

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

NEXT GENERAL MEETING ON JANUARY 3rd @ 6:45 PM

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St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

Parish Office
 (Panorama Plaza)
 1502 Sara Road SE
 Rio Rancho, NM 87124
 892-1511

St. Vincent de Paul
 Monday-Friday (10-1)
 892-0526

www.svdpst.org

- Home Visits- 49
- Walk-ins- 14

DEACON'S REFLECTION

If you are looking for a simple definition of vocation, the literal meaning of the word is a "call". But a vocation is more than an ordinary call, it is a call from God. While some people think of a vocation as what they are called to do in life (that is a profession such as accountant, lawyer or engineer). A vocation is not the same as a career or profession. A career or profession is something that you do in order to support yourself and to contribute in some way to the good of society. When we talk about a vocation, we no longer talk about what I would prefer to do in life. But rather, "what does God want me to be?" A vocation is not something that you can switch or change like a profession or career. It is what you are, what God intended you to be. The Church recognizes several vocations: the single life, the married life, the ordained life (i.e. a priest), and the religious life (i.e., a nun or brother). In each case God has called us all to

a vocation in holiness rooted in our Baptism. It is a call to know, love, and serve the Lord. It is a movement that draws us toward a deeper union with God. We feel a growing desire to love God and our neighbor and we come to understand that there is a reason for our existence and there is a meaning to our lives. The universal call to holiness and the specific vocations that flow from it are rooted in the belief that God loves us more than we love ourselves and He wants our happiness more than we do. God knows more than we do about what will make us truly happy - and He calls us towards it. We live our call to holiness differently depending on which vocation we are called to. For example, a priest takes on the priesthood of Christ in a special way. He models his life so closely to that of the Lord's that he becomes in some way, what he models. Not only does the priest offer His own life to the Father, as all Christians do, but

he also stands before the Church and ministers to the faithful as a Christ 'in person'. When he teaches with the authority of the Church then Christ teaches; when he absolves sins then Christ forgives; and when he offers the sacrifice of the Mass then Christ offers the sacrifice. He becomes what he has been called to be. So too, are married couples called to be models of God's grace. In marriage they become something more than the two individuals involved. As the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, couples become a union that is greater than their individual selves. Through the grace of marriage they become a corporate unity that produces life; nurtures their love; raises their children; and witnesses the love of God and Neighbor. That corporate unity is the source of their vocation and through it they carry out God's call. In sum, a vocation is a call from God, which when answered transforms us and challenges us to live our faith more deeply and to follow Christ more closely. In so doing, we realize our authentic selves and discover all that God wishes us to be.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Beginning Balance- \$13,162.72
After Collection- \$22,601.03
Distributions- \$22,638.53
Ending balance- \$13,125.22

This information is provided to you on a monthly basis by our treasurer, Margie Magistro. This is an overall monthly summary. For more information, you may contact Margie at the office by calling 892-0526.



December Birthdays

*Louise Ball
Beth Conners
Catalina Davis
Debby Estvanko
Paul LaPierre
Kathy Reif*



*God is our
Refuge
and
Strength*

THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION RESULTS

Our Thanksgiving distribution was another huge success this year, feeding over 600 families who would most likely not have had the means to have a nice Thanksgiving meal if not for all the donors and volunteers that helped to put this event on again this year. It has become a much loved tradition at the three

catholic parishes in our community. Also a huge help to our ministry was the Knights of Columbus and the Caring for Kids ministry both taking part with the collection of coats or making and donating hats and scarves for our annual distribution. The final numbers of the distribution are as follows: 906 turkeys, 700

bags, 602 families, 2828 people, 527 coats, 759 scarves, 256 hats, 118 gloves. 229 turkeys, 29 food bags, cases of vegetables and pies were donated to St. Felix Pantry to distribute in the community. Our board has held the post-Thanksgiving meeting to evaluate this year's overall distribution to make suggestions for next year.

OFFICE MANAGER CHANGES

Our office manager of three years, Laurene Harris, was presented with a great opportunity and had to leave as our Office Manager. Friday, November 30th was her last day. The wonderful office staff took her out for a farewell lunch. We wish the best for

Laurene in her new role. Our new Office Manager, Terri Hall's first official day was on Monday, December 3rd. Terri retired three years ago, having worked for 40 years as a Health Information Management Director. She has been active in the church volunteering with

RCIA, teaching catechism, and serving as a Eucharistic Minister. Terri has been involved with SVdP for about a year coming to us from Nativity parish. She recently reconnected with her best friend, Claire Olona, one of our Vincentians, and knew St. Thomas was where she was meant to be.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Vincentian Christmas party will be held at the Kramer's home on Saturday, December 15th from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Everyone is invited to attend. As in

years past, please bring a finger food which is easy to serve and handle, such as, an appetizer, dessert, or a bottle of wine. Please RSVP for a good group count to

Diane Taylor at 588-2906. If you leave a message please leave amount of people attending and what you will be bringing. Invitations are attached. Don't wait, the party is this Saturday.

ANNUAL HOME VISITOR MEETING

Jill will be leading the annual Home Visitor meeting on Saturday, January 19, 2019 from 9:00am to noon at the Religious Education building in the large room #7. Coffee and goodies will be served. All Home Visitors

and partners should plan on attending. Office personnel and any other conference members are welcome. Jill plans to have a guest speaker. The meeting will review paperwork obligations, resources, and challeng-

es Home Visitors face. It is especially important to attend if you do not regularly attend the monthly General meetings. Please contact Jill if you plan to attend or have questions at 892-2936.

THE RULE

The Rule: **1.11 Concerns for deeper needs and spirituality** Vincentians are sincerely concerned with the deeper needs and the

spiritual well-being of those they help, always observing a profound respect for their conscience and the faith they believe

in, listening and understanding with their hearts, beyond both words and appearances.



Vincentian Prayer List



Please pray for the people listed who are requesting your special prayers:

Sandy Gentner– Peace and strength– STA Conference

Pauline Salata– For peace in her suffering– Margie Magistro

Charles Fink– Successful kidney transplant– Joe & Carol Fink

Cecilia & Nora Romero– Healing from cancer– Bernice Mascarenas

Lisa Boyd– A quick recovery from kidney stones– Louise Richardson

Nicole Mares/Chris Sanchez Jr.– Healing– Bobby & Susan Gonzales

Trevor Peynetsa– Continued recovery from pedestrian accident– Lisa Nakai

Jerry Carrillo– Complete recovery of esophageal cancer– Terri Hall

Laurene Harris– Much happiness & success in her new job– STA conference





Annual Vincentian Christmas Party

Please join your fellow Vincentians to celebrate the season of Christmas

Saturday, December 15, 2018
6:30 pm until 9:00 pm

Party hosted by Fred and Marcella Kramer
3827 Linda Vista Ave NE
(Loma Colorado Area) in Rio Rancho

Please bring a finger food, handheld dessert, or wine. Coffee, water, and soft drinks will be provided.

Attendees RSVP by Thursday, December 13, 2018
Call Diane at 588-2906 with number of people and Food you will be bringing.

God showed how much He loved us by sending
His one and only Son into the world so that
we might have eternal life through Him.

1 John 4:9

Driving Directions

- ⇒ Starting on NM Hwy. 528
- ⇒ Turn left on High Resort Blvd
- ⇒ Turn right onto Loma Vista Blvd
- ⇒ Turn right onto Terraza Blvd
- ⇒ Turn left onto Los Miradores Place
- ⇒ Turn right onto Linda Vista Avenue
- ⇒ House on NW corner of Linda Vista Ave & Linda Vista Ct.