

John 15: 5-8: 16-17



- 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
- 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.
- 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- 8 This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.
- 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.
- 17 This is my command: Love each other.



John 15: 5-8: 16-17

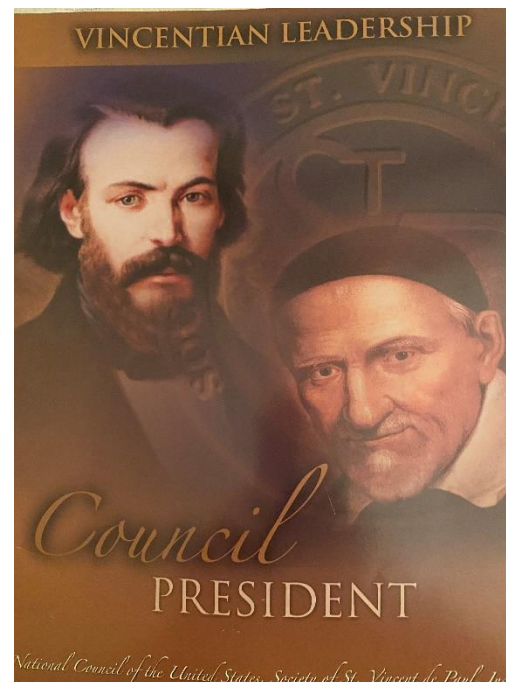


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**“I am the vine; you
are the branches.
Go now and bear
much fruit. . . . “I
have chosen you.
You have not
chosen me.”
(John 15)**



**To be an Effective and Responsible
Servant Leader: Council President**



The Vincentian Tradition of Servant Leadership



Servant Leadership (Rule: Part 3, Statute 11)

Leadership positions in the Society, at any level, are always to be accepted as service to Christ, the members and the poor. Servant leadership is done in imitation of Jesus who said: "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many."



The Vincentian Tradition of Servant Leadership



Presidents as Servant Leaders

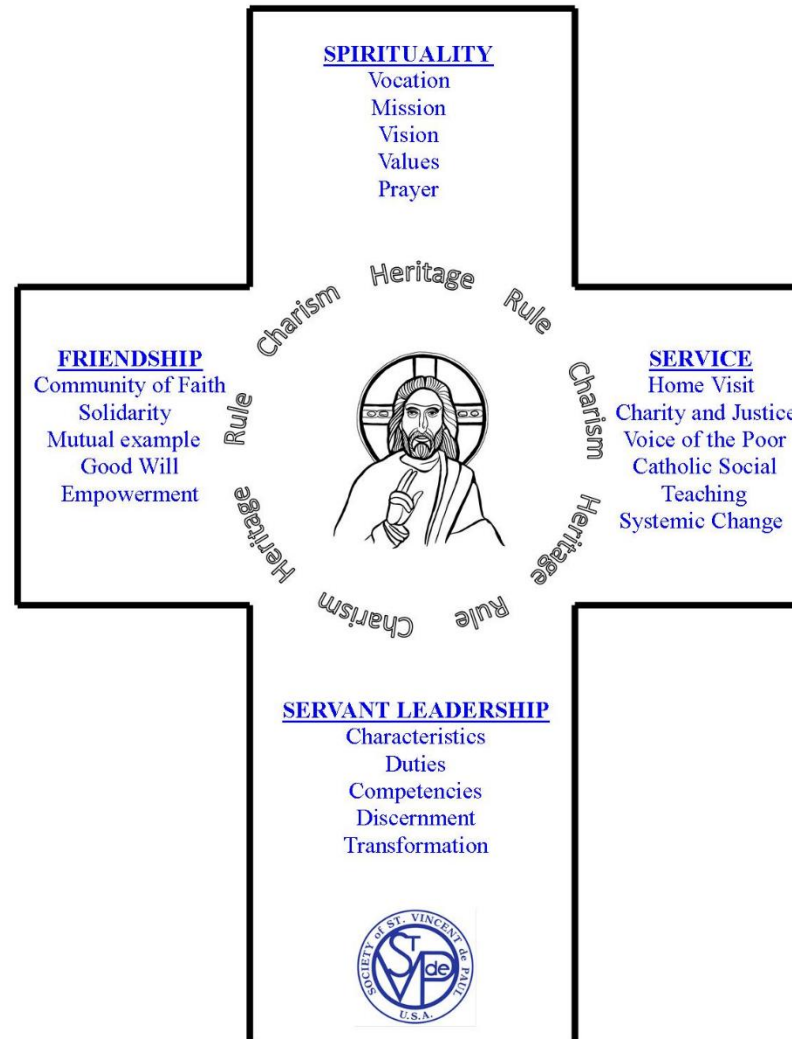
(Rule: Part 1, 3.11)

Following Christ's example, the Presidents at all levels of the Society endeavor to be servant leaders. They provide an encouraging atmosphere in which the talents, capacities and spiritual charism of the members are identified, developed and put to the service of the poor and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The President of the Conference or Council will have special responsibility for promoting Vincentian spirituality.

**See p. 14-15 Vincentian Leadership:
Council President Guidelines**



Servant Leadership Cross



Pathway Toolbox:

<https://members.ssvpusa.org/formation/Vincentian-pathway-toolbox/>



COUNCIL PRESIDENTS



Seven Duties of Council Presidents

- Commitment
- Comprehension
- Communication
- Cultivation
- Collaboration
- Chairperson
- Contributions/Compliance



**Pp. 23-25; 36-38 Vincentian Leadership:
Council President Guidelines**



Duty 1: Commitment



Make a solemn commitment to

- grow in understanding of and living out the Vincentian charism.
 - support the mission of the Society.
 - foster the spirituality of the Society
- attend the regularly scheduled meetings of the (Arch)Diocesan and/or District Council
- be adequately prepared to discuss and bring to consensus and/or vote issues and policies that will be brought forward.
- share ideas and concerns.
- serve no longer than two consecutive three-year terms so that new leadership might take over.
- make certain that Conference Presidents in your Council serve no longer than two consecutive three-year terms so that new leadership might take over.



Additional Point for Duty 1: Commitment

Council Presidents who are National Council Members



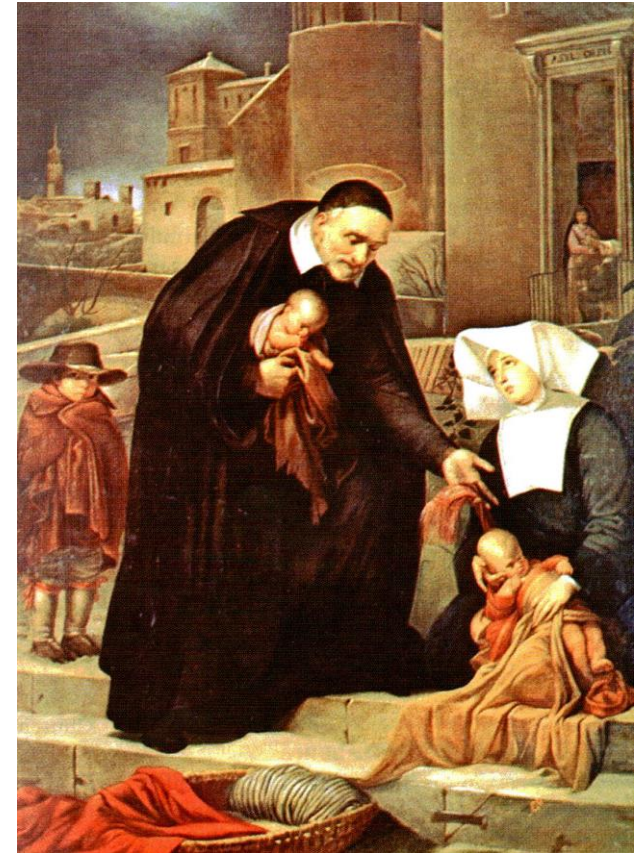
Make a solemn commitment to

- Attend the regularly scheduled meetings of the National Council and the Region to which your Council belongs



Our Mission Statement

**A network of friends,
inspired by Gospel values,
growing in holiness and
building a more just world
through personal relationships with
and service to people in need.**



Our Identity Statement Part 1



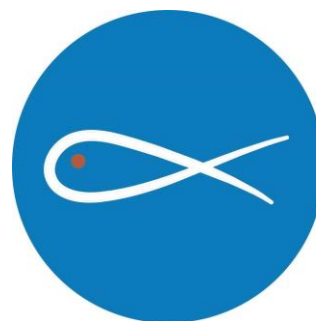
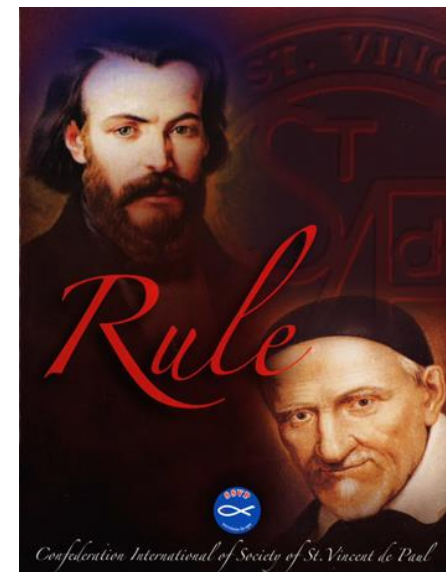
Inspired by Gospel values, the SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL, **Catholic lay** organization, leads **women and men** to join together to **grow spiritually** by offering **person-to-person service** to the needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, **Blessed Frédéric Ozanam**, and patron, **St. Vincent de Paul**.





Our Identity Statement Part 2

As a reflection of the whole family of God, members, who are known as **VINCENTIANS**, are drawn from **every ethnic and cultural background, age group and economic level**. Vincentians are united in an **international society** of charity by their spirit of poverty, humility and sharing, which is nourished by **prayer and reflection**, mutually supportive gatherings and **adherence to a basic Rule**.



SOCIÉTÉ DE
SAINT-VINCENT-DE-PAUL

FONDÉE PAR FRÉDÉRIC OZANAM



Our Identity Statement Part 3



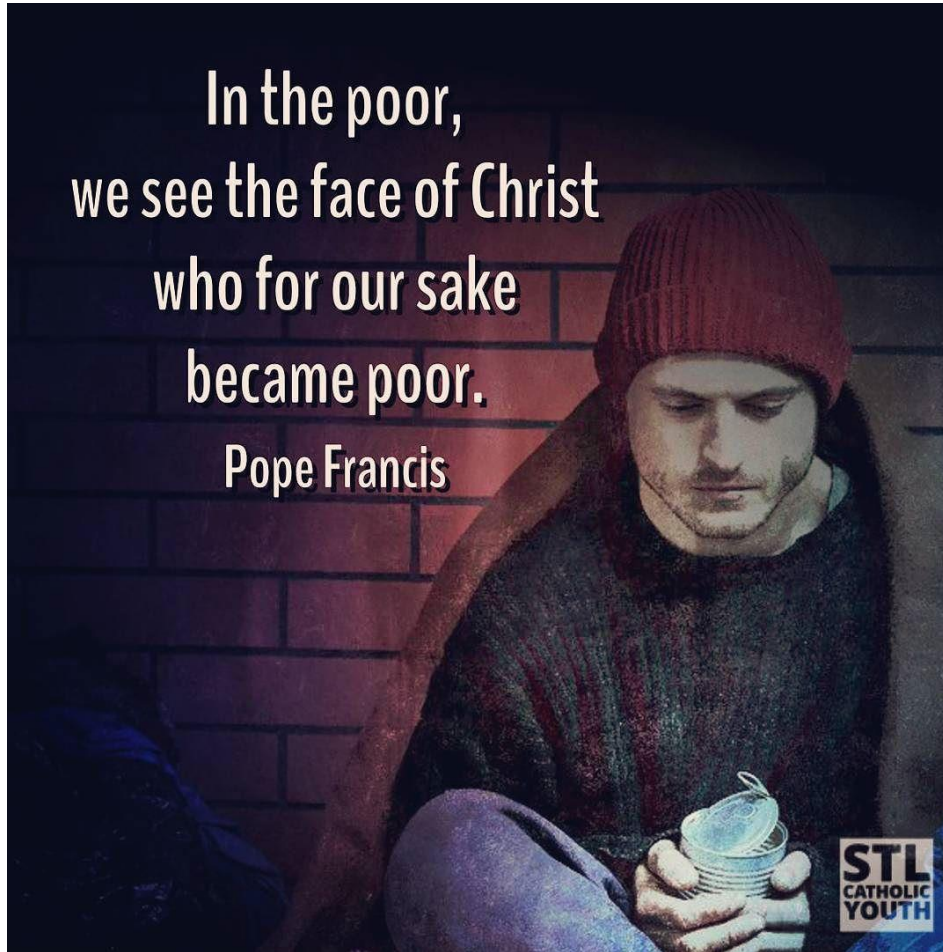
Organized locally, Vincentians witness God's love by **embracing all works of charity and justice**. The Society **collaborates with other people** of good will in relieving need and addressing its causes, making **no distinction in those served**, because in them Vincentians **see the face of Christ**.

See p. 6 *Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines*



Note the words of Pope Francis

In the poor,
we see the face of Christ
who for our sake
became poor.
Pope Francis



Our Essential Elements

Sanctification (spirituality) :

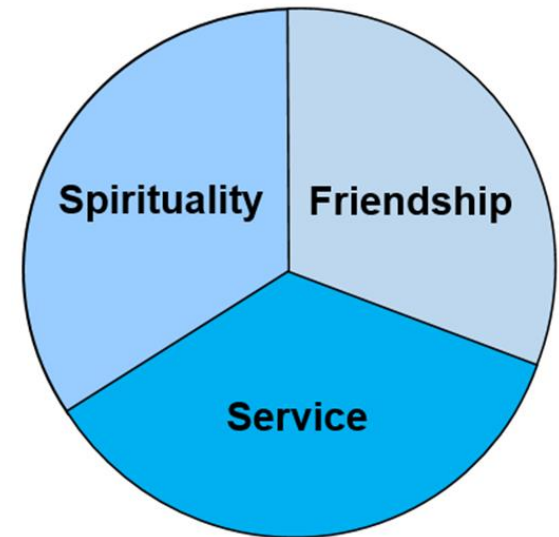
- Grow in holiness

Solidarity (Friendship):

- Build community

Service:

- Help those in need and be in “solidarity” with them



See p. 6 Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines



Seven Cultural Beliefs: Rule Part III, Statute 2



See p. 44 Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines





Duty 2: Comprehension

Comprehend

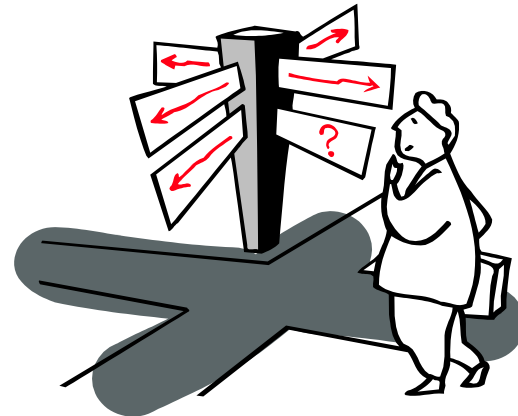
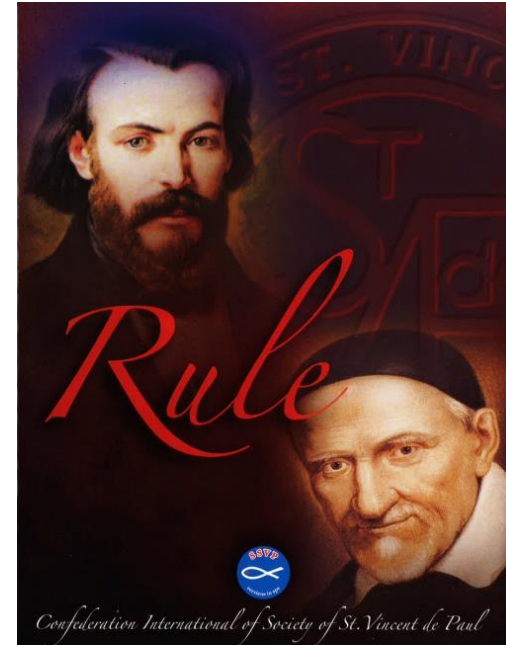
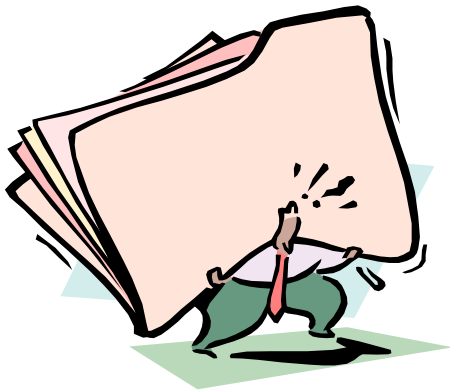
- the Rule of the Society and how it applies at all levels.
- the essential structure, operations, and functions of each unit of the Society
- the life and spiritual legacy of St. Vincent de Paul, and the role of Louise de Marillac
- the life and spiritual legacy of our founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and the role of Blessed Rosalie Rendu.



The Rule

Comprehend

- the Rule of the Society and how it applies at all levels.





The Essential Structure: Membership

Comprehend the essential structure, operations, and functions of each unit of the Society

- Active Members:** Participate regularly in the prayer life, meetings and charitable activities through personal contact with the poor of the Vincentian Conference or Council into which they have been received.
- Associate Members:** Affiliated with the Society by formal action of the Conference or Council with which the member will be joined. Associate Members include those who sincerely and publicly accept the Society's Rule but may or may not belong to the Catholic Church and may or may not attend Conference meetings or engage in the works of the Society on a regular basis.

See pp. 19-21 *Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines*



Councils

Conferences are grouped under various levels of Councils. Councils exist to serve all the Conferences they coordinate. They help the Conferences to develop their spiritual life, to intensify their service and to diversify their activities so that they may always be responsive to the needs of those who suffer.

(Rule: Part 3, Statute 11)



The Essential Structure: Organization of Our Society



People Living in Poverty



Conferences



District Councils



(Arch)Diocesan Councils



U.S. National Council



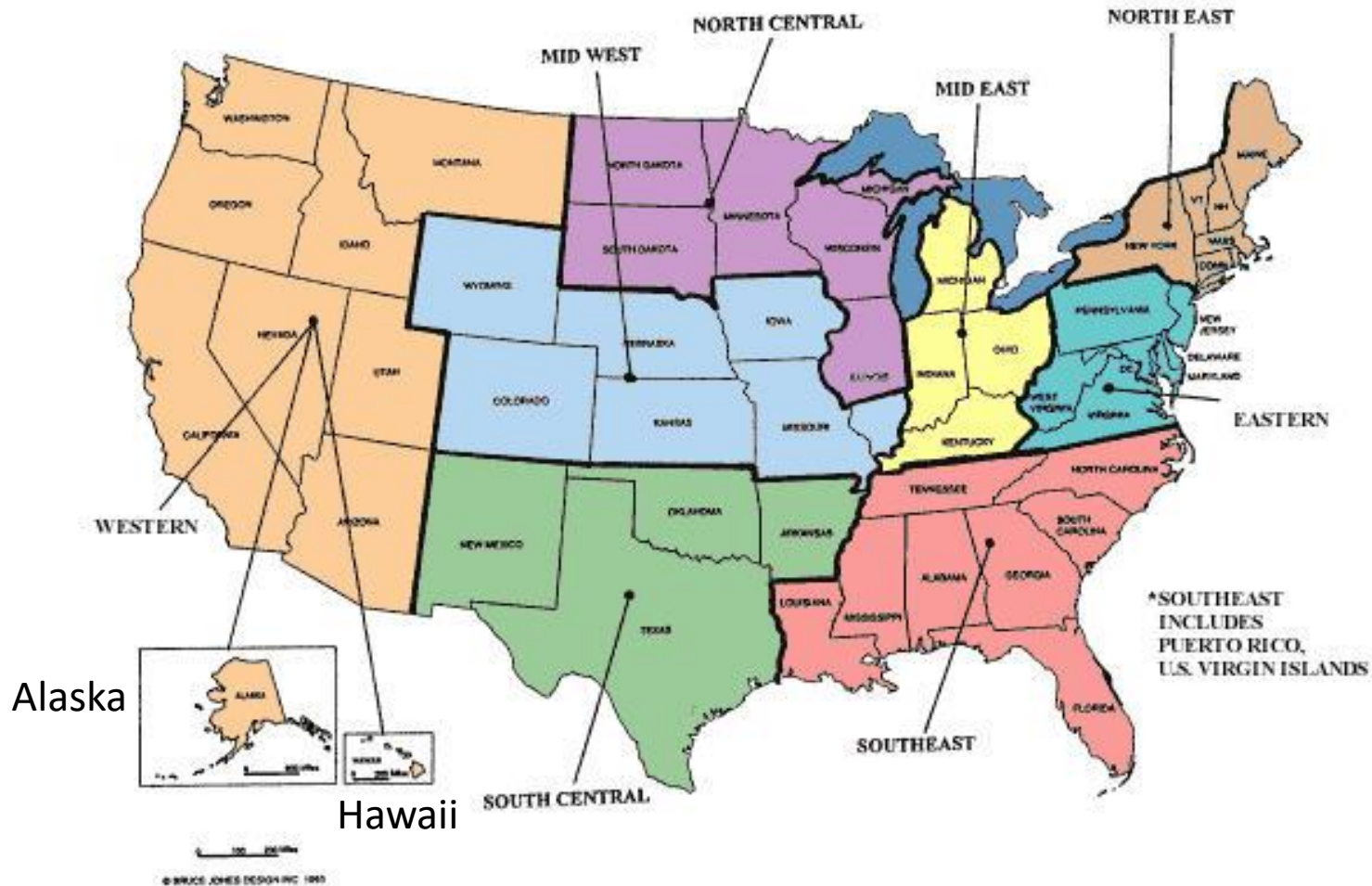
Regions



International Confederation
of St. Vincent de Paul



The Essential Structure: 8 Regions



The Essential Structure: National Council



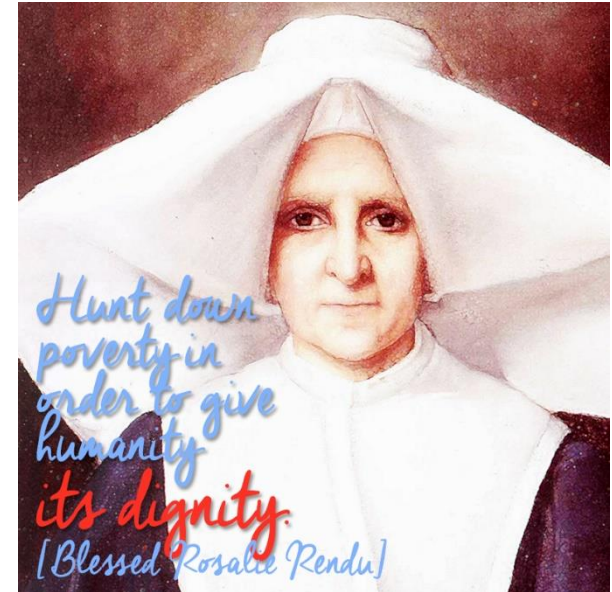
National Council



Legacy: Our Vincentian Heritage



Frédéric Ozanam, in his academic robes, performing a home visit. Painting by Gary Schumer.
Courtesy of the Association of the Miraculous Medal, Perryville, Missouri



See pp. 8-12 Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines

Duty 3: Communication

Communicate effectively in order to

- share information about issues, decisions, and policies with conferences in a timely fashion.
- express in appropriate ways and through appropriate channels any concerns, issues, and ideas.
- remain informed about national, regional, district, and local issues.



Additional Points for Duty 3: Communication

Council Presidents who are National Council Members



Communicate effectively in order to:

- share information received from the National Office or the National Vice President for your Regional about issues, decisions, and policies with **Councils and Conferences.**
- express in appropriate ways and through appropriate channels any concerns, issues, and ideas important to your **Councils and the Conferences under them** to the National Office.
- **Be prepared for public relations issues.**





Duty 4: Cultivation

Cultivate members through formation by

- Developing members both new and old (Ozanam Orientations, Serving in Hope modules, Days of Recollection, Retreats, Invitation to Serve, etc.)
- Finding, training, and encouraging Spiritual Advisors.
- Developing new Conferences.
- Visiting existing Conferences to build bonds of friendship.
- Encouraging the establishment of a VOP Committee.
- Developing Special Works, if appropriate.
- Cooperating in the implementation of the National Strategic Plan.
- Providing Governance Training.

See p. 24 Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines



Additional Points Duty 4: Cultivation

Council Presidents who are National Council Members



Cultivate members through formation by

- Visiting existing **District Councils and Conferences** to build bonds of friendship.
- **Providing guidance and support to District Councils** in developing new Conferences.





Formation of Members Rule: Part 1, 3.12

- “It is essential that the Society continually **promote the formation and training** of its members and Officers, in order to deepen their knowledge of the Society and their spirituality, improve the sensitivity, quality and efficiency of their service to the poor and help them be aware of the benefits, resources and opportunities that are available for the poor. The Society also offers members higher training in order to better help to raise the cultural and social level of those who request this support.”

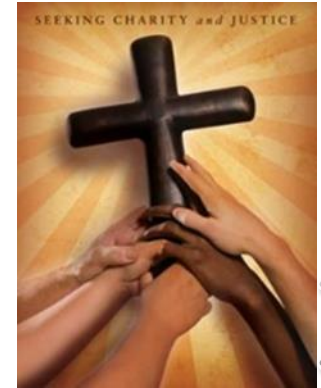
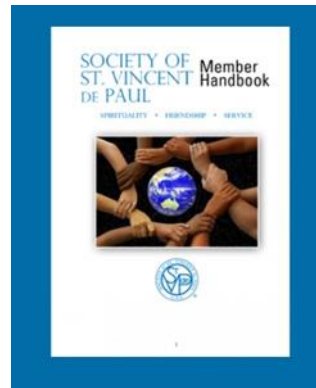
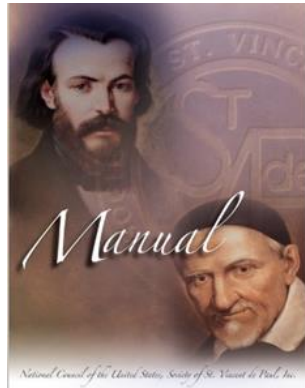
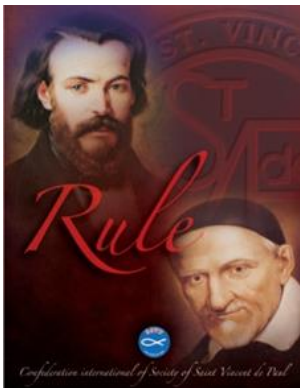


Formation/Training



1. Instill in your members the Mission, Values, and the Essential Elements of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
2. Encourage them to become more knowledgeable members in order to better serve those in need.
3. Form, train, and mentor members who would make good Presidents when your term is up.

See pp. 16-18 Vincentian Leadership:
Council President Guidelines



Serving in Hope



MODULE I: OUR VINCENTIAN VOCATION

MODULE II: OUR VINCENTIAN SPIRITUALITY

MODULE III: OUR VINCENTIAN HERITAGE

MODULE IV: OUR VINCENTIAN MISSION

MODULE V: OUR VINCENTIAN RULE

MODULE VI: OUR VINCENTIAN CONFERENCE

MODULE VII: OUR VINCENTIAN HOME VISIT

Duty 5: Collaboration

Collaborate with:

- Other Councils/Conferences in the local area, the state, the region, in the United States or abroad.
- other members of the Vincentian family.
- other individuals and non-profit organizations, both secular and religious.
- Local pastors and the local Bishop.





Additional Point Duty 5: Collaboration

Council Presidents who are National Council Members

Collaborate with:

- the local Bishop and keep him informed about the work of the Society.



Duty 6: Chairperson



Council Presidents must:

- conduct regular, orderly meetings of the Council.
- **delegate duties in a reasonable manner.**
- Ensure that all Conference Presidents are voting members of the Council.
- make appropriate appointments to the Council
- facilitate and participate in discussions about decisions and policies and help the Council reach consensus.

CONSENSUS



“A genuine leader is not a searcher for
consensus but a molder of consensus.”
—Martin Luther King, Jr.



Additional Point Duty 6: Chairperson (Arch)Diocesan Council Presidents who are National Council Members



National Council Members must:

- ensure that all District Council Presidents are voting members of the Council.



Duty 7: Contributions/Compliance

- **Council Presidents oversee contributions to and compliance with the National Council, Region, and Local Councils in order to**
- ensure that all solidarity contributions are paid in a timely manner (when applicable).
- assure that Conferences and/or Councils under your jurisdiction submit annual reports on time.
- facilitate and ensure compliance with Diocesan and/or National Council safe environment policies.
- be alert to issues of accountability and good governance.

See pp. 24-25; 37-38 Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines





Duty 7: Contributions/Compliance

- **Council Presidents oversee contributions to and compliance with the National Council, Region, and Local Councils in order to**
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- facilitate and ensure compliance with Diocesan and/or National Council safe environment policies.
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See pp.24-25; 37-38 Vincentian Leadership: Council President Guidelines



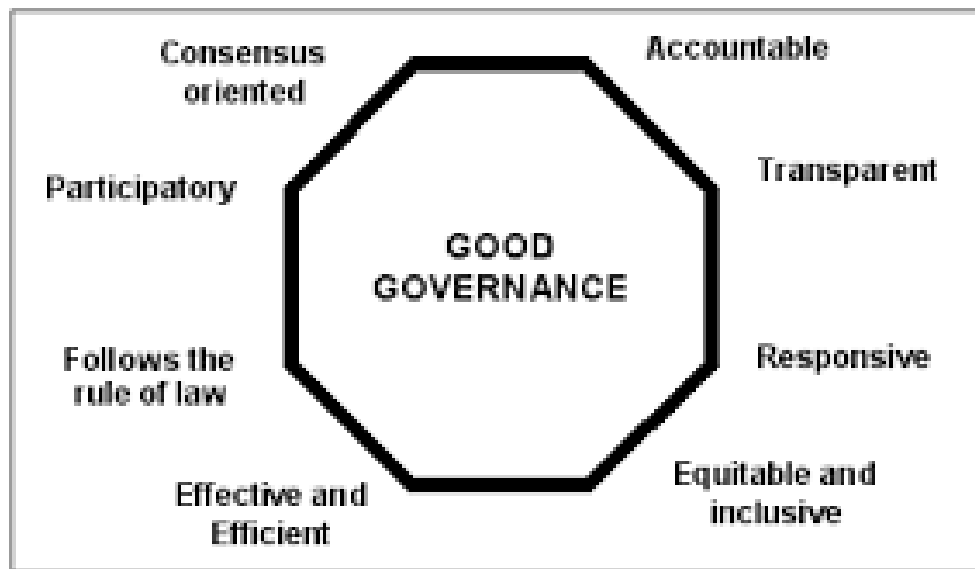
The background of the first image is a close-up of red and white variegated leaves, likely from a coleus plant. The leaves are vibrant red with white and yellow variegation.

*Expect the
unexpected
and trust God
with the
master plan.*

Trading Anxiety for Peace Blog Series
SARAHGERINGER.COM



Governance Issues and Accountability





Organization & Membership



COMMITTEES

GOVERNANCE

GROWTH & REVITALIZATION

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

LEADERSHIP RESOURCES

LEADERSHIP TASK FORCE

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

MULTICULTURAL & DIVERSITY

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

<https://members.ssvpusa.org/organization-membership/>



Governance

“Yours must be a work of love, of kindness,
you must give your time, your talents, yourselves.”

– Blessed Frédéric Ozanam



GOVERNANCE GUIDES

THE RULE & THE MANUAL

Q&A MASTER INDEX

BYLAWS

RESOLUTIONS

ARCHIVED MATERIALS

ADVANCED GOVERNANCE RESOURCES





Vincentian Pathway Toolbox

There are four phases to the Vincentian formative journey: discovering, developing, deepening, and discerning.

The first three phases define the journey of all Vincentians. Phase IV, discerning, is that part of Vincentian formation in which we explore and prepare for our roles as leaders within the Society. To find the resources needed to help Vincentians through discovering, developing and deepening, [click here](#).

The resources for phase IV, discerning, are identified below. Click on each area to see the supporting resources, meant to help develop skill sets related to various roles within the Society. Resources may include books, publications, seminars, webinars, and links to other web sources.



+ Servant Leadership

+ Conference President

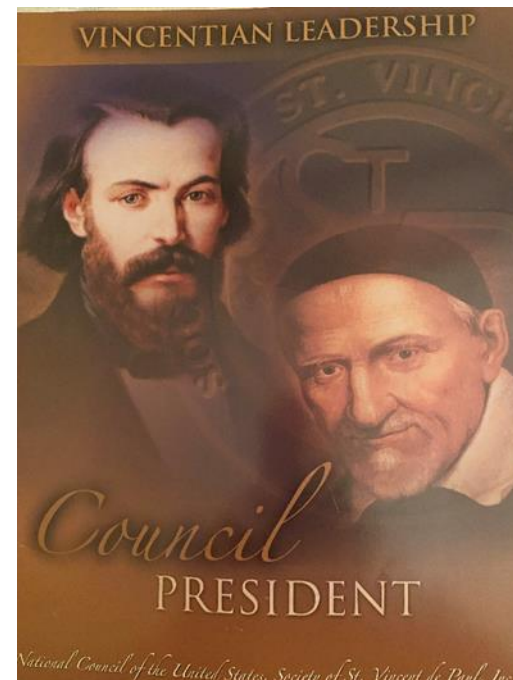
+ Person Responsible for Recruitment/Formation

<https://members.ssvpusa.org/formation/vincentian-pathway-toolbox/>





**“I am the vine; you
are the branches.
Go now and bear
much fruit. . . . “I
have chosen you.
You have not
chosen me.”
(John 15)**



**To be an Effective and Responsible
Servant Leader: Council President**

Questions/Discussion





Questions/Discussion

- If you are viewing this on a live webinar with a facilitator, you will be instructed on how to ask any questions you may have.
- If you are not viewing this as a part of a live webinar, please refer any questions you may have to Tim Williams, National Director of Formation at: Tim Williams twilliams@svdpusa.org

Thank you and God Bless!