

# ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING ZOOM ON FEBRUARY 4th @ 7:00PM**

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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.svdpsta.org

- Phone Visits - 31
- Walk-in Applicants- 3
- Christmas Families- 17

## FEAST DAY REFLECTION

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was born in New York on August 28, 1774. She was the first native born American to be canonized by the Catholic Church but was brought up in the Episcopalian faith. Elizabeth grew up in the upper class of New York society. She was a prolific reader, and read everything from the Bible to contemporary novels. In spite of her high society background, Elizabeth's early life was quiet, simple, and often lonely. As she grew a little older, the Bible was to become her continual instruction, support and comfort. She would continue to love the Scriptures for the rest of her life. In 1794 Elizabeth married the wealthy young William Seton whom she loved dearly and had five children with. Not long after being married, William's father passed away and William was left in charge of his seven younger siblings

as well as his father's business. With hard times, William's business and health were failing. The Seton's moved to Italy in hopes of saving the business and improving William's health but he later filed bankruptcy and died from tuberculosis. Being so far away from home and having deep concern for the spiritual welfare of her family eventually led Elizabeth to the Catholic Church. In Italy, Elizabeth captivated everyone with her kindness, patience, good sense, wit, and courtesy. Having lost her mother at an early age, Elizabeth felt great comfort in the idea that the Blessed Virgin was truly her mother. She asked the Blessed Virgin to guide her to the True Faith and officially joined the Catholic Church in 1805. Elizabeth started a school which had originally been secular but once news of her entrance to Catholicism

spread, several girls were removed from her school. It was then, Seton and two other young women who helped her in her work, began plans for a Sisterhood. They established the first free Catholic school in America. On March 25, 1809, Elizabeth Seton pronounced her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, binding for one year. From that time she was called Mother Seton. Although Mother Seton became afflicted with tuberculosis, she continued to guide her children. The Rule of the Sisterhood was formally ratified in 1812. It was based upon the Rule St. Vincent de Paul had written for his Daughters of Charity in France. Mother Seton died in 1821 at the age of 46, only sixteen years after becoming a Catholic.



### TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 12-31-2020



- Beginning Balance- \$82,945.21**
- After Collection- \$106,911.28**
- Distributions- \$25,169.94**
- Ending balance- \$81,741.34**

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



*Happy*  
*Birthday*  
**January Birthdays**  
**Tom Austin**  
**Melissa Baca**  
**Susan Gonzales**  
**Terri Hall**



*You will  
draw  
water  
joyfully  
from the  
springs of  
salvation*

## ANNUAL HOME VISITOR MEETING

Keeping our lines of communication open is even more important during this pandemic than ever before. Therefore, our annual Home Visitor meeting is still on track. Since it's not possible to meet in person, the meeting will be held via Zoom on Saturday, Jan. 30th from 9:30-11:30AM to cover a multitude of sub-

jects led by Jill Lythgoe, our Home Visitor Coordinator. You will need to bring your own coffee and snacks this year. It is strongly suggested that all Home Visitors and office staff attend. Some of the subjects to cover will include: Thrift Store reports, heads of committees, future furniture needs, Thrift Store cloth-

ing vouchers clarification, distribution of gift cards during the pandemic, input from the Office Manager, a guest speaker from Goodwill, Randy Rizek, and phone visit input from all is encouraged. If you have questions, please contact Jill at 892-2936. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

## RESOURCE COMMITTEE CHANGE

Jill Lythgoe has been leading our Resource Committee for two years after the founder, Sandy Gentner, moved away and then passed shortly after that. Jill has put many hours of hard work, commitment, and guidance into the committee. Beginning this month, Connie and Rob Shingleton have agreed to lead the Resource Committee. Our conference will benefit from their years of ex-

perience as educators. Connie and Rob would like to reconfirm the resources on the Resource sheet. Due to COVID, many of these resources may have changed or no longer exist. From there, they plan on expanding the resources as much as possible to benefit our applicant's needs. Finally, Connie and Rob would like to hold an informal type of meeting

several times a year on a particular category to offer more in depth information and conversation. Their goal is to make Home Visitors more aware of the resources offered and have the ability to answer questions coming from applicants. The vision is a better understanding for the most help in a particular situation and not just to hand our applicants a piece of paper.

## CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

What a blessing it was to be able to sponsor 17 families for Christmas this year. Vinny & Melanie Pizzonia offered to sponsor all the families in need but had a cut off date to be able fulfill everyone's requests in time for Christmas. There happened to be three additional families in need of help after that date so Phil & Cecilia Kahle, Mary

Lou & Sal Benevegna and Dennis & Terri Hall also each sponsored a family for Christmas. The feedback received from the sponsors was positive and beautiful for the most part. With every kind act there is inevitably a small obstacle but overall so many people were filled with the joy of giving in the spirit of our Lord. What these individ-

uals did to help other families was incredibly generous and unselfish. Next year the conference would like to open the process up to more Vincentians that would like to sponsor a family for Christmas. Thank you to all those sponsors and especially to Vinny and Melanie for their huge hearts. Thank you to Laura, our Office Manager, and all the office volunteers for coordinating this project.

## THE RULE

### **7.1- The Society gives immediate help but also seeks mid-term and long-term solutions:**

The Society is concerned not only with alleviating need but also with identifying the unjust structures that cause it. It is, therefore, committed to identifying the root causes of poverty and to contributing to their elimination. In all its charitable actions there should be a search for justice; in its struggle for justice, the Society must keep in mind the demands of charity.



# January Vincentian Prayer List

**Your prayers are being requested for these special intentions:**

**Mike Jerome**– For healing from Parkinson's– Barb Jerome

**Fred Richardson**– Healing from Parkinson's & compression fractures– Louise

**Lori Beth Koenigsfeld**– Continue recovery from brain surgery- Terri Hall

**Father Young**– Full recovery and comfort- Terri Hall

**Rosemary & Tony Giardina**– Rosemary recovery from fractured vertebrae and Tony from open heart surgery– Jayne Bukowski

**Ingrid Schumacher**– Having trouble walking and back pain due to a fall– Candace Hintenach

**Prayers for our country during these uncertain times**– Olivia Cassell

**Maria Rodriquez**– Open heart surgery in February– Laura Greico

**Michael Gutierrez**– Repose of his soul, recently died in a house fire– Louise Richardson

**May Gates**– Repose of her soul– Paul LaPierre

**Carolyn Rhodes**– Overload in her blood from Hemochromatosis– Claire Olona

**Gene Olona**– Recently diagnosed with diabetes– Claire Olona

**Monique and Rene Parage**– Both diagnosed with serious health conditions– Anne Austin

**Shirley Chavez**– Continue recovery from Coronavirus– Rose Chavez