



175
YEARS of
NEIGHBORS
HELPING
NEIGHBORS

The Society Scoop



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

November 2020

Program Updates

Ameren Clean Slate

SVDP has not received Ameren Clean Slate funding. Neighbors wanting to benefit from this program should contact a participating agency.

[Click here for more information](#)

Free Medication from Rx Outreach

For years we've had a very successful prescription drug program (now through Optum RX) helping thousands of Neighbors in need at no cost to them or the Conference. That program continues to serve you and our Neighbors. The following is information pertaining to a program that is not an SVDP program, but another way to serve our Neighbors by referring them to RX Outreach for other prescription drug assistance.

Rx Outreach received two grants and are able to provide medication at no cost to patients in the St. Louis area who meet the criteria listed in the flyer. Please share with Neighbors in Need.



Struggling to pay for your medications?

**We may be able to help you get them
for free!**

You may be eligible for assistance if:

1. You live in St. Louis City/County, St. Charles or Jefferson Counties (MO) or St. Clair or Madison Counties (IL)
2. You or your household are experiencing financial hardship **due to COVID-19** and have difficulty paying for your basic needs (prescriptions, food, housing, utilities, personal care items)
3. Your medication is carried by Rx Outreach (<https://rxoutreach.org/find-your-medication>)

To learn more or to apply for assistance, please contact Bridgette Sims at 314-627-6139 or bridgette.sims@rxoutreach.org.

Rx Outreach COVID-19 Response efforts are made possible through the support of the Regional Response Fund & Deaconess Foundation.

About Rx Outreach

Rx Outreach is the nation's largest, non-profit, fully licensed, mail order pharmacy. It offers more than 1,000 medication strengths at affordable prices. Missioned to provide affordable medication to the underserved, Rx Outreach partners with hundreds of clinics and organizations across the U.S. to provide a crucial health safety net for those who battle both illness and poverty. Since 2010, Rx Outreach has saved people in need more than \$662 million on their prescription medications compared to retail costs.

Website: rxoutreach.org
Twitter: twitter.com/RxOutreach
Facebook: facebook.com/RxOutreach
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/rx-outreach/

From Father Jim

I know the election is over, though the counting is most likely not. I'm thinking of later in the month - Thanksgiving. Love in the time of cholera; thanksgiving in the time of Covid-19. Really? Yes really.

I'm convinced that gratitude and thanksgiving are activities that mark the spiritually mature and,

even more so, mark the lives of good Vincentians. We want for our Neighbors in Need justice, abundance, opportunity, security. We want all the blessings which belong by right to every human being because God's will is for us to live cooperatively and well with one another; brothers and sisters in God's human family. So far, so good; but it is easy to get lost in pain, the dysfunction, the injustice, the racism, the obstacles the poor face. We see, and we respond, we understand, and we support. We willingly enter into long-term relationships knowing that the work of justice and the work of compassion is never immediately accomplished. So, what keeps us going? Motivated and inspired? It is rarely victories, though we occasionally experience some. It is God's life in us, grace which sanctifies, which is so real and powerful, so expansive that it must be shared; we are blessed and so we serve. Grateful people are giving people, they are faithful people, they are long suffering people, they are compassionate people.



Our membership in the Society is a great gift to us, it brings us close to the ones for whom God has a special love, and urges us to be the hands, the heart, the mind of God for them. Be grateful, we are blessed.

Serve with love.

Fr. Jim

Northwest District Conference Comes to Aid of St. Francis of Assisi in Portage des Sioux

After the St. Francis of Assisi's Conference funds were depleted after paying utilities for a Neighbor in Need, each fellow District Conference quickly came to its assistance, twinning to cover the extra funds necessary to pay the Neighbor's rent.

Twinning is a process where Conferences assist other Conferences that lack the resources to conduct their works of mercy. The Rule calls twinning one of our most "cherished activities." When we choose to Twin with another Conference, we no longer desire to think only of the needs of our own Conference but also of the needs of another Conference.

"There is a true happiness and joy of the Society working together across many people across many Conferences to achieve the mission of helping our Neighbors in Need."

**-Northwest District
President Dan Asahl**

"I'm in complete admiration of all the conferences serving St Charles, Lincoln and Warren counties. When I think of the Friendship pillar, I often think of Vincentians helping Vincentians to better Serve those in need. Thanks for being the face of Christ to our Neighbors in Need, AND TO EACH OTHER," said District President, Dan Asahl. "There is a true happiness and joy of the Society working together

across many people across many Conferences to achieve the mission of helping our Neighbors in Need. We are many parts; we are just one body! This is what we're all about."

"I am so honored, blessed, and humbled to be part of northwest district," said Vincentian Carole Burkemper. "With everything going on in the world today, this group is my safe, trustworthy refuge for friendship, spirituality, and service."

In Case You Missed It: Videos from John Foppe



Seeking and Serving Christ: A Personal Story

[Click here to
watch](#)



The Hardest Thing I Do... (But Most Rewarding)

[Click here to
watch](#)

Virtual Advent Retreat



You are invited to our Virtual Advent Retreat, held over Zoom on **Saturday, December 5 from 9:00-11:00am.**

With the pandemic, unrest, and hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it's helpful to step back and reflect on Christ and our spiritual growth. We look forward to you joining us!

175th Anniversary Live Stream Mass

175 YEARS of
NEIGHBORS
HELPING
NEIGHBORS



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Join us for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass commemorating the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States and St. Louis on **November 20 from 9:30-11:00 am.** Due to social distancing, the Mass will be available to watch via live stream.

[Click here to register](#)

[Click here to register](#)

Conference Recruitment Campaign Coming Soon

The Council has created a recruitment campaign to help you find and recruit more Vincentians for your Conference. This campaign will launch in five pilot Conferences this month. A Council-wide launch will follow shortly after.

Have you heard anyone say recently *"I feel so isolated – I want to reach out to someone but I don't know how"* ? God calls His people in lots of ways – sometimes subtly, sometimes through the crazy circumstances of their lives. This is one of those "crazy times" – the important question is "are we listening?" As Vincentians we can be a channel for God's call by inviting friends and parishioners to join the Society to answer that call. God has given us an unexpected opportunity – let's not waste it.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation." 2Cor 6

Here's an ad you can expect to find in this recruitment campaign.

**You've heard His call
to help others.
Is it time to answer?**

**Experience the joy of
being a Vincentian!**

Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul - lay men and women serving God and our Neighbors for 175 years. We provide food, clothing, shelter, medicine and more for Neighbors right here in our community.

Text SVPD to (314) 798-7997 or call
(314) 881-6075 to learn more



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



From the Voice of the Poor...

**VOICE
of the POOR**

**Northwest District
Homeless
Outreach
Program**

On occasion we would like to highlight programs



managed by SVDP conferences/districts. We are pleased to inform you about the Homeless Outreach Program instituted by the Northwest District.

Prior to 2018 some of the conferences in the Northwest District were individually helping the homeless in St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren counties. In 2018, the Northwest District formed a collaboration among its conferences to provide temporary housing and develop best practices. The conferences also provide food, clothing, and gas vouchers to those experiencing homelessness.

Click the image above to listen to Vincentian Ann Yaeger talk about how ServWare has helped their Homeless Outreach Program

ServWare

The mission of the program is to provide emergency hotel housing and to help address other needs of the homeless, with the goal of attaining permanent housing. Depending on the situation and the conference, funding may come from the district or from the conference. The Vincentian that makes initial contact with the unhoused person can make the decision on whether to fund a hotel stay for up to a week. In certain cases, a longer stay may be granted, particularly if the person is close to attaining permanent housing.

Click here to read more

Sign up for Voter Voice: votervoice.net/SVDPUSA/home (Enter St. Louis in the Membership Group field.)

Interested in joining or learning more about the Voice of the Poor Committee? Contact Dianne Marshak at dianne.marshak@gmail.com

Tidbits from Elizabeth Barbieri

Well Vincentians, we've made it to the 11th month of 2020. I read that "we're part of history" going through this year. It's true, history books will certainly write about us.

I have a suggestion for a quiet moment. National SVdP has put together great material for SVdP that will improve or *keep the fire burning* in your Conferences during this Covid Time. If you haven't done so, please go to:

www.svdpusa.org/members/Documents/Governance-in-A-Box.

Grab a cup of warm cup of coffee and click on one of the tabs.



Upcoming Formation Opportunities

Ozanam Orientations

Ozanam Orientation

Other Opportunities

Building Rapport with Neighbors

Sat., November 21, 2020

9 am - 12 pm

*Virtual Orientation over
Zoom*

Ozanam Orientation

Wednesday, December 9

9 am - 12 pm

*Virtual Orientation over
Zoom*

Ozanam Orientation

Sat., January 30, 2021:

9 am - 2 pm

*Immaculate Conception-
Dardenne Prairie, 7701
Highway N, Dardenne
Prairie, MO 63368*

Tuesday, November 14

2 pm - 4 pm

Virtual Event over Zoom

175th Anniversary Mass Live Stream

Friday, November 20

9:30 am - 11 am

Virtual Event over Zoom

Living Catholic Social Teaching

Monday, December 14

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Virtual Event over Zoom

Advent Retreat

Saturday, December 5, 2020:

9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Virtual Retreat over Zoom

[Click here to
register](#)

Help for Your Conference! Parish Bulletin Toolkit

October - December 2020

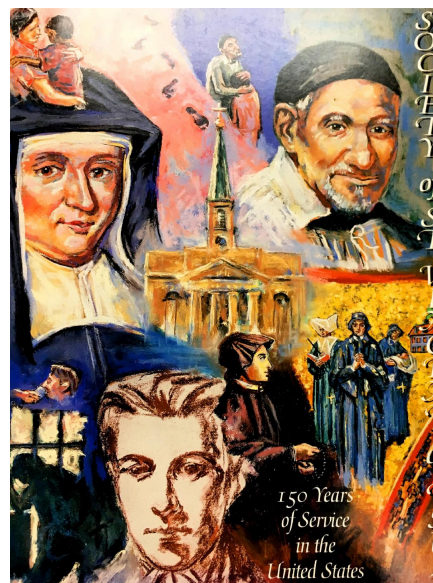
In it, you'll find

- SVdP National Bulletin Announcement Suggestions
- Bulletin Announcement Suggestions catered to SVdP St. Louis
- Bulletin Graphic Suggestions
- Social Media Suggestions
- Pictures for social media suggestions.

None of these are a requirement and can always be altered to fit your Conference's needs. To download a picture or document, simply double click on it and then click the arrow in the top right corner to download to your computer.

If you have any questions, please email Elizabeth at

175th Anniversary



#svdpstl175 This month is the anniversary of our founding in St. Louis on November 20. We'll be celebrating with a special anniversary mass. 25 years ago, we celebrated our 150th anniversary at the 1995 National Convention here in St. Louis complete with a message from the president!

elizabethh@svdpstl.org

[Click here for the bulletin toolkit](#)

[Click here to see pictures from the 150th Anniversary celebration](#)

Keep in Your Prayers

Please Pray For:

Mick Martens
Sacred Heart (Florissant) Conference

Elizabeth Haynes
St. Sabina Conference

Laura Stauder
Council Office

John Walters
Council Office

To add a name to the list contact Steve Rupp at stever@svdpstl.org or (314) 881-6018



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Louis | [\[svdpstlouis.org\]](http://svdpstlouis.org)

