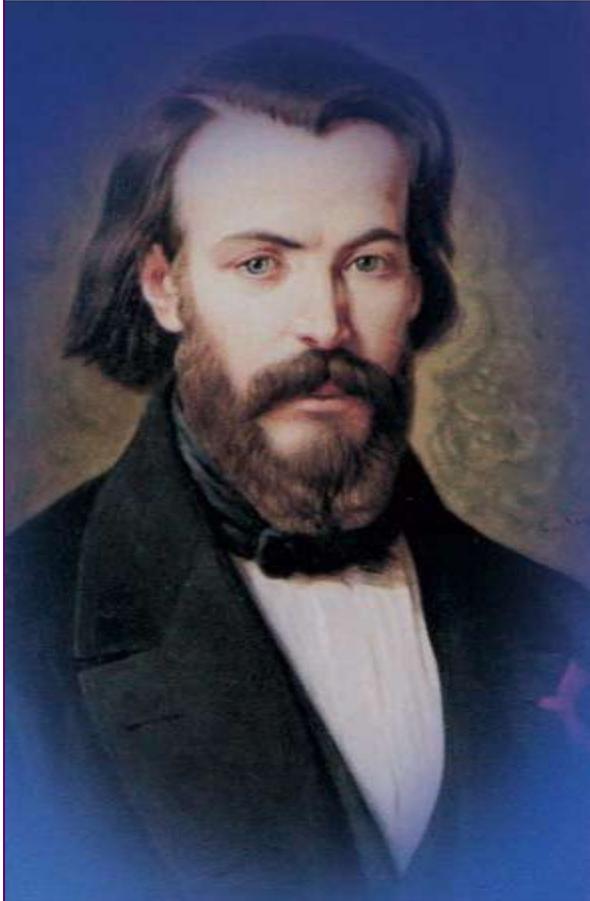




NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, INC.

July 2012



Frédéric's E-Gazette

An e-newsletter from the
National Council of the
Society of St. Vincent de Paul

***End Poverty Through
Systemic Change***

Join Our Mailing List!

I guess I don't need to remind you that we live in a very secular world. Things of a spiritual nature are usually discounted or diminished, unless they trend toward the exotic or the New Age. In short, that "old-time religion" is pretty much passe in much of our contemporary world.

Recently, however, a book came across my desk that reinforced why our faith is important and why it should continue to inform our work as members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Titled *100 Vincentian Readings*, the book is some 70 years old. The

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National Assembly in
Seattle](#)

foreward was written in 1942 by Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore and Washington. He wrote: "The work of a Vincentian, and by that I mean a member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, will be a failure if the spiritual note, and I might add the spiritual driving power, is kept out of the work and out of the lives of [those] who make up any St. Vincent de Paul group."

Perhaps we sometimes consider downplaying the faith component of our mission, thinking that we would attract more support from people who would otherwise be turned off by our commitment to our Catholic spirituality. Yet, it is our Catholic identify that is at the heart of what we do and why we do it. Without that spirituality, we might as well be just another charitable organization. We might accomplish good works, but our existence would be far removed from the vision that Frederic Ozanam had for us, the Society, and those we serve.

Thanks and God bless,



Roger Playwin
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. For some weeks now, you've been receiving regular notices regarding registration for the National Assembly in Seattle, scheduled for August 29 through September 1. Please be aware that the deadline to register for the event and get a hotel room is fast approaching: July 31. This time of the year is the busiest for Seattle and hotels book up quickly.

Friends of the Poor® Grant Winners Announced

Congratulations to the following Conferences in the Mideast and South Central Regions selected for the third quarter 2012 Friends of the Poor® grants:

- Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Hammond, Ind
- St. Joseph in Howell, Mich.

- St. Leonard in Heath, Ohio
- St. Paul in Florence, Ky.
- St. Thomas More in Troy, Mich.
- Most Holy Trinity in Phoenix, Ariz.
- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in San Ysidro, Calif.
- Santa Clara in Oxnard, Calif.
- St. Ignatius of Loyola in Los Angeles, Calif.
- St. Piux X in Billings, Mont.

The next round of FOP grants will be August 15-August 31 for Conferences in the **Midwest** and **South Central Regions**.

The Friends of the Poor® grant program is an original program sponsored by the National Council to provide direct funding for services to those living in poverty in the United States. Grants are specifically targeted to direct services which meet the current needs of the poor, which are above and beyond their available Conference and community resources. Only Conferences can apply for grant funds.

For guidelines and application forms, go to: [Friends of the Poor Grant](#)

Stomp Out Poverty at the Friends of the Poor® Walk/Run

Sign up now for your local Friends of the Poor® (FOP) Walk/Run on September 29, 2012.

Attention FOP Walk/Run Coordinators: "Share and Learn" conference calls are scheduled for:

Wednesday, July 25, 1 p.m., central time;

Wednesday, August 22, 1 p.m., central time; and
Wednesday, September 19, at Noon, central time



The national T-shirt vendor this year is T-Formation. You can order your T-shirts at: <http://shop.tformation.com/SVDP/Home>

And don't forget to check out the "Best Practices" tab on the website: : [FOP Walk/Run Best Practices](#). (Click on the horizontal tab labeled "Best

Practices" near the top.)

Questions?

Nathan Martin

National Friends of the Poor® Walk/Run Manager

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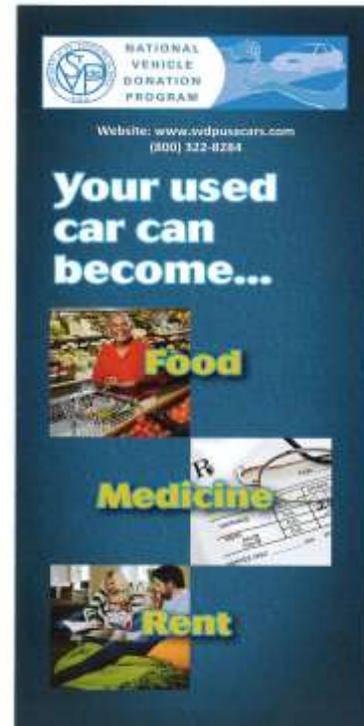
To register or attend your local Friends of the Poor® Walk/Run, please go to www.svdffriendsofthepoorwalk.org.



Have you registered for SVdP's National Vehicle Donation Program? If your Conference or Council could use extra funds, the NVDP can be an easy, reliable source of help. The average vehicle donated to the program generates around \$700 in **net** proceeds. That translates to:

- A month's rent for a family;
- More than two years of generic drugs for an elderly person;
- Food for a family of five; or
- Critical nutrition for an infant for four months.

Once you've signed up, the National Council offers a wide variety of marketing tools, tips and tactics, including donor pamphlets (right). Available in both English and Spanish, these attractive, full-color pamphlets come with holders that can be placed in car repair shops, vehicle rental firms, auto dealers -- wherever there's a countertop. Best of all, the National Council offers them free of charge, and we'll even pick up the cost of postage to get them to you.



So, what are you waiting for? To register, log on to:

www.registernvdp.com

Username: carsforsvdp

Password: vincent0927

To donate a vehicle, go to:

[Donate a Vehicle Now](#)

Questions?

Logistics and registration:

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National Vehicle Donation Program Coordinator

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Promotion and Marketing

Charles Henderson

National Director of Communications

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Phone: (314) 576-3993, ext. 214

**Let's Have a
Round of
Applause for...**



SVdP in Pinellas County, Fla., has received a \$1 million grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs that will be used to assist at least 250 veterans and their families in the county. The funds will focus on very low-income veterans living in -- or transitioning to -- permanent housing. Under the grant, SVdP will offer outreach, case management, assistance in obtaining VA benefits, and assistance obtaining other public benefits. In 2009, the federal government announced a goal to end veteran homelessness by 2015.

SVdP's Conference in Bend, Ore., received \$25,000 from the Meyer Memorial Trust to allow donors to contribute funds electronically.

SVdP's Community Assistance Center in Exeter, N.H., received a \$3,000 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture to stock the Center's refrigerator with milk.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Regional Meetings

(NOTE: The Southeast and Northeast Regions are not holding regional meetings in 2012.)

Mideast

Date: August 3 - 4

Location: Louisville, Ky. (Galt House)

South Central

Date: July 26 - 28

Location: El Paso, Texas

Western & National Assembly

Date: August 29 - September 1

Location: Seattle, Wash. (Seattle Sheraton)

Event: Invitation for Renewal

Date: November 7 - 11, 2012;

February 20 - 24, 2013

Location: Indianapolis, Ind. (Seton Cove)

New Video from Long Island SVdP

Check out this dynamic video from our fellow Vincentians at the Long Island (N.Y.) Society of St. Vincent de Paul

We'd Like You To Meet...

Laura Kamper, Senior Director of Finance, Personnel & Facilities. Each month, she makes payments totaling from \$300,000 to \$400,00 for operating expenditures, including expenses for the eight SVdP regions and disaster funds. Laura has been with the Society for almost 30 years.

"When I started in 1983, we didn't have computers," she said. "In addition to technology, we've grown into a truly national organization. At the end of the day, I know I am part of an organization that assists those in need with our many services."



Face-to-Facebook

The National Council likes you...so like us back on our Facebook site and join the conversation:



Shoutmeloud.com

[National Council Facebook Site](#)

Does your Council or Council have good news to share? Has someone in your Council or Conference done something remarkable? The National Council would like to know about it:



Contact:

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