or visit us
at: cfcsOakland.org

© CFCS | MARCH 2019

Rents, Mortgage & Governance W-9s & 1099

By Pamela Hudson Johnson, National Director of Governance & Membership Services SVdPUSA

Landlords are required to provide W9 copies. Every SVdP rent paid should be made only after obtaining a copy of the landlord's W9. We should not assume that if the payment is less than \$600 a W9 is not required. We have found that there are many Conferences that pay rent to the same landlords. \$600 accumulates quite fast.



Below is the information that published in the National e-gazette 9/16/21 edition. We strongly suggest following these guidelines. I have copied your District and Diocesan Council presidents for their guidance and feedback as they determine best. I have copied Steve Krank for local guidance as deemed necessary.

1099 Requirements for Services and for Rent Paid Directly to Landlords

After extensive research and consulting with both the National Council auditor and attorney, the National Council believes that once the total payments made by a Council or Conference for services or for rent payments to a landlord equal or exceed \$600 in a calendar year, a Form 1099 must be mailed to the recipient and filed with the IRS.

There are only a few *exceptions* to this requirement:

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

All other payments for services or for rent payments to a landlord totaling \$600 or more in a calendar year will trigger the Form 1099 filing requirement.

Keep in mind that Forms 1099 are filed together for entities sharing an EIN, and if Conferences share an EIN with their Council, the Council will be required to combine all payments made to a service provider or landlord during a calendar year. It is recommended that records be kept of all payments to service providers and landlords, and Forms W-9 be requested and retained before making any service or rent payment, even if the payment is below the \$600 limit.

This is only a very summary of the rules. Councils and Conferences should review the complete IRS Form 1099 instructions and consult with their tax professionals for additional guidance. Additional materials and example documents are available on the National Council website at <https://members.ssvpusa.org/information-for-members/irs-tax-information/>.



SPIRITUALITY, SERVICE AND FRIENDSHIP

by Donna Walton, St. Agnes

During our Spiritual Reflection at a recent conference meeting of St. Agnes, we were asked to think of something that we were grateful for from our Vincentian activities. I shared that I had always been grateful for the spiritual growth and the opportunity to serve our neighbors in need, but that recently I realized how much friendship was important to our conference.

One of our Vincentians had suddenly become very limited in what she was able to do. She kept falling down and didn't know exactly why. She called for help, asking for a referral to get home health care, but another Vincentian quickly took over. She went to the home, called 911, and followed up with her in the hospital. Of course, we all prayed for her, but added to it with visits, shopping and phone calls.

How wonderful it was to find out that we are becoming friends with our fellow Vincentians!



SVDP Contra Costa County Christmas Elves at Work

2022-23 District Council & Family Resource Center Conference Visits

As a follow-up to the article in the November 2022 Vetera Monumenta, we hosted our first Conference Visit to the District Office and Family Resource Center (FRC) in mid-November. The St. Isidore SVDP Conference was the first to visit and tour. Jose Yanes, Conference President for St. Isidore, invited Fr. Mathew for the trip and Tour to introduce the scope and scale of resources available for our neighbors in need.

We have a place to eat & gather if it will help to draw each Conference to the FRC to understand more about the resources available to them in serving our neighbors. We recommend planning about 30 minutes for the tour and presentation, plus time for questions.

“By offering Conferences the chance to have a meal, or host their Conference Meetings at the DC, we can educate our members about the resources available and how they, as Vincentians, can access them to better serve our neighbors in need”.

If each guest leaves with an understanding of the resources available and how they can access what we do for those they serve, it would be a success and time well spent.



This Agenda is an idea of what we are presenting:

- Rota Care Pittsburg Free Medical Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul. 19,000 patient visits since opened >550 this year!
- Oasis - Winter Nights Day Shelter - Families with their kids and Safe Parking Program participants
- Workforce Development Program - Providing Reentry, Mentorship, and paid Training to folks returning to the workforce through our Thrift Stores & Recycling programs.
- Dentist on Wheels Free Dental Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul- Our Three-Chair Dental Clinic averages 25 patients

per month (services include crowns, root canals, dentures, etc.)

- Free Dining Room - Provides 150 - 200 hot meals daily in partnership with Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa.
- Emergency Food Pantry, hygiene kits, and snacks for the homeless
- Thrift Stores & Warehouse provides free clothing to the homeless and low-cost furniture and acts as the primary worksite for our Workforce Development Program.
- HOPE - Housing, Utility Assistance, Car Repair (provided \$1,015,290. +/- FY 2021-22) through the branches in 28 local Communities in Contra Costa County)
- Showers & Clothing for the Homeless in collaboration with The Bay Church
- Auto Donation Program - Providing access to safe working vehicles where not having access is creating a barrier to sustainability.

To Register for a date for your Conference to tour Family Resource Center or host your Conference Meeting here, please get in touch with Stephen Krank, Vincentian Services at 925-439-5060 or s.krank@svdp-cc.org. We plan to host each Conference at least once during the 2022-23 fiscal year and introduce each Vincentian to the available resources to help our neighbors in need. It will be a privilege when we host you and your Conference at the FRC.

In love and service, *Stephen*