

# V E T E R A MONIMENTA

**January 2026**

### **Meeting**

Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, 1/13  
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM  
Family Resource Center

### **Meeting**

District Council Meeting  
Saturday, 1/17  
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM  
St. Mary, Walnut Creek

### **Training**

Tuesday Tips & Training  
Tuesday, 1/13  
10:00 AM – 11:00AM  
<https://bit.ly/TuesdayZoomForum>

### **Event**

Walk for Life  
Saturday 1/24, All Day  
Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco

### **Training**

Ozanam Orientation  
Saturday, 1/31  
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM  
St. Bonaventure, Concord, CA  
**SEE FLYER FOR REGISTRATION**

### **Meeting**

Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, 2/17  
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM  
Family Resource Center

**Vincentian Wisdom**  
Quotes • Charism



### **Bob Liles Corner**

### **RANDOM RAMBLINGS**

We rise or fall to the level of our friendships. Surround yourself with people who are better than you in a hundred different ways and allow the force of their character to inspire you to change, grow, and strive to become the best version of yourself. – Matthew Kelly

Tackling poverty requires more than just boosting bank balances.

<https://www.city-journal.org/article/ed-latimore-poverty-mindset>

“Reflect that in reality you have a greater need to serve the poor than they have of your service.” St. Angela Merici

“Be generous to the poor orphans and those in need. The man to whom our Lord has been liberal ought not to be stingy. We shall one day find in Heaven as much rest and joy as we ourselves have dispersed in this life”. St. Ignatius Loyola.

And here's something to hopefully bring a little laughter to you this New Year:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=b\\_h6GH-jECk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_h6GH-jECk)

Bob

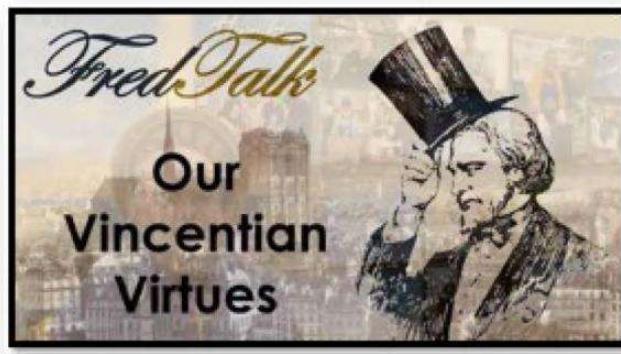
## THE RULE 6.7 RELATIONSHIPS WITH STATE AGENCIES & OTHER CHARITIES

When the problems they encounter are beyond their competence or capacity, Vincentians may contact State Agencies and other more specialized charitable organizations, provided that such action helps the Society in its struggle against injustice and respects the spirit of the Society.



### TUESDAY TIPS AND TRAINING is BACK!

**JANUARY 2026 SESSION  
Tuesday, January 13, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**



*Our Monthly meeting, designed to share RESOURCES for our Neighbors.*

### 2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY MICRO LOANS

**Join us on Tuesday, January 13, to share resources with fellow Vincentians.**

Our Micro Loan committee will be presenting information about this program to help our neighbors in need. Have you been on a home visit with a neighbor where, if they could just get a little financial bump – possibly in the form of a microloan – that their path forward could continue? And that they could benefit from some financial literacy as well? Come and learn more about this outstanding program.

<https://bit.ly/TuesdayZoomForum>

Meeting ID: 925 439 5060

Passcode: Ozanam

## VINCENTIAN GIVING – Twinning

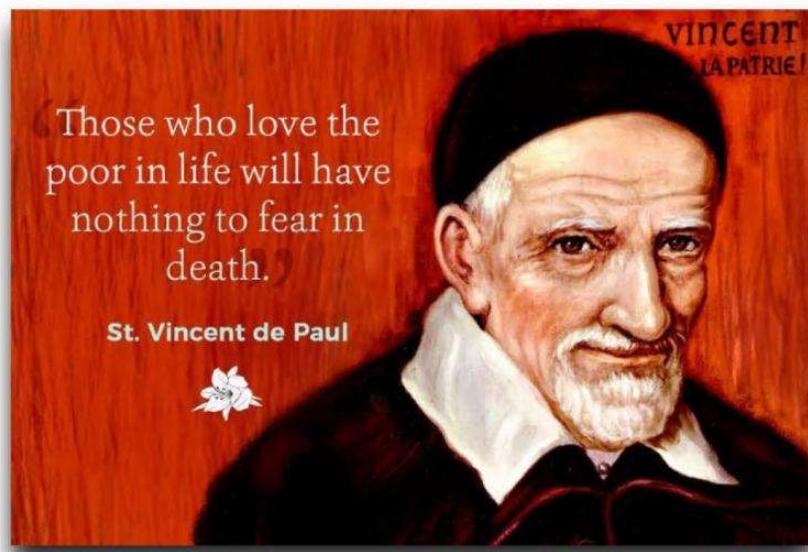
Twinning is an unusual word. In the St. Vincent de Paul world, the word has nothing to do with looking alike, as you might assume from the word Twin. If you look for a definition of the word Twinning, there are several. The one most appropriate for our Society is:

**Establishing a partnership and peer relationship to benefit both sides.**

Twinning is helping another Conference over time. The most important aspect is that the funds given to another Conference, have no restrictions. The timeframe can be monthly, annually or anything in between, just must be on some type of schedule.

It is NOT called Twinning if two Conferences join forces to help a particular Neighbor in Need. Where there is collaboration to pay bills for a Neighbor, and of course these funds have a restriction, they cannot be called Twinning. The expense can be coded in the financial accounts to be whatever the expenses is used for to help that neighbor (utilities, rent, etc.). It also is NOT twinning if a Conference just decides to send money to another Conference for some specific purpose, such as to help pay for food for their pantry, since it has a restriction, it is not twinning. Money sent to any Conference to help during a disaster is coded just as disaster funds, again not twinning, since there is a restriction on the funds.

Twinning is a wonderful concept in the St. Vincent de Paul Society as it reinforces our essential elements. It is helping a Conference who are our friends. It may allow a Conference to do more service to neighbors and reinforces our spirituality in service to help the poor. If you have any question on whether Twinning is the appropriate reference, versus any other coding, you can always call Vincentian Services for assistance.



HOW CAN WE ANSWER THE CALL TO  
SEE THE FACE OF CHRIST IN ALL PEOPLE?



"We preach mainly by  
good example."

*- St. Vincent de Paul*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN OZANAM ORIENTATION  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026, 8:30 AM-3:30 PM

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
5562 CLAYTON ROAD, CONCORD, CA 94521

REGISTRATION AND A LIGHT BREAKFAST START AT 8:30 AM  
LUNCH IS ALSO INCLUDED  
QUESTIONS? CALL SHAWNNA AT 925-200-5952

PARTICIPANTS **MUST** REGISTER BY JANUARY 28  
REGISTER AT:  
[HTTPS:// BIT.LY/OZANAMJAN31-26](https://bit.ly/ozanamjan31-26) OR SCAN QR



## STATUTE 7 – MEETING ESSENTIALS - SECRET COLLECTION

When the Society was founded, there was no fifth Sunday collection or government grants. The members just passed the hat. They added money if they had some. They took money for neighbors that needed it. Unlike funds donated to the Society, this money can be used for anything that the Conference wants. It is generally put in the general fund to help our neighbors, but, unlike normal donations, it can also be given to other organizations. And it can be used for doughnuts at the start of the meeting, especially if the District Council president is going to be visiting, or even pizza afterwards. Because the conference members need to be able to look every donor in their eyes and say that every penny donated to the Society goes to help our neighbors in need, the secret collection can serve as a slush fund for things the conference wants to do that does not directly help our neighbors.)

## MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT SVdP

Vincentians complain that it is hard to find what they need to know on National's website and on the DC website. Instead of guessing which links to click on those websites or doing an internet search that will bring up items from every SVdP website, you can do a specific search on National's site or on our District Council website. Let's say that you have a question on twinning, in your browser simple type in either:

Site:ssvpusa.org twinning      or      Site:svdp-cc.org twinning

And hopefully you will find what you are looking for.

If you are familiar with AI you can even type “search ssvpusa.org for documents on twinning” into Copilot and not only will you get a list of the documents, but also a short summary of what twinning is. Interestingly enough, Copilot could not find any documents on the DC website specifically on twinning so it referred you to the National website and gave you a brief description of twinning. But the standard search listed several documents that mentioned twinning on the DC website and they would probably give someone all of the information that they needed to know.

## HISTORY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOR CHILDREN

The Merry Beggars is a theatrical group associated with Relevant Radio. They have a podcast designed for children seven years old and up. Here is a link:

<https://www.themerrybeggars.com/shows/the-saints>



## COAT DISTRIBUTION 2025 – by Dicki Lulay, St. Anne Conference President

We collected and distributed about 700 coats and sweatshirts. Items came from the Brentwood Thrift Store, parishioners through the Spring Coat Drive (and ongoing contributions), local schools and the remainder of the coats purchased last year.

We were able to track that we handed out 303 coats/vests this year vs. 267 coats/vests in 2024. It is estimated that we had at least 200 sweatshirts and parishioners took about half of these. The remaining coats/sweatshirts were bagged and taken directly to Hijas del Campos for distribution.

