



## Why Are You a Vincentian?



Vincentians share why they are called to serve our Neighbors in Need at the Council Office Open House last December.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

## Program Updates and Resources

### **ServWare Spotlight: Vincentian Records**

ServWare (SW) is not *only* a great tool that can help us serve our neighbors more effectively and efficiently, it is also our Council's primary way of conducting our member census. The council office is currently finishing our annual reports for National and providing the demographic data of our Vincentian members is required. Did you know that you can help us in this process by updating (editing) your profile in SW? This can be done by all SW users or by a conference SW administrator.

The individual SW user simply needs to hover their cursor over their username in the top right corner of the SW webpage and select "Edit Profile." Contact information should be updated as needed, and ethnicity and age range should be completed. There is a bonus feature on this page where the user can edit the default number of records shown on the neighbor and request pages, respectively.

All SW conference administrators can also make edits to conference member profiles by selecting "Conference Members" under the Admin dropdown menu. From here, the administrator can edit any member profile in the conference by selecting the blue "Edit" button next to the member's name. Don't forget to

select the second tab, "Membership," on this profile page to access the fields concerning conference position, conference roles, and demographic data. If you need to add specific roles that your conference utilizes for members, you can add/edit this list by selecting, "Member Roles" under the "Selection List Options" heading under the Admin dropdown menu.

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](mailto:johnd@svdpstl.org).

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### **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](#)

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### **State Assistance for Housing Relief**

The State Assistance for Housing Relief program (SAFHR) for renters and landlords will not accept applications after January 31, 2023. Those received prior to the deadline will continue to be processed until all funds have been expended. Eligible Missouri tenants in need of assistance with past due rent or up to three months of forward rent should apply before January 32 at [www.mohousingresources.com/safhr](http://www.mohousingresources.com/safhr)

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### **Rapid Rehousing**

With approval from the Board of Directors, SVdP Rapid Rehousing will expand into Franklin and St. Charles County on a limited basis. The pilot will continue to serve Neighbors in St. Louis City and County, Jefferson County, St. Francois County and Ste. Genevieve County. The program is available to Neighbors who are at risk of homelessness or who have been homeless for 30 days or less. Additional eligibility criteria must also be met.

Conferences who want to refer neighbors to the program MUST participate in a Zoom Information session and must be willing to continue to walk with the Neighbor while they are in the program. Information sessions are open to all Vincentians, including those who would like a refresher. Pre-registration is not necessary. Simply join us on Zoom for one of the sessions below.

#### **Thursday January 17 at 6 PM**

Meeting ID: 844 9901 9085  
Passcode: 674076

[Join Meeting | Jan.  
17](#)

#### **Thursday, January 19 at 3 PM**

Meeting ID: 884 3189 0816  
Passcode: 530607

[Join Meeting | Jan.  
19](#)

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## **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](mailto:juliek@svdpstl.org).

**Pregnancy Care Zoom:** If your Conference is working with a pregnant mother and you would like to discuss her situation or learn about possible resources, please join us on Zoom!

**Wednesday, January 18 at 1 PM**

Meeting ID: 871 6258 3593

Passcode: 861723

**Join Meeting | Jan.  
18**

**Wednesday, February 1 at 6 PM**

**(NOTE: time change!)**

Meeting ID: 871 6258 3593

Passcode: 861723

**Join Meeting | Feb.  
1**

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## **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](mailto:timothym@svdp.org)

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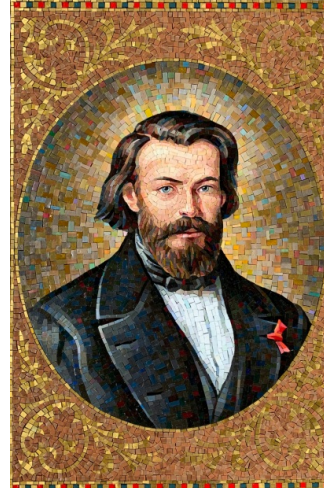
## **Ozanam Orientation**

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](#)

## 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.

Seating will be according to the 15 “Planning Areas” described to you at the All Things New Listening Sessions held at each parish.

We will have large name tags displaying your name and your parish. You will be sitting in the “Planning Area” that includes the parish or parishes you may be merging with. The name tags will make it easy to link up with Vincentians from those parishes and get to know them. We’ll have exercises that will help those new relationships begin to grow into friendships.

You can review the 15 Planning Areas and the merger options [here](#)

You won't want to miss this event. **Reserve your spot TODAY!**

[Register Now](#)

# Vincentian Humility & All Things New



## ALL THINGS NEW

Humility is one of the most spiritually transformative virtues in our journey toward holiness. But it is also a virtue that we should be vigilant in maintaining, as pride waits in the shadows, ready to

upstage. In explaining one of our 5 Vincentian virtues, the SVdP National Office says, “St. Augustine once called humility ‘the foundation of all the other virtues.’ With humility, Vincentians accept the truth about our frailties, gifts, talents, and charism, yet know that all God gives us is for others and that we can achieve nothing of eternal value without His grace. St. Louise de Marillac suggested that ‘humility is the knowledge of truth.’”

From their writings, many of the saints knew the struggle with humility – even our own St. Louise de Marillac. “I must practice interior humility by a desire for abjection and exterior humility by willingly accepting all the occasions which occur for humbling myself. I shall do this in order to honor the true and real humility of God Himself in whom I shall find the strength to overcome my pride, to combat my frequent outbursts of impatience, and to acquire charity and gentleness toward my neighbor...”

[Read More](#)

## Vincentian Wisdom Series

We are excited to announce our 2023 Vincentian Wisdom Series! These Zoom sessions will feature wisdom from Vincentians and staff members on important and timely topics.

We invite you to register for our first three sessions:

January 24 (6:00 – 7:00 pm): **We Are Called! – Introducing Our New “Vincentian Lifelong Engagement Model.”** This webinar will cover our newly created Vincentian Lifelong Engagement Model. What is the story arc of our Vincentian and Catholic life? Our new Vincentian Lifelong Engagement Model provides a top-level view of individual Vincentian growth over time.

[Register Here | Jan. 24](#)

February 15 (6:00 – 7:00 pm): **ServWare Configuration Options: Setting Your Conference Up For Success.** This webinar will demonstrate and discuss how a ServWare conference administrator can configure settings to optimize and fully utilize many of the most useful features of ServWare. We will be joined by several ServWare “super-users” to discuss their experiences and help answer any questions.



Register Here |  
Feb.15

March 8 (6:00 – 7:00 pm): **Essentials for Conference Vitality and Growth.** This webinar will cover minimum standards, standards of excellence, and other material important to conference vitality and growth.

Register Here | Mar.  
8

## Succession Planning: Who's Next?

Many wonderful Vincentian leaders get to the end of their 6-year term as Conference or District President and realize, "Oh no, I don't have anyone to replace me!" Then a stressful mad dash to find a replacement ensues. That mad dash can be avoided through Succession Planning. There is great information on this topic on the [National SVDP website](#).



Click on "Basics for Leadership" and scroll down to several Succession Planning documents that will help you prepare for that day. There are also great documents on preparing Vincentians to lead. Thank you and God bless!

## Vincentian Receives Frank Martinez Legacy Award



Bill Weisrock, a Vincentian at St. Cletus in the NW District, was awarded the Frank Martinez Legacy Award from Community Council. This honor is presented to a volunteer who has made a positive impact and contribution to the well-being of our community through their service.

Congratulations, Bill!

## From the Voice of the Poor

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 Neighbors, raising awareness, and enabling Vincentians to be effective servants of the poor and advocates for just policies and systems consistent with the mission of the Society,

Learn  
More

### This New Year, resolve to sign up for Voter Voice!

With Voter Voice, you will receive action alerts on legislation impacting our Neighbors in Need. The alert will include a link to a pre-composed email to your legislators, which you can make even more powerful by personalizing the subject line and text based on your own Vincentian experience.

For federal legislation alerts from the National Voice of the Poor Committee, visit the [Voice of the Poor Action Center](#) and enter “St. Louis” in membership group.

For state legislation alerts from the Missouri Catholic Conference, visit the [Missouri Catholic Advocacy Network \(MOCAN\)](#).

Be an advocate for our Neighbors in Need today!

## SVdP at Seek Conference

17,000 “seekers” attended last week’s Seek Conference in St. Louis, including several Vincentians from the St. Louis Council. Hosted by FOCUS, the conference provided a wonderful opportunity for college students and adults to hear from engaging Catholic speakers on missionary discipleship, spiritual multiplication, divine intimacy, accompaniment, the importance of small groups, and much more. If you missed it this year, the conference will be back in St. Louis in 2024!



Our National Office had a prominent presence in the exhibit hall, allowing numerous attendees to learn more about the Society.

## SVdP National Contemplation

### At the Top of the Stairs

“The little Society of St. Vincent de Paul is alive and growing,” wrote Bl. Frédéric, “the extraordinary needs of this winter have reinvigorated the activity of our



almsgiving.” [Letter 224, to Lallier, 1840] This was, he said, the way in which they strove to keep the fire of Christian brotherhood burning. But for this seven-year-old Society, “almsgiving” had already expanded to include the kind of works we now describe as “systemic change”.

Frédéric went on to explain that a “great many of our members have volunteered to help young ex-prisoners, and the excellent La Perrière is engaged in establishing preventive assistance.” [Ibid] Not content only to serve the needs of those already hungry and in poverty, the

Conference at Lyon was working to help ex-prisoners make their way back into society and setting up other programs to help people avoid poverty in the first place. This only makes sense – as the old saying goes, we fight poverty, not the poor. So why would Vincentians not try to head it off at the pass?

[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 Deceased:

Jane Mazurek  
St. Mary Magdalen, Brentwood

Bob Finkes  
Ascension



To add a name to the list contact Steve Rupp  
at [stever@sudpstl.org](mailto: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!**

