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Frederic's E-Gazette

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

March 19, 2020



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Disclaimer:

(NOTE: The links in some of the articles are intended to take you to websites for a specific story, page, function or program approved for your use by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Society does not accept responsibility for, or grant approval of, peripheral advertising or stories that may reside on those websites.)

From your Servant Leaders:

Dear Vincentian Friends,

I had lunch with a friend in a restaurant last Thursday. I agonized with him about the difficult decision our Board of Directors was going to make later that afternoon regarding our Midyear Meeting. Listening to the news driving home, we heard reports of mayors considering closing their cities down. It made my problem seem pretty small.



Last week's hard decision would not even be a question this week. As a matter of fact, last week's meal in a restaurant is not even an option this week. We are in uncharted territory. What seemed improbable a week ago now seems normal, and things are likely to evolve that way for weeks to come.

It is still Lent, so maybe we can embrace being in a desert of a sort - using it, as Jesus did, to get closer to God. In your new daily schedule, there might be some time you can claim for daily prayer. Take to heart the experience of Moses, and be thankful for your daily bread, ask for God's direction, don't grumble, and when you are told to strike the rock for water, just do it once. It might make the journey shorter.

I hope you use this time to do more than binge on Netflix or watch the endless cable news chatter. You might want to spend some time strengthening your Vincentian skills. I have asked a several committees to create online presentations and webinars to advance our Strategic Plan and increase our training. These will be highlighted weekly in the E-Gazette.

Our website is already full of great resources, but if you are like me, it is often difficult to find what you are looking for. We are working on that, but right now you can watch this new video that will help you navigate our website to find some good reading, especially for Servant Leaders: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ssm2tnRbgN2gQDxYj-GX3EG-cNbFhKyU/view>.

If you have not viewed all seven of Dr. Donna Beegle's videos that provide training to better understand poverty, I recommend watching them. Find them at: <https://www.svdpusa.org/systemicchange/Materials/Communication-Across-Barriers>.

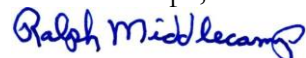
Your Conference may want to have a conference call and discuss the material.

St. Vincent de Paul famously said, "Love is inventive to infinity," and I am reading many examples of the creativity of our Conferences and Councils. You are doing things such as drive-up food pantries, virtual home visits and call-in conference meetings. Some of these are news items in this E-Gazette. Please share your stories with us so others might benefit from them.

Let's not really be isolated. We all can add a few phone calls to our daily routine. Certainly, our friends, neighbors and family would appreciate talking with us more often. (If you ask my sister or some of my friends, they will tell you I need to do better.) Additionally, our Conference members could make a phone call to some of the people they have recently helped. Not to offer them financial help, but rather to just see how they are holding up. Those we've assisted may value that human interaction as much as the bag of food or rent help.

In a time of national crisis or disaster, our churches would usually be full, but now many are locked. It certainly is shaping up to be a desert experience. Our Rule tells us that "Vincentians are called to journey together towards holiness." It seems that our journey has taken an unpredictable detour this week, so we need to pay close attention to where we are going together. I pray that trusting in God, we will be a stronger, more creative Society as we meet the challenges ahead. I hope you will join me in that prayer.

Serviens in Spe,



Ralph Middlecamp
National Council President

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**Families First Coronavirus
Response Act -
How this affects SVdP**

Information that will affect Councils and Conferences with employees is constantly changing with the passage of Federal and State legislation as well as local regulations. You must check with your local legal counsel to be certain you are in compliance. The **"FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT" - ENACTED MARCH 18, 2020** is an example. It has requirements about how we work with employees needing to stay home because of illness or to take care of someone who is ill. The provisions of this act are required to be posted. The National Council cannot provide legal advice nor should we be your only source for what is being enacted. However as we are aware of issues we will summarize what we know and encourage you to follow up on the information provided to see if and how it applies to your organization.

[Click here](#) to link to some current issues.

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Learn how to navigate the National website

Have you been wondering where to find the essential materials for your duties as a Vincentian conference president? Have you had trouble locating those materials on the Society website? With you in mind, the new Leadership Task Force commissioned a quick video tour of the National website. You can view that tour by [clicking here](#).

Questions about this topic, contact:

Ray Sickinger

Liaison for Formation

SVdP National Board Member

rsicking@providence.edu

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Disaster Services SVdP-USA has set up a Coronavirus Hotline to support St. Vincent de Paul Councils and Conferences in the United States and can be accessed by calling 1 (800) 604-5759. You can learn more about Coronavirus resources and guidance at <https://www.svdpcdisaster.org/node/150/>.

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Q: Census takers want to come to our daytime-only homeless shelter to conduct the Census. What is the Society's policy on this?

A: Homeless Day Centers are not residences. Taking a count at a day center could end up with duplicate information since the homeless move around. We suggest that information can be given to day center visitors to be completed using other addresses. It is important to count everyone regardless of home status in order to project federal and state resources. Please be helpful without violating anyone's privacy or personal information.

Q: When we do an initial home visit, is it okay to ask for tax returns from the person we visit? This could help us to determine the level of service needed.

A: We have no reason to ask for tax returns and this is not a practice supported by the National Council. The exception of course is if the Conference provides free tax return services. A Home Visitor may ask someone in need for utility, rent and other statements to help them achieve proper payments to the correct recipients and to help the

family with budgeting/financial literacy education services. These are voluntary.

[Click here to view the Spanish translation of this week's Q&A](#)

[Click here to download this week's Q&A](#)

[Q&A Index](#)

Click here to visit the SVdP Thrift Store website for stores-related Q&A's: <http://www.svdpusa-thriftstore.org/>

Submit your questions to:

Pam Hudson Johnson

National Director of Governance & Membership Services

phudson@svdpusa.org

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Sister Kathleen Appler, Superioress General of the Daughters of Charity, has Passed Away



On Wednesday, March 18, 2020, Sister Kathleen Appler, 68 years of age and 47 years vocation, Superioress General of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul, met her Lord after a life totally given to God in the service of those who are poor and in the Company of the Daughters of Charity.

From Sr. Kieran Kneaves, Daughter of Charity:

Sr. Kathleen Appler, from Utica, NY, joined the Daughters of Charity in 1973. In 2015 she was named General Superior of the Daughters of Charity Community which consists of 14,500 Sisters serving those living in poverty in 94 countries. The Daughters of Charity were founded in Paris in 1633 by St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac. Sr. Kathleen was the first American to be named General Superior of the Community.

Last year, at the Vatican, Pope Francis named her a member of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life to serve the Church world-wide.

Sr. Kathleen was a gentle and compassionate servant leader with a heart on fire as she called everyone in the Vincentian family to have eyes to see the Poor and ears to hear their cries. May her vision of love and service live on in our lives.

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We are not alone: Growing in our Vocation during Lent

During the Lenten Season, we are called to take the time for reflection and prayer. We are afforded in this particular Lenten season perhaps more time than usual for this quiet reflection. Remember that God speaks to us in the silence; He speaks to us in solitude; He speaks to through our silent reflection on His word.

As Vincentians, may we take extra time this season to grow in our faith through reading the wisdom of our Vincentian saints and blessed. Take out those books you have been "meaning to read." Here are a few ideas:

- The Rule - especially Part I
- The Manual - especially Vincentian Spirituality
- Serving in Hope - read through a module (or seven)
- The Vincentian Library, four books by Fr. Robert Maloney
- 15 Days of Prayer with Bl Frederic

And if you are all caught up on your reading, please look at the Vincentian Spirituality publications available at

<https://www.svdpusa.org/materials/Vincentian-Spirituality>.

Ozanam Sunday - April 26, 2020

[Click here](#) for a list of materials available to order to celebrate this special Vincentian day.

Celebrating our 175th Anniversary

We have two Vincentian spiritual formation resources available to help celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the Founding of the Society in the U.S.

[Click here](#) for more information and to order "Serving in Hope: Module VII, Our Vincentian Home Visit"

[Click here](#) for more information and to order "The Spirituality of the Home Visit: A Journal"

For more information contact:
Sister Kieran Kneaves, DC
National Formation Director
kkneaves@svdpusa.org

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Getting Ahead Facilitator Training - Spring 2020

Conferences and Councils across the country are running [Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World](#), a comprehensive program that empowers individuals to build their own personal plans for economic security and create Systemic Change.

The Facilitator Training will equip you with all the knowledge and resources to start a Getting Ahead program in your area or get involved with an existing program.

Wednesday, April 8 & 15
6:30-9:30 p.m. Eastern
[Register for our Online Training Here!](#)

Future Trainings:

Summer: Wednesday, July 22 & 29 at 6:30-9:30 p.m. Eastern

Fall: Saturday, October 10 & 17 at 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Eastern

Are you a Getting Ahead facilitator with questions, ideas, or best practices? Start a conversation in the [Getting Ahead Community of Practice](#) today!

Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World is a licensed work of aha! Process, Inc. The National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a licensed provider of facilitator training for the Getting Ahead program.

For more information, contact:

Tom Mulloy

National Director of Poverty Programs

tmulloy@svdpsa.org

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Focusing on Council Structure

We continue our excerpts from Vincentian Life: Council with a focus on the important subject of Council Structure.

[Click here](#) for helpful information on key topics such as Council/Board Structures, Council/Board Member Training, Council/Board and Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director Relationship, and District Council Size.

Next week we will examine additional aspects of Council structure and operation.

SVdP Mentoring Opportunity

As Vincentians and Vincentian leaders, we all know the rewards that come from helping rescue people in crises and helping them take steps toward self-sufficiency. The Vincentian Mentoring program provides an opportunity for a similar reward.

[Click here](#) for more information.

[Click here](#) to access the application.

Questions? Contact:
Pam Hudson Johnson
Director of Governance & Membership Services

314-576-3993 ext. 214
phudson@svdpusa.org

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SVdP Young Adults Mosaic T-Shirt still available!



SVdP Young Adults are still selling the Blessed Frederic Ozanam Mosaic T-Shirt.

The money raised will be donated to the Blessed Frederic Ozanam Mosaic Fund as a contribution from the Society's Young Adults.

Don't miss out on this opportunity (again)! Buy your shirt today!

[Click here](#) for more information and to order.

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2020 Hard Copy Annual Reports Available!

The hard-copy 2020 annual report forms are now available. The reporting period for Vincentian assistance and services provided to our friends in need is for the period of FY Oct 1, 2019 - Sept 30, 2020.

Quarterly report hard copy forms are also available!

Here is the link:

<https://www.svdpusa.org/members/Documents/Annual-Report-Forms>

NOTE: The online data entry program for the 2020 annual reports will be available after the start of the new fiscal year 2020-21 after October 1, 2020.

For information regarding Annual Reports, contact:

Pam Hudson Johnson

Director of Governance and Membership Services

314-576-3993 ext. 214

phudson@svdpusa.org

All 2019 Online Annual Reports are now due!

Have you filed your 2019 annual report online yet? Tomorrow is the deadline for ALL reports to be filed online for Vincentian assistance and services provided to our friends in need from Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept 30, 2019. Click here to enter your report

today: <https://www.svdpmembers.com/annual-reports/annual-reporting-cycles/>.

The Society's fiscal year is Oct 1-Sept 30. Here are the official annual report due dates for each level of our organization:

- Conference annual reports due Nov 30
- District Councils annual reports due Dec 31
- (Arch)Diocesan Councils annual reports due Jan 31
- Special Works & Thrift Store reports are due the same date as the Conferences/Councils that owns/operates them

Isolated Conferences can email hard copy forms to jwitzel@svdpusa.org.

[Click here](#) to download 2019 hard copy forms.

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Electronic Filing of Form 1023

If your Council or Conference is planning on applying for independent tax exemption by filing a Form 1023, please note that the IRS went live last week enabling organizations to file the IRS Form 1023 Application electronically.

This is generally a welcome advancement but Friday's announcement also included a short 90-day grace period for filing paper 1023 Applications.

As of January 31, 2020, the IRS requires that Form 1023, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, be completed and submitted through Pay.gov. There is a 90-day grace period during which the IRS will continue to accept paper versions of Form 1023.

<https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/electronic-filing-of-form-1023>

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SVdP Prayer Intention Program Milestone

The SVdP Prayer Intention Program which was launched nationally at the Denver National Assembly last August has now sent out 10,000 requested SVdP Chaplet Prayer Cards. Conferences, Councils, and Thrift Stores have requested the prayer intention boxes from coast to coast. If you want more information on this powerful SVdP prayer program, go to http://www.magnalite-usa.com/prayer_intention.html.

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SVdP In the News



***Deadline for Frederic's E-Gazette articles submission: Every Wednesday by 12 noon for article to be included in current week's edition**

International News

IRELAND:

[SVP continues to offer help during Covid-19 crisis](#)

CANADA:

[Prince George's St. Vincent de Paul Society stepping up to keep everyone fed during crisis](#)

National News

NATIONAL:

[As coronavirus spreads, many volunteers are asked to stay at home](#)

MADISON, WI:

[International Vincentian Leader visits Madison](#)

SAN FRANCISCO, CA:

[Coronavirus: Bay Area scrambles to keep disease from spreading among homeless](#)

NASHVILLE, TN:

[Tennessee Tornado Update](#)

[Click here](#) for more national SVdP news.

Dates for 2020:	
Western Regional Meeting May 21-23 Sacramento, CA	South Central Regional Meeting June 22-27 Oklahoma City, OK
North Central Regional Meeting June 11-13 Milwaukee, WI	Eastern Regional Meeting June 27 Emmitsburg, MD
Midwest Regional Meeting June 11-13 Livonia, MI	Invitation for Renewal July 29 - August 2 St. Louis, MO <u>Click here</u> for info.
Midwest Regional Meeting June 19-20 Des Moines, IA	National Assembly September 2-5 St. Louis, MO
	Invitation for Renewal November 4-8 St. Louis, MO

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*Responding to Local
Disasters Nationally*

Be sure to follow SVdP Disaster Services Corp. on Facebook for updates, [click here to visit their Facebook page](#).

For more information about SVdP Disaster Services, [click here](#) or contact:

Elizabeth Disco-Shearer
CEO, SVdP Disaster Services
ldisco@svdpdisaster.org

Kevin Peach
COO, SVdP Disaster Services
kpeach@svdpdisaster.org

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Social Media

Keep up with SVdP on your favorite social media!



[Click here to keep up with SVdP on social media and join our mobile network!](#)

[Download the free SVdP mobile app now by clicking here!](#)

***You can watch the OFIA TV series and movie on-demand through the mobile app and you can access it on your phone or tablet!**

[Click here to connect with Voice of the Poor on social media!](#)

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Vincentian Prayer List

Are you or another Vincentian you know in need of prayers from fellow SVdP members? Send the prayer intention to Pam Hudson at phudson@svdpusa.org and we will add the name to the prayer list on the SVdP website. Thank you and God Bless.

[Click here to view the Vincentian Prayer List.](#)

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To print the E-Gazette

If you wish to print the E-Gazette and are having trouble printing it from your email, [click here](#) to print this issue and past issues of the E-Gazette in PDF format straight from the SVdP website!

Looking to Support SVdP Programs?

[Click here](#) to access the online donation portal. Use the drop down menu to choose from a variety of national SVdP programs to support.

If you would like to donate by check, please send it to:
SVdP National Council

58 Progress Parkway
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

*In the memo field please write the program you are supporting

**ATTENTION COUNCIL PRESIDENTS &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS:
SOME OF YOUR MEMBERS AREN'T GETTING
THE E-GAZETTE!**

If you or another member of your Conference is not receiving the E-Gazette email, jwitzel@svdpusa.org.

Have you Opted Out?

**WERE YOU GETTING THIS NEWSLETTER BUT
NO LONGER ARE?**

When an email address has been removed by the owner, or the email address holder designates "Do Not Mail," the email address cannot be re-added by the National Council office. The email address holder must sign him or herself up to resume receiving Frederic's E-Gazette at:

<http://bit.ly/1GKXYJ6>

**Is your Conference or Council doing something that
you think should appear in the E-Gazette or on
SVdPUSA social media? Send your good news to us!**

Michelle Boyer
Marketing Communications Specialist
Email: mboyer@svdpusa.org
(314) 576-3993 ext. 219