



Frédéric's 5

5 Things You Need to Know

Simplicity · Humility · Gentleness · Selflessness · Zeal

FEBRUARY 26, 2026



Our Vocation Is Unique

What is it that makes the Society of St. Vincent de Paul unique? What is our purpose? Or, to borrow from Simon Sinek – what is our “WHY?” Is it our focus on good works? There are many organizations, both faith-based and secular, that do good works. Is it our focus on friendship? There are many fraternal organizations that offer the chance for friends to gather together. Is it spirituality? There are many groups that provide a spiritual focus for their members.

[Read more...](#)

THIS WEEK'S FEATURE: FORMATION

The Saints Who Find and Form Us

By Tim Williams, Senior Director of Formation and Leadership Development

Dear brothers and sisters,

"We don't find the saints," my dear friend Fr. Ronald Ramson likes to say. "They find us."

St. Vincent, St. Louise, Bl. Frédéric, Bl. Rosalie – all of them, or at least one of them – has found you and led you to this vocation, perhaps in ways you did not even recognize at the time. For me, the call to this vocation came via my wife, who had attended an Invitation to Serve at our parish while I was away on business travel. She signed me up in absentia.

[Read more...](#)



ADVOCACY UPDATE: JOINT LETTER ON THE FARM BILL

By Ingrid Delgado, National Director of Public Policy & Advocacy



"Hunger... is a cry that rises to heaven and requires a swift response from every nation, every international organization, every regional, local or private body. No one can remain on the sidelines in the fight against hunger."

-Pope Leo XIV on World Food Day, 2025

The Farm Bill refers to legislation that is renewed by Congress regularly, addressing agricultural and food programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The House Committee on Agriculture will meet next week to consider bill text that was introduced by the committee. The Society's National President, John Berry, joined other national Catholic leaders in **writing** to the committee chairman and ranking member welcoming numerous provisions while expressing various concerns with the current proposal.

Berry was joined by leaders from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities USA, and Catholic Rural Life in making numerous recommendations related to domestic and international nutrition, rural development, and conservation programs. In urging that SNAP be strengthened, the letter calls for: delaying the state cost-sharing requirements that were included in last year's reconciliation bill, repealing the lifetime ban on SNAP benefits for persons with drug-related felony convictions, and providing Puerto Rico the opportunity to transition from its current Nutrition Assistance Program to SNAP.

Advocates who live in committee members' districts have the opportunity to contact their members about this issue **here**.

FAITH IN ACTION. ROOTED IN LOVE.



Breaking Ground in Phoenix, Arizona

SVdP has broken ground on its new Center for Purpose, Hope and Mission in downtown Phoenix, Ariz. The 26,162-square-foot space will serve as a hub for volunteerism, advocacy, and community engagement, expanding opportunities for people to come together in service. Congratulations to the team and their partners as construction begins.

[Learn more...](#)

FRIENDS OF THE POOR GRANT REMINDER: Southeast, North Central, and Mid-Atlantic Regional Cycle Closes on March 19

A few things to note:

- The website, application, and application assistance information have been updated. Be sure to use the **NEW APPLICATION** found [here](#).
- Confirmation or sign off from current Conference president is required, showing they reviewed and approved the application.
- Grants for emergency assistance needs of the poor, above and beyond available resources are awarded up to \$5,000 and we are awarding \$112,500 for this round.

Applying is simple. Download the application from the National Council Development Toolbox FOP Grant tab [here](#).

If you have any questions, reach out to Scott Jones at 314-576-3393, ext. 233 or sjones@svdpusa.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, February 26 at 7:00pm CDT
[Conference Coaches' Call – Youth, Young Adults & Emerging Leaders \(YYAEL\)](#)

Wednesday, March 4 through Saturday, March 7
[South Central Region Meeting](#)

Monday, March 16 at 12:00pm CDT
[Getting Ahead Practitioner Call](#)

Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00pm CDT
[Resolving Conflicts](#)

Wednesday, April 1
[Getting Ahead 101 - First Session \(1:30 p.m. CST\)](#)
[Getting Ahead 101 - Second Session \(6:30 p.m. CST\)](#)



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