



The Society Scoop

Advent Message from John Foppe



Executive Director, John Foppe, shares a message on waiting this Advent. To watch this video, please click the button below.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

iGiveCatholic 2022



Thank you SO MUCH to everyone who participated in **#iGiveCatholic!**

Because of your generosity, we exceeded our goal of \$5,000 and raised over \$13,500 on **#GivingTuesday**

We are grateful to each and every one of you for giving so generously to the Society and our Neighbors in Need.

Communication Survey

How well are we communicating with you? We'd like to know!
Please take this short survey to give us some feedback.

i n c e n t i a n C o m m u n i c a t i o n S u r v e y

Take
My
Survey

Program Updates and Resources

ServWare Spotlight: Neighbor Searches

ServWare is a great tool to help us serve our Neighbors more effectively by keeping track of our Neighbor records more efficiently.

Did you know that you can search for NINs throughout the entire council to see if they have been helped by another conference?

This is accomplished by selecting “Council Neighbors” from the “View” dropdown menu in ServWare. Another important aspect of this feature is that we can quickly identify Neighbors who have a history of fraudulent or abusive behavior. These individuals will have an “i” in a red circle next to their last name. When you hover

your mouse over this symbol, a message will be displayed describing the details of the issue. Each conference can add these alerts to any NIN record in their conference that warrants it. This is accomplished by adding text to the "Alert Note" field at the bottom of the general tab of a Neighbor record. We encourage you to reserve these alerts for only the most significant of issues. The Council Office also will make alerts present in ServWare when something comes to our attention.

If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions about ServWare, or if you want to schedule a training session, please call or email John Doyle at 314-881-6016 or johnd@svdpstl.org.

Help for the Homeless

For a list of warming center sites, please visit the United Way website by clicking the button below.

[Click Here for Warming Center Sites](#)

Rapid Rehousing

Plans for expanding our pilot program are underway.
Stay tuned for updates in January!

Pregnancy Care Partnership

This partnership ensures pregnant women have the support they need during and after their pregnancy. SVdP is seeking Conferences willing to provide support and friendship to these women and their children. For more information, contact Julie Komanetsky at juliek@svdpstl.org.

Pregnancy Care Zoom: Please join us on Wednesday, December 7 at 1 PM over Zoom to discuss the mothers you are assisting! Share resources and offer support. Please note that we will only host one Zoom session during December.

Wednesday, December 7 at 1 PM:

Meeting ID: 881 3423 6811

Passcode: 360366

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Rise and Shine! Save the Date!

It's time again for the annual Hardee's Rise and Shine



Campaign for Heat Up St. Louis. Join us and sign up and be an official greeter at Hardee's on Friday, February 10, 2023.

Our SVdP participation and our partnership with Heat Up St. Louis help get funds that serve our Neighbors in Need with utility payments.

Each volunteer gets a free breakfast sandwich and a souvenir apron!

Please return a completed list of volunteers from your Conference, and request your location and time. Greeters can work any time between 6 a.m. and 10:30 am for a one-hour minimum.

[Click here](#) to view this year's most convenient Hardee's locations

[Click here](#) to get the sign-up form

All information and questions should be sent to Timothy Massey
timothym@svdp.org

Ozanam Orientation

The Ozanam Orientation is a foundational offering for all Vincentians covering the spirituality, purpose, history, approach, and structure of the Society. New Vincentians are expected to attend an Ozanam Orientation within their first year in the Society.

January 28, 2023

9:00 am – 1:30 pm

Location: Immaculate Conception (Union)

[Click Here To Register](#)



FREE Income Tax Services

St. Louis Tax Assistance Program provides **FREE** INCOME TAX RETURN PREPARATION for individuals and families with incomes up to \$60,000.

SATURDAY TAX SERVICE LOCATIONS

63108 - GRAND CENTER Cardinal Ritter College Prep 701 North Spring Avenue St. Louis, MO 63108 314-325-9941	63111- SOUTH CITY St. Mary's High School 4701 S. Grand Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63111 314-782-7454	63136 - NORTH COUNTY Believers Temple Word Fellowship 2115 Chambers Road St. Louis, MO 63136 323-786-3138
63301 - ST. CHARLES Lewis & Clark Career Center 2400 Zumbuhl Road St. Charles, MO 63301 314-643-7875		63136 - FLORISSANT Dr. Charles M. Roach Legacy Center 11015 Old Halls Ferry Road Florissant, MO 63136 314-325-9941

WEEKDAY TAX SERVICE LOCATIONS

63304 - ST. CHARLES Kiskadee Road Branch Library 1000 Kiskadee Road St. Charles, MO 63304 636-447-7323	63114 - OVERLAND Overland Community Center 9225 Lackland St. Louis, MO 63114 314-786-2782	63118 - SOUTH CITY Thomas Dunn Learning Center 3113 Gasconade St. Louis, MO 63118 314-635-8753
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Go to [St. Louis Tax Assistance Program \(stlouistap.org\)](http://St. Louis Tax Assistance Program (stlouistap.org)) to make your appointment

TAP does **not** prepare income tax returns for taxpayers who have:

♦ Incomes over \$60,000 ♦ Rental Property

SPONSORS: Believers Temple Word Fellowship, Cardinal Ritter College Prep, City of Overland, Conner Ash PC, MRV Banks, St. Charles City-County Library District, St. Charles School District Adult and Community Education, St. Louis Chapter MSCPA, St. Mary's High School, Thomas Dunn Learning Center, Trinity Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, United Way of Greater St. Louis, Wells Fargo



Vincentian Meditation

The Incarnation and Our Vincentian Vocation

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us..." The Incarnation of Jesus Christ is a great theological mystery of the Christian faith where, the hypostatic union of God and man in Christ, the two natures, each retaining its own properties, are united in one person. St. Vincent tells us that the Incarnation is a great mystery...great in itself, and great in its consequences.

During Advent, let us reflect how this sublime gift of Love has a special significance for our Vincentian vocation.

Why did God become man? Scripture provides an answer in 1 Timothy (1:15): "Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners." God made man in his image, however, through original sin and our own transgressions, we are a fallen people. St. Thomas Aquinas argued that, by the mysteries of his bodily life, Jesus called men to spiritual life; he showed the dignity of human nature and demonstrated the immensity of God's love for us. By His example as a divine person, through his obedience, prayer, mercy and healing, Jesus expresses his gratitude and praise for the Father who sent Him to save us. As the Father sent the Son, so Jesus sends us forth in our Vincentian vocation to imitate Him in our incarnational work as servants of love, mercy and forgiveness.

[Read More](#)

Spring Assembly 2023

Come join hundreds of your fellow Vincentians for a morning of Spirituality, Friendship and Service including:



- Mass—The perfect way to start our day!
- Continental Breakfast
- Keynote Address--Fr. Chris Martin, Vicar for Strategic Planning overseeing All Things New.
- Breakout Sessions—Great opportunity to get to know the Vincentians you may be merging with under All Things New.
- Formation, Programs and All Things New planning updates.

More details to follow in upcoming newsletters. You won't want to miss this event.

Reserve your spot TODAY!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

SVdP in the Media

Reynaldo Belfort-Perrilus, SJ features Vincentian Gwen Chambers of St. Teresa and St. Bridget Conference in his St. Louis University Film Project, "Loving Attentiveness: Encountering God in the Urban



Poor.”

About the video: In the face of a decaying region in the city of St. Louis, Gwen Chambers, a candid and devoted member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, supports her native community. Along with her

companions, she helps the poor, encounters God in the process, and becomes a beacon of hope and revitalization for a largely forgotten North region.

[Watch the video here](#)

Perryville Vincentians Awarded Medal



The St. Vincent de Paul Perryville Conference honored the following Vincentians with the Medal of St. Vincent de Paul:

Donald and Dorothy Barry
Bob Ray
Ed Schumer

Congratulations and thank you for all that you do to serve our Neighbors in Need!

Eagle Scout Partners with SVdP



Affton, Missouri | 14-year-old Sam Miklovic collected money and items to stock St. Cecilia's Food Pantry, 5418 Louisiana Avenue. Helped by his dad, proud Grandpa Joe Miklovic, and Scout Master of Troop 161, Sam collected:

- 48 cans of Tuna
- 24 cans of Tidbit Pineapple
- 6 containers of Disinfectant Wipes
- 10 Beef Stew Meat Packages

- 60 Tubes of Toothpaste
- Financial donations

Sam says the project took many weeks of planning and execution. Food items and funds are still being tallied. For donations, Sam turned to The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, St. Cecilia Parishioners, and St. Mary Magdalene Parishioners.

“The Project was a lot of work, and I feel really good about the results,” says Sam.

Sam is a member of St. Cecelia’s Parish and a freshman at St. Mary’s High School. He graduated from St. Simon’s grade school last year. Sam’s grandfather, Joe Miklovic, is the Treasurer at Mary Magdalen St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

The Story Behind Rudolph, the Red Nose Reindeer



Vincention Joanna May served first as the President of Assumption, Matese, and then as a member of the Vincention Advisory Committee. Her grandfather, Bob May, created the story of Rudolph, the Red Nose Reindeer!

As the holiday season of 1938 came to Chicago, Bob May wasn’t feeling much comfort or joy. A 34-year-old ad writer for Montgomery Ward, May was exhausted and nearly broke. His wife, Evelyn, was bedridden, on the losing end of a two-year battle with cancer. This left Bob to look after their four-year old-daughter, Barbara.

One night, Barbara asked her father, “Why isn’t my mommy like everybody else’s mommy?” As he struggled to answer his daughter’s question, Bob remembered the pain of his own childhood. A small, sickly boy, he was constantly picked on and called names. But he wanted to give his daughter hope, and show her that being different was nothing to be ashamed of. More than that, he wanted her to know that he loved her and would always take care of her. So he began to spin a tale about a reindeer with a bright red nose who found a special place on Santa’s team. Barbara loved the story so much that she made her father tell it every night before bedtime. As he did, it grew more elaborate. Because he couldn’t afford to buy his daughter a gift for Christmas, Bob decided to turn the story into a homemade picture book.

[Read The Full Story
Here](#)

From the Voice of the Poor

Who We Are

The Voice of the Poor (VOP) Committee works to break the cycle of poverty by listening to our

Learn
More

Did you know ...

- The future prospects of a low-income child in the Archdiocese of St. Louis--his or her future income and likelihood of graduation, incarceration, marriage, and employment--are linked to the neighborhood where he or she grew up.
- The Council's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan includes a goal to enhance the home visits in a selected neighborhood in order to identify impediments to prosperity and potential solutions.
- A mere \$0.15 an hour raise in Missouri can lead to the loss of hundreds of dollars of benefits per month.
- The Voice of the Poor Committee is partnering with the Missouri Catholic Conference and Catholic Charities to work on a policy solution for these benefits cliffs.

The attached document includes more information about the obstacles faced by our Neighbors in Need, the Voice of the Poor Committee's efforts to address them, and how you can help. You can also find a myriad of Voice of the Poor resources on the [St. Louis Council website](#): reading materials, videos, activities for Conference meetings, home visit mentoring tips, suggested bulletin announcements, and much more!

Read
More

Reminder... Rosary Every Wednesday Night

Join us --
SVdP St. Louis
Rosary Wednesday
8 p.m.
via Zoom.



[Click Here to Join](#)

Meeting ID: 989 8066 7271 **Passcode:** Vincent or dial in: (312) 626-6799

Keep in Your Prayers

Please Pray for The Sick:

Please pray for Vincentians
and Neighbors in Need who are ill.

Don Deves
Seven Holy Founders

Rich Fischer
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Please Pray for The Deceased:

Ryan Georgen
Holy Name of Jesus

Wayne Winters
St. Bernadette



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

Click the icons below to follow us on social media and stay up-to-date with what's happening at SVdP!

