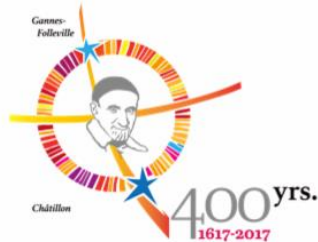


Click the links in the header to share the E-Gazette on your personal social media page with just the push of a button!



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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®

December 14, 2017



Table of Contents:

To go directly to a certain article, simply click on the title

What's New in this Issue

- [Christmas Message from SVdP International President General](#)
- [Residents in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands still struggling after Fall Hurricanes](#)
- [SVdP Disaster Recovery Corner - December 2017 Newsletter](#)
- [More than \\$200,000 Awarded in Grants for Systemic Change and Dental Programs](#)
- [National Vehicle Donation Program](#)
- [Planned Giving](#)

In Every Issue

- [Letter from your Servant Leaders](#)
- [Q&A and Q&A Index](#)
- [Development Department News](#)
- [Vincentian Formation](#)
- [In the News](#)
- [Vincentian Prayer List](#)
- [Connect with SVdP on Social Media and Mobile App](#)

Don't Miss

- [Updated Annual Report Due Dates](#)
- [2017 National Assembly StoryBooth Videos now Online](#)
- [Video Recordings of Livestreamed Events from 2017 National Assembly](#)
- [501\(c\)\(3\) Tax Exemption Notice](#)
- [Ozanam PR Nativity](#)

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:

December 14, 2017

Dear Vincentian Friends,

I pray you are having a joyous Advent season! Over the next two weeks or so, our Vincentians will be all over their neighborhoods with Christmas gifts, food baskets and even hot meals to help our friends in need experience the love and warmth of the Christmas season.



Isn't there room in that basket to share some faith as well?

At the USCCB's July National Convocation, we were asked to Share the Joy of the Gospel through Pope Francis's words and the words of our local bishops. We all see the increasing secularization of our culture and the slow and steady erosion of faith with each generation. The Church is taking steps to counter this and we as Vincentians, a strong public face of the Church, can do our part.

Evangelization is not always the in-your-face shouting of Gospel readings. In fact this seldom works. What does work is the continued example of living a life in Christ's image to love others as we love God. As others see us as the happy children of God, some will naturally want to join us.

[Read more.](#)

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Bjornson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dave

[To Top](#)



Christmas Message from SVdP International President Renato Lima de Oliveira

[Click here](#) to view a special Christmas video message from SVdP International President General, Renato Lima de Oliveira.

[To Top](#)



*Responding to Local
Disasters Nationally*

Residents in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands still struggling after Fall Hurricanes

Hurricane Maria made its first landfall on the Caribbean island nation of Dominica on Monday, September 18, 2017 as a Category 5 storm with winds howling up to 160 mph. Days later, the storm devastated the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico, according to CNN.

The U.S. Virgin Islands were dealt two devastating blows when they were hit hard by Hurricane Irma and then Hurricane Maria just 14 days later. According to the New York Times, Maria drowned and destroyed what Irma did not, leaving the Islands in ruins.

SVdP Disaster Services are still needed! The SVdP Disaster Services Corporation deployed a team of 14 volunteers to Puerto Rico from Dec. 2-9, 2017. While there, they hosted two Parish Recovery Assistance Centers (P-RACs) where they served families that had been devastated by Hurricanes Maria, Irma and poverty.

Two more P-RACs are being planned to open in January 2018 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. A deployment to assist in the U.S. Virgin Islands is being considered for February 2018. Both the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are still declared under a State of Emergency.

While you may not be able to be on the ground in the impacted areas, you can help with the extensive recovery effort from home. Your contribution is critical to meeting the needs of those of who have lost everything!

[\(Click here to support SVdP relief efforts\)](#)

[Click here to read more about the current appeal for assistance for hurricane survivors.](#)



We are deeply thankful for all you do to give glory to God by giving to those in need!

For more information about the Disaster Services, contact:

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

Brooke Newton
Deputy Director
Disaster Services Corporation
SVdP-USA
bnewton@svdpdisaster.org

[To Top](#)



QUESTIONS And Answers

Q: We have a Conference president approaching the end of her second term and trying to plan her succession. No current member of this active Conference seems willing to step up to succeed her. If that does not change, what should happen with the Conference?

A: There are two choices, either elect someone from within or close the Conference. It is up to the Conference members to step forward and provide leadership for their Conference. A District Council president can temporarily appoint someone to be Conference president if no president is nominated before the current president term ends; but an election has to take place as soon as possible and within a reasonable time. The current president should NOT stay in office by either appointment or re-election.

Q: Can you cite how often Councils (not Conferences) are to meet? I can't seem to locate this information in "The Rule."

A: District Council meeting frequencies may be determined based on the criteria described in Article 13, page 129 of the National Bylaws.

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

[Q&A Index](#)

Submit your questions to:

Pam Hudson

National Director of Governance & Membership Services

phudson@svdpusa.org

[To Top](#)

2017 Annual Reports Revised Due Dates

The new and improved 2017 reports have been streamlined and now require 50 percent less data collected! Hardcopy forms are available now at:
<http://www.svdpusa.org/members/Documents/Annual-Report-Forms>

Given some technical difficulties with our new database development, the integrated annual report functionality is temporarily impacted.

We are working hard with the vendor to resolve these problems; meanwhile, the online annual reporting capability will not be accessible. At this time we anticipate the online reporting capability to be available in January 2018.

As a result the online annual report data entry deadlines have been extended as follows:

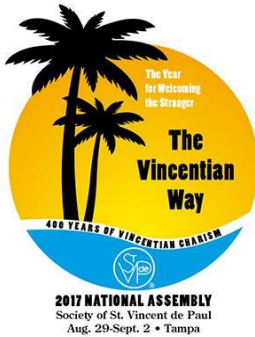
Thrift Store & Special Works Annual Reports:

The owner (Conference or Council) of the store or special work has to do these reports first since the owner needs the store and special work information for their (Conference or Council) report.

Conference Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 9/30 Due Date: January 31	Conference Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 12/31 Due Date: February 28
District Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 9/30 Due Date: March 31	District Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 12/31 Due Date: March 31
(Arch)Diocesan Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 9/30 Due Date: April 30	(Arch)Diocesan Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 12/31 Due Date: April 30

Thank you for your patience during this online data entry delay.

[To Top](#)



2017 National Assembly StoryBooth Videos now available Online

At the 2015 SVdP National Assembly in Providence, Rhode Island, a new tradition was started of Vincentians sharing their stories about their experiences through "StoryBooth."

In a private space in the hotel, Vincentians had the opportunity to contribute to a video archive by telling their stories.

The questions were:

- 1) What inspired you to become a Vincentian and how has it changed your life?
- 2) What was your most memorable moment or moving home visit?
- 3) How has being a Vincentian increased your spirituality?

[Click here](#) to view this year's StoryBooth videos.

To view StoryBooth videos from National Assemblies past, [click here](#).

Video Recordings of Livestreamed Events from the 2017 SVdP National Assembly in Tampa

At this year's SVdP National Assembly in Tampa, Fla., the Society tried something new. A livestream of some events was offered to allow those who were unable to attend the meeting to still be a part of it all.

Those events were also recorded and are now available for online viewing. To view the home page and choose a video to watch, [click here](#).

Below you will see a list of the videos available. Click on the video you would like to watch and you will be redirected to the viewing site.

- [Welcome & President's Address](#)
- [Thursday Lunch Prayer and Address](#)

- [Retreat: Spiritual Leadership - The Quest for Integrity](#)
- [Friday Lunch Prayer & Addresses](#)
- [Racial Injustice - A Black Leader's Perspective on its Impact on Poverty](#)
- [Saturday Lunch Addresses & The St. Anne Catholic School Choir](#)
- [Saturday Closing Dinner & Keynote Addresses](#)
 - Please note that there are two periods during this video when the screen goes dark, but you still hear audio. The video will continue after the black screen. The times are 8:35 - 17:53 and 24:47 - 28:21.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the 2017 SVdP National Assembly so great! We will see you all in 2018 in San Diego!

[To Top](#)

501 (c) (3) Tax Exemption Notice

In October of 2016, the Society began a two-year plan to transition all Councils and Conferences (except Isolated Conferences) off the Society's Section 501(c)(3) Group Ruling with the IRS (GEN 5496).

As the deadline approaches, October 1, 2018, we take this opportunity to remind leadership of the need to take action to plan a smooth transition to the tax exempt process your Council will undertake. Please review the transition materials, included under the documents regarding the 501(c)(3) transition on the following website: <http://www.svdpusa.org/members/Documents/501-c-3>

The options contain step-by-step instructions for you to implement the necessary changes for your Conference and/or Council. We recommend Conferences and Councils work with their local attorney or accountant to help with the transition as needed.

For questions regarding the transition, contact:

Sherry Brown
314-576-3993 ext. 200
sbrown@svdpusa.org

***National has also arranged for additional legal support should you require it beyond the training materials and local professionals.**

[To Top](#)

SVdP Disaster Services Update



*Responding to Local
Disasters Nationally*

The Disaster Recovery Corner December 14, 2017

[Click here to read the December 14 issue of SVdP Disaster Services' newsletter, the Disaster Recovery Corner.](#)

Disaster Distress Helpline

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA's) Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters.

The Disaster Distress Helpline, 1-800-985-5990, is a national hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all residents in the United States and its territories. Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common reactions after a disaster. **Call 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746** to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

[Click here for more information.](#)

For more information about SVdP Disaster Services, visit their website by [clicking here](#).

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

For questions regarding Disaster Services, contact:

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

Brooke Newton
Deputy Director, SVdP Disaster Services
bnewton@svdpdisaster.org

[To Top](#)

Vincentian Formation

Vincentian Christmas Gifts

[Click here](#) for more information about Vincentian Christmas gifts and spirituality resources.

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

[To Top](#)



Sharing the Money!

Grants awarded for Systemic Change and Dental Programs to Councils and Conferences across the Country



The National Council of the U.S. Society of St. Vincent de Paul announces the awards for TWO grant programs totaling **\$229,120!** These funds are a result of an anonymous Foundation grant to the National Council.

**Systemic Change Awards total
\$197,120**

Dental Awards total \$32,000



[Click here](#) to see the full list of recipients.

National Vehicle Donation Program

With the holidays upon us, there will inevitably be an increase in requests for assistance made to local Conferences and Councils. The National Vehicle Donation Program (NVDP) is a great revenue stream to help offset these expenses. The holidays are also an excellent time to promote the NVDP program, because many individuals donate their vehicles in an effort to receive a year-end tax deduction. Do you know someone getting rid of a car, truck, motorcycle, boat, or even an airplane? Have them donate it through the National Vehicle Donation Program before January 1st, and they will receive a 2017 tax deduction.

Donors can call 1-800-322-8284 to donate, or visit the NVDP website, at www.svdpusacars.org.

Tip: Now is the perfect time to put an ad in your parish bulletin promoting the NVDP program!



Do you have a Will?

Do you have a will? It is a low-cost way to ensure your assets are distributed according to your desires. Having a will is an excellent way to give yourself and your family piece of mind knowing they will receive part of your assets.

For more information on planning your estate, you can check the toolbox on the SVdP website: <http://new.svdpusa.com/developertools/Planned-Giving>.

For more information regarding Development, contact:

Steve Martinez
Chief Development Officer
314-576-3993 ext. 213
smartinez@svdpusa.org

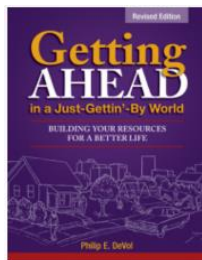
Gerri Sample
Senior Development Associate
314-576-3993 ext. 211
gsample@svdpusa.org

[To Top](#)



Getting Ahead Facilitator Training 2018-2019

***Registration for February 2018 Getting Ahead Facilitator Training will open soon. Look for a link in next week's E-Gazette! And see below for more information about 2018-2019 training.**



Have you started planning your 2018 Systemic Change activities yet?

Conferences and Councils across the country are running Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World, to empower individuals to build their own personal plans for economic security and create Systemic Change.

Learn more about [Getting Ahead here](#), and mark your calendars for our 2018-19 Facilitator Training!

2018

- Saturday, February 10 & 17 - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Eastern
- Monday, May 7 & 14 - 2:30-5:30 p.m. Eastern
- Thursday, September 6 & 13 - 6:30-9:30 p.m. Eastern

- Wednesday, November 28 & December 5 - 6:30-9:30 p.m. Eastern

2019

- Saturday, March 9 & 16 - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Eastern

Open registration is always advertised in the E-Gazette.

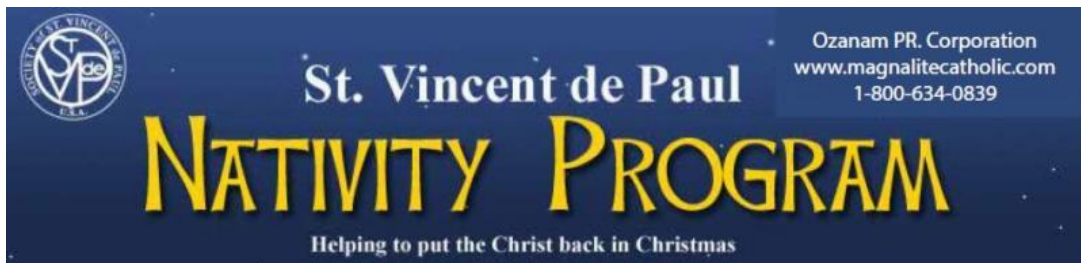
For more information, contact:

Tom Mulloy

National Director of Poverty Programs

tmulloy@svdpusa.org

[To Top](#)



The St. Vincent de Paul Nativity Program is a way for us to serve the needy by helping to bring Christ back into their lives during Christmas time. We are making a nativity kit available that includes a Nativity ornament and a booklet of the story of Christmas, the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

[Click here for more information about Ozanam PR's Nativity Program.](#)

Questions, contact:

Ozanam PR Corporation

www.magnalitecatholic.com

1-800-634-0839

[To Top](#)



SVdP in the News



International News

'Toys for Tickets' raised over \$2,000 for local Kids

CANADA:

Parking tickets were turned into holiday cheer this morning as Councilor Pat Hehn presented over \$2,000 in children's toys from the 2017 Toys for Tickets campaign to the local chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.



"Thank you to everyone who chose to turn their parking tickets into a new children's toy. Your donation makes the holiday season

brighter for local families in need," said Councilor Hehn, who presented the toys on behalf of mayor and council. "The Toys for Tickets campaign has become a tradition in Orillia and has brought so much joy to Orillia children over the years."

[Read more.](#)

More International SVdP News

AUSTRALIA: [Vinnies Leader warns Stress Levels at Christmas will leave many People Homeless](#)

IRELAND: [Chiropractor to accept Toys as Payment for a special Cause](#)

National News

He 'gave up,' but then St. Vincent de Paul put him back on Track with a Job

PITTSBURGH, CA:

James Neitte clearly isn't the shy, retiring type, but he looked down at the floor as he said - voice trailing off - he was "in a bad spot" last spring. Then a friend handed him a flier for the St. Vincent de Paul Workforce Development Program.

With skills in construction, Neitte was a finalist for several jobs over the past few years, but a felony conviction in 2011 on firearms charges, and six months served in the Contra Costa County Jail, ultimately torpedoed him. Some of those employers, he said, were brutally honest about that.

"I just gave up applying," said Neitte, a Pinole resident. "My confidence was below zero."

He and four other people with "barriers to employment" - time behind bars, or substance abuse problems, or homelessness - graduated in October from the six-month Workforce Development Program at St. Vincent de Paul. It was tailor-made for people like Neitte who want to turn their lives around despite such obstacles.

[Read More](#)

MORE NATIONAL SVdP NEWS

METAIRIE, LA:

[Louisiana Conference collects Toiletries for Friends in Need](#)

PHOENIX, AZ: [Valley Partnership creates Urban Farm for St. Vincent de Paul](#)

BELLEVILLE, IL: [Renovations are in the works for Soup Kitchen that helps Thousands](#)

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



James Neitte loads furniture donations into the St. Vincent de Paul Society truck from a home in Orinda, Calif., on Thursday, Oct. 12, 2017. Neitte has gone through St. Vincent de Paul's Workforce Development Program, a six-month program that teaches relevant works skills, customer service/interpersonal skills, job search skills and how to create a resume among other skills. Photo: Dan Honda/Bay Area News Group

Calendar of Events

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

Dates for 2018:

**Board Meeting
St. Louis, MO
January 26 - 27**

**Catholic Social Ministry Gathering
February 3 - 6
Washington, DC**

**Florida Subregional Meeting
February 24
Orlando, FL**

**Southeast Subregional Meeting
April 6-7
Atlanta, GA**

**Midyear Meeting
April 11-14
St. Louis, MO**

**Midwest Regional Meeting
May 18-19
Owensboro, KY**

**Board Meeting
June 8-9
St. Louis, MO**

**North Central Regional Meeting
June 21-23
Rochester, MN**

**Eastern Regional Meeting
June 22-23
Emmitsburg, MD**

**Invitation for Renewal
July 11 - 15
St. Louis, MO**

**National Assembly
August 29 - September 1
San Diego, CA**

**Invitation for Renewal
November 14 - 18
St. Louis, MO**

[To Top](#)

SVdP Social Media and Mobile App



[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!](#)



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

[To Top](#)

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.](#)

[To Top](#)

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!

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 me!

Michelle Boyer

Communications and Administrative Associate

Email: mboyer@svdpusa.org

(314) 576-3993 ext. 219