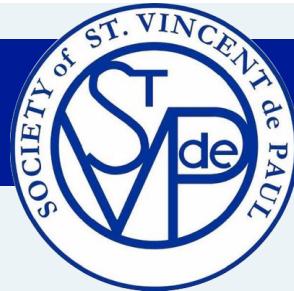


ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

Issue 1 | April, 2022

St. Thomas Aquinas Conference



We can sometimes feel frustrated, even guilty, when our works don't seem to achieve the results we'd anticipated, forgetting for a moment that we are called to serve our neighbors for love alone. We can take solace and learn from the example of St. Louise de Marillac, who also was often burdened by feelings of shame and anguish at coming up short in her works.

Louise had many great gifts – artistic and intellectual, she was a natural leader and great organizer whose imagination in works of charity seemed unbounded. Louise once served as president of the Confraternity of Charity at her own parish, Saint Nicolas-du-Chardonnet. She had a deep religious devotion, formed in her earliest years. Yet still, she sometimes fell into despair when she did not achieve all she had set out to do.

In was in one such instance that Vincent reminded her not to “think that all is lost because of the little rebellions you experience interiorly. It has just rained very hard and is thundering dreadfully. Is the weather less beautiful for that?” [CCD I:62] In other words, we serve God first, before and above our goals. And if we seek to make His will our own, we should never despair. After all, God causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

It was her “lumière” of 1623 that led Louise to Vincent, and that reassured her of her calling to religious life. She wrote down that divine vision and kept it in her pocket throughout her life. No doubt it reminded her from time to time of the peace that had washed over her that Pentecost Sunday and reassured her that God “had a plan... from all eternity, for [her] soul.” [Sp. Wri. 691]

When we are open to it, each of us has such moments of conversion in our lives; a time when God speaks, or winks, or gives us a glimpse of His plan for our us. Going back to re-read them can ease the frustrations we sometimes feel along our path, giving us peace, and reassuring us of the great hope in which we serve.

Our formation is a lifelong process, and along the path we will sometimes falter. Through wealth and poverty; as wife, mother, widow, and servant, Louise devoted her entire self to the will of God, growing in peace at every step. In turn, she became a wise teacher, and model of holiness, to many others.

“Oh! what a tree you have appeared to be today in God's sight,” declared Vincent, “since you have borne such a fruit! May you be forever a beautiful tree of life bringing forth fruits of love, and I, in that same love, your servant.” [CCD I:46]

Contemplate

What is my lumière? Am I a gentle voice, reassuring others to trust in providence?

Recommended Reading: Praying with Louise de Marillac

The National Council of the United States, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc.

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Parish Office

1502 Sara Road SE Rio Rancho, NM 87124 | (505) 892-0526 | www.svdpsta.org

SVDP Office Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Inside this issue

- Contemplation
- Welcome New Members
- Treasurer's Report
- A Note from our President
- Vincentian Spotlight
- Upcoming Events
- Vincentian Birthdays [April-June]



We want to extend a warm
welcome to our newest members of
our St. Vincent de Paul Society—
we're so excited you joined!

Carmela Alcon

Roxanne Baltz

Theresa Bell

Terri Carr

Maria Diaz

Catherine Hanson

Heidi Husman

Joanna Lovato

Rosa Manning

Sherry Norton

Martha Parsons

Anne Sellman

Steve Schmitt

Pauline Valdez Schmitt

Geoffrey Stamp

JANUARY 1—MARCH 31, 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance- \$75,997

Total Receipts- \$41,429

Total Distributions- \$59,528

Ending Balance- \$57,898

This information is provided to you on a quarterly basis by our treasurer, Paul LaPierre. This is a quarterly summary. For more detailed information, you may contact Paul at the office by calling (505) 892-0526.

Friends & Neighbors Assisted: 104

A Note From Our President

Candace Hintenach

Happy Spring to everyone! Warmer days are finally here in the Land of Enchantment. Our conference continues to stay busy with weekly assistance to our friends and neighbors as well as volunteering to help the Knights of Columbus with their Lenten dinners which is coming up on Friday, April 8th. Eight volunteers signed up to help at our last general meeting. If you are interested in helping, contact me at 505-331-8383. Or just come by for dinner, either in D'Arco Hall or for curbside delivery. A portion of the proceeds from the dinners will go to support our Conference.



An Ozanam Orientation is scheduled for April 30th at Immaculate Conception Parish in Albuquerque. I sent the invitation out to all members a couple of weeks ago and will have copies of it at our next general meeting on April 7th. This is a good opportunity for our new members who still need to attend the Orientation and those that are due for their 5-year refresher. Please consider attending.

The annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and Distribution is our Conference's biggest event and the initial planning has begun for 2022. Things will be a little different this year. We're forming a committee to plan and coordinate the various activities. Some of our members expressed an interest in this Committee at our last general meeting. I know there are others that look forward to participating in this event every year. This is a huge project and it takes a lot of dedicated people to make it happen. If you are interested in being a part of the planning and coordination, please contact me directly at 505-331-8383. I am also reaching out to those who have volunteered in past years. I, along with Laurene Harris and Paul La Pierre, have spoken to our youth leaders. We would like our youth to be a part of the Thanksgiving event this year and I am excited to report that the response has been a definite yes. This is an opportunity for our young people to see what our St. Vincent de Paul Conference does for others. It also fits in with their goals of providing service to others and performing works of mercy. I think it is a good fit all around!

Easter will be here in a couple of weeks. I hope this Lenten Season has brought each of you many blessings and I am wishing you a very Happy Easter as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

VINCENTIAN SPOTLIGHT ON OUR WONDERFUL OFFICE MANAGER

We are starting something new.....our “Vincentian Spotlight!”

Each issue, we will ask a group/individual to share some fun facts about themselves, this will be a fun way to get to know our SVDP family. This month, our Vincentian spotlight is Laura Greico, our Office Manager & Office Volunteers!



Laura shares...I am a native Californian, born in Inglewood, CA and I lived in Anaheim, (10 minutes from Disneyland), from the time I was 3 months old. I attended St. Boniface Church and helped with the St Vincent de Paul Conference there. When I retired, I moved here at the end of 2015. I unpacked and set up my home and then attended my first SVdP meeting in October of 2016. I immediately started volunteering at the SVdP office, and in August of 2019, I became the Office Manager for SVdP. My hobbies include: reading, jewelry making, crocheting, calligraphy, cooking and travel.

SVDP CALENDAR—APRIL, MAY & JUNE

April 7 @ 7:00 pm—General Meeting

May 25 @ 7:00 pm—Advisory Board Meeting

April 27 @ 7:00 pm—Advisory Board Meeting

June 2 @ 7:00 pm—General Meeting

May 5 @ 7:00 pm—General Meeting

June 10 @ 10:00 am—Resource Committee Meeting

June 29 @ 7:00 pm—Advisory Board Meeting

thank you!

VINCENTIAN SPOTLIGHT ON OUR WONDERFUL OFFICE VOLUNTEERS



Maria Rodriguez
Office Representative

Maria likes to travel and is excited to visit family this year for Easter.



Yolanda Roybal
Office Representative

Yolanda loves being part of SVDP, loves family, traveling, and working in yard.



Cecelia Kahle
Office Representative

Cecilia enjoys time with her family, also doing various types of arts and crafts projects.



Susan Gonzales
Office Representative

Susan loves spending time with family & friends, crocheting & reading!



Sylvi Burns
Office Representative

Sylvi likes home decorating for the season, Zumba (when my knee heals), Sunday family dinners, picnics, and glamping. (Camping with all the comforts of home.)



MaryLou
Benevega
Office Representative

May Lou enjoys gardening, traveling and cooking Italian food.

thank you!

VINCENTIAN SPOTLIGHT ON OUR WONDERFUL OFFICE VOLUNTEERS



Jayne Bukowski

Office Representative

Jayne enjoys traveling, working at church, especially with St. Vincent De Paul and playing games either face to face or online. She enjoys time with family and of course bingo and slots. Have slowed down the last few years with COVID so less volunteering in community. Have lived in NM since 1977 and raised 3 children here. Two girls live in Arlington, Va. and Flower Mound Texas. Bob my husband passed away in 2014 after many years as a home visitor with me. I joined St. Vincent de Paul about 25 years ago.



Ingrid Schumacher

Scheduling Coordinator

Ingrid shares...I was born, raised and educated in Germany. worked in England, France as well as Switzerland where I received my immigration visa to the USA. Lived and worked in various US States, continued education, moved to NM from FL in 2006. Love outdoors, working in my yard, garden, taking walks along the Rio Grande. I love animals - from dogs, cats, to (wild) birds (many in my backyard) to many types of wild animals; I am especially a big fan of horses. I love being around and helping people.



**"Small things done with great love
will change the world."**

**"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one
ever come to you without leaving happier."**



– Mother Teresa



We'd like your feedback!!!

This is our first attempt at a quarterly newsletter.
What things do you like? What items would you like
to see added?

Please email us your thoughts:

candacehantenach@gmail.com
lharris_20@msn.com

We'd love your feedback!



People of Prayer

Vincentians are people of prayer.

We pray before and after our meetings, we pray with and for the neighbors we serve, and we promote a life of prayer and reflection, both as individuals and as a community of faith, sharing with our fellow members. Meditating on our Vincentian experiences offers us internal spiritual knowledge of themselves, others and the goodness of God.

APRIL, MAY & JUNE BIRTHDAYS

APRIL

Maria Cardenas
Corina Chavez
Bernard Ela
Linda Fresquez
Vera Galle
Marcella Kramer
Jill Lythgoe
Rosa Manning
Jo Ann Rodgers
Ana Gabaldon
Carol Ann Griffin

MAY

Roxanne Baltz
Olivia Cassell
Catherine Hanson
Dave Heil
Fred Kramer
Dusty Olson
Robert Shingleton
Vincent Pizzonia
Kay Rogers
Rudy Herman
Nea Montoya

JUNE

Anne Austin
Theresa Bell
Gerri Martinez
Sylvia Munoz
Melanie Pizzonia