



Frederic's e-Gazette

an e-newsletter from
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE U.S.
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



NOVEMBER 14, 2024

A LETTER FROM YOUR SERVANT LEADERS



Michael Acaldo
National CEO

Thankful for You!

As Thanksgiving approaches, our Vincentian family has so much to be thankful for. This time of thankfulness is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to do an inventory of the blessings in our lives. Recognizing all of our blessings assures us of God's love for ourselves and the important work we do in serving those in need.

As your new CEO, I have been blessed with the opportunity to witness our Vincentian family in action around the country. I have seen our members putting their faith and love into action in an extraordinary way.

[Read More](#)

Best wishes in Christ,
Michael J. Acaldo
National CEO

UPCOMING WEBINARS & EVENTS

Poverty Program Committee Meetings

Voice for the Poor, *First Thursdays at 4PM Central* [See you on Zoom](#)

Poverty Action, ***November 19 at 1PM Central** [See you on Zoom](#)

Homelessness Prevention, ***November 20 at 3PM Central** [See you on Zoom](#)

***Please note the change in dates for November.**

Multicultural Diversity Committee Meetings

Fourth Thursdays at 7PM Central [See you on Zoom](#)

Monday, November 18 at 12:00PM CENTRAL

[Webinar: Lessons Learned from Facilitators & Investigators](#)

Getting Ahead offers a transformative journey for both facilitators and investigators. Join us as we share insights and lessons learned from those who have participated in the program.

Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30PM CENTRAL

[Webinar: Annual Reporting for Councils](#)

This tutorial begins with an overview of gathering and organizing Council information and includes a walkthrough of completing the report within the online Members Portal. This tutorial is specially designed for leaders of smaller Councils that don't have special works or paid staff.

Thursday, November 21 at 2:00PM CENTRAL

[Webinar: Voice of the Poor - Advocacy that Makes an Impact](#)

Join Steve Uram, National Director of Poverty Programs, as he debunks some popular myths around grassroots advocacy and explains the keys to a successful meeting with your legislators. Steve will also explore the impact of social media advocacy.

Saturday, December 7 at 10:00AM CENTRAL

[Register Here: Hispanic Latino Special Interest Group Virtual Listening Session](#)

Please familiarize yourself VisionSVdP resources BEFORE the Session.

[REGÍSTRESE: Una Sesión de Escucha virtual HISPANO/LATINA de](#)

[la VisiónSVdP incluyendo en ESPAÑOL \(a través de ZOOM\):](#)

Por favor familiarícese con el material de VisiónSVdP en español ANTES de la sesión. Vea la lista completa aquí abajo.

Saturday, December 7 at 2:00PM CENTRAL

[Register Here: African American Focused Vision SVdP Virtual Listening Session](#)

To view the complete calendar, [click here](#).

NATIONAL COUNCIL UPDATES

Fall Newsletter

Thank you for being a part of the SVdP family! We're excited to share with you the Fall Issue of *Serving in Hope*, SVdP USA's quarterly newsletter. Every issue moving forward will highlight a local Council and the amazing work they are doing in their local community. Your service as a Vincentian helps care for millions of neighbors in need every year. Check it out [here!](#)



The National Council Is Hiring

The National Council is seeking qualified candidates for the open positions of:

- [Chief Advancement Officer](#)
- [Senior Director of Finance](#)
- [Development Coordinator](#)

RECRUITING NEW VINCENTIANS TO JOIN YOU



Testimonials are powerful tools. We've filmed several Vincentians talking about their heartfelt experiences serving a neighbor in need with the Society St. Vincent de Paul. These testimonial videos are available for YOUR USE on your Conference's social media, at your next parish fair, or during a pulpit talk. Recruit your friends and family to become Vincentians today! Visit <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11431825> to see all the videos available for your use.

POVERTY PROGRAMS UPDATE



Join the discussion and be part of the solution!

Register before November 22 to take advantage of special early bird registration. Visit the CSMG 2025 Home Site: [Register Now!!](#)

When registering use this passcode: **NCOREG25** As a reminder, this registration code should not be shared.

The Registration Fee is \$400. The last day to register online is January 10, although on-site registration is allowed.

Don't miss this transformative gathering for leaders in Catholic social ministry and advocacy! We will gather to pray, learn, and work together on our Catholic call to be missionaries of hope and beacons of God's love for the world. The 2025 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering celebrates and shares a bright vision for our world and will equip leaders to become advocates for justice and peace. [Click Here](#) for more details.

VISION SVdP

Reporting Deadline Is December 31

All listening sessions should be completed, and feedback provided on or before this date. Thank you to those who have already provided their feedback.

The VisionSVdP Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our hearts, and our imaginations to Your inspiration as we embark on our VisionSVdP journey and seek to discern the Father's holy will for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and how it will adapt to a changing world.

Come, Holy Spirit, transform our doubts, ignite our zeal. Help us discern new and innovative ways to bring more people into the joy of service in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Come, Holy Spirit, grant us the simplicity to share honestly with each other, the humility to serve a mission greater than ourselves, and the gentleness to listen to each other without judgment.

Amen



Vision SVdP Online Form Now Available

You can now enter Vision SVdP observations online. The [easy-to-use form is located here](#). This online submission form is not intended to replace discussions from shared sessions — it has been created for additional observations. We highly recommend participating in a group discussion before using the form. If you have questions, please contact techsupport@svdpusa.org

Every Voice Matters!

It takes extra effort to reach and include all voices. Let's to include everyone in our conversations, in our thoughts, ideas, etc. for the future of our Society.

¡TODAS VOZ IMPORTA! Este es solo otro recordatorio de que muy probablemente se necesitarán esfuerzos adicionales para llegar a todas las voces e incluirlas. Todos sabemos que no se trata solo del lenguaje. Sigamos abriendo nuestras mentes para incluir a todos en nuestras conversaciones, en nuestros pensamientos, ideas, etc. para el futuro de nuestra sociedad.

Oración de la VisiónSVdP

Ven, Espíritu Santo, abre nuestros ojos, nuestros corazones y nuestra imaginación a Tu inspiración Divina mientras nos embarcamos en nuestro viaje hacia la VisiónSVdP y lograr discernir en la santa voluntad del Padre, en cómo se adaptará la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl a un mundo cambiante.

Ven, Espíritu Santo, transforma nuestras dudas, ilumina nuestro fervor. Ayúdanos a discernir con formas nuevas e innovadoras de llevar a más personas a la alegría del servicio en la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl.

Ven, Espíritu Santo, concédenos la sencillez de compartir honestamente los unos con los otros; la humildad para servir a una misión más grande que nosotros mismos; y la gracia de escucharnos unos a otros sin juzgarnos.

Amén

Please see the full list of Spanish resources available below.

Spanish VisionSVdP material/tools:

(Los materiales y herramientas de la VisiónSVdP están disponibles en español.):

<https://ssvpusa.org/vision-svdP-resources/>

Archbishop Andrew Bellisario's Welcome Video in Spanish:

(Video en español de bienvenida del arzobispo Andrew Bellisario):

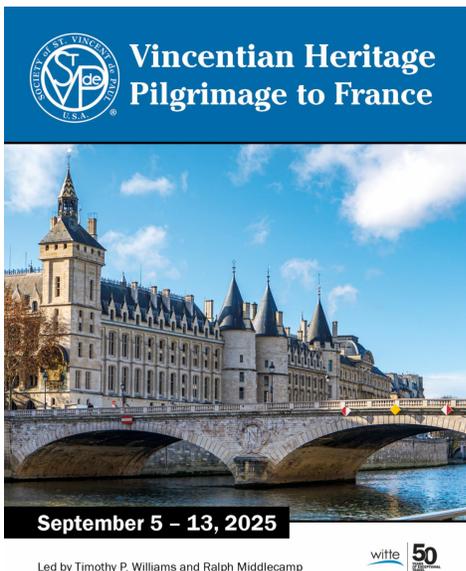
<https://vimeo.com/975263440?share=copy>

Spanish PowerPoint Presentation:

(La presentación de PowerPoint en español):

[VisiónSVdP-Fase-III-Diapositivas-1.0e](#)

FORMATION AND SPIRITUALITY



Led by Timothy P. Williams and Ralph Middlecamp

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The cost is \$4,999.00 per person (based on double/shared room) plus \$1,389.00 per person to add the optional extension to Lyon. This includes airfare, hotel, local transportation and selected meals.

Vincentian Heritage Pilgrimage

Paris: September 5-13, 2025

Registration is Open!

On this Pilgrimage to France, you will walk in the footsteps of Vincent, Louise, Frédéric, and Rosalie. We'll visit the Sorbonne, where both Frédéric and Vincent studied, Ste. Etienne-du-Mont, site of the first Conference, the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal, where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Catherine LaBouré, the newly reopened Notre Dame Cathedral, and much more. You may also take advantage of the optional extension to visit Lyon, Frédéric's childhood home, and Châtillon, where the Vincentian Family was born in 1617. Spaces on this Pilgrimage are limited!

You can download the brochure for all the details, and sign up for the trip

here: <https://bookings.witetravel.com/>

Booking Code: 090525WILL

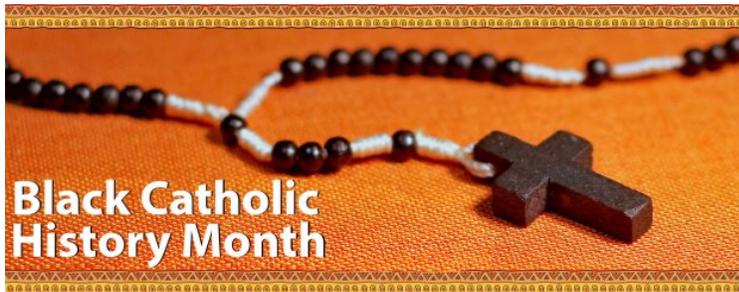
Not ready to make a reservation yet, but still want to get updates? Or more questions? Contact Tim Williams.

Questions Regarding Spirituality and Formation?

Contact Tim Williams, Senior Director, Formation & Leadership Development

(314) 576-3993 ext. 207

MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY

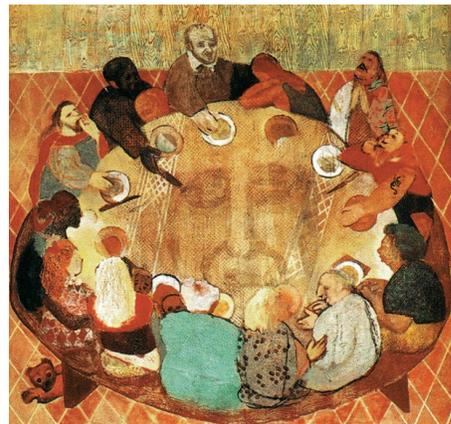


November Is National Black Catholic History Month

In commemoration, the Multicultural Diversity Committee is sharing this [article](#) that features the lives of six noteworthy Black Catholics on the path to canonization. These six Black Catholic candidates are on the path to becoming the United States' first African American saints and are known as the 'Saintry Six.' Can you figure out which candidate was once referred to as a "one-person Society of St. Vincent de Paul"? Send your answer to svdpmcdc@gmail.com to be entered into a drawing to receive an icon of this saintly African American.

November Is National Puerto Rican Heritage Month

When we look at the table of St. Vincent de Paul, those of us with eyes to see can almost see the Puerto Rican jibaro and the dancers and players of Bomba at the table. To learn more about the history and traditions of this beautiful culture [click here](#).



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: How do we report the number of people helped with cash (i.e. rent, electric etc.)? There is a reporting section for in-kind activity, but not cash.

A: The number of people helped with cash is not captured on the annual report separately but is reflected in our Visits and Services to People, which includes in-kind services. Expenses gathered under the treasurer's report reflect all funds expended for goods and services provided to those we served, including cash, checks, certificates, bus tickets, and gift cards. The principal method for payment of aid will be check, paid directly to the provider of those goods or services. This also includes the cost of food purchased to stock your food pantry. For those Conferences that operate stores and other Special Works, this includes dollars spent for direct aid to those in need.?

Q: We work with a nearby motel, and the owner said she will be charging us a \$150 security deposit for anyone we assist who stays at the motel. We do not think this is a good use of funds, as it is transitional/emergency housing where there is no lease or long-term commitment. Some Vincentians think it's no big deal, as we would pay a security deposit for someone moving into an apartment with a lease. Some Vincentians think it is a bad use of our funds, as it is typically short-term emergency housing: the deposit would complicate matters, and it's not our mission to guarantee a tenant's behavior, and it would be a bad precedent. Some of us believe we can handle it on a case-by-case situation, but others still want our policy defined.

A: There is no policy on this. Each Conference establishes its own operating guidelines. There are strong arguments that can be made in either the pro or con of providing security deposits. The current trend is not to offer them. However, we should never make our decisions based on the fact of "we always do..." or "we never do..." Our decisions should be on a case-by-case basis, with the Conference deciding if the deposit is appropriate for the circumstances. It is not our mission to guarantee a tenant's behavior. The details should be worked out with the motel ownership, or a different motel may be more helpful.

To view this week's Q&A, including the Spanish Translation, [click here](#). Find the full [Q&A Index](#) here, and visit the [SVdP Thrift Store website](#) for stores-related Q&As.

Submit your questions to Pam Hudson Johnson at phudson@svdpusa.org

GOVERNANCE

Owners And Stakeholders – Part Two

Last week we discussed five groups of people who should be considered stakeholders in what we do as Vincentians. This week we will discuss an additional five. [Click here](#) to read Part Two.

Questions Regarding Governance and Membership Services?

Contact Pam Hudson Johnson, National Director of Membership Services
(314) 576-3993 ext. 214 or email phudson@svdpusa.org

NATIONAL PARTNERS SPOTLIGHT



Help Keep Christ in Christmas

At Christmas, we are great Santas, and present bearers, but are we Christ bearers? The St. Vincent de Paul Nativity Program is a way for us to serve the needy by helping to bring Christ back into their lives during the Christmas season. This is an ideal gift for your Conference Christmas Program brought to you by the SVdP Eyedentity Program. [Click here](#) to order your kit today!

STORES CORNER

Key Benefits of Adding an In-Store Radio System to Your Thrift Store

By James Conley, National Store Support Manager

Music plays a significant role in our society, not only in retail, but in overall health. It helps to relieve stress and anxiety and create a feeling of well-being for our employees, volunteers, and our customers. It also can trigger feelings of pleasure and well-being, which in a retail setting, increases total spending! To learn more about the benefits of music in stores [click here](#).

Have a topic you would like to see in the next Stores Corner?

If you have a topic that you would like addressed in a future Stores Corner article, please e-mail [Jeff Beamguard](#), Director of Stores Support.

VINCENTIAN PRAYER LIST

Are you or another Vincentian in need of prayers from fellow SVdP members? Send the prayer intention to Pam Hudson Johnson at phudson@svdpusa.org and we will add the name to the [Vincentian Prayer List](#). Thank you and God Bless.

SOME VINCENTIAN'S AREN'T GETTING THE E-GAZETTE!

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