

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

Issue 3 | October, 2022

St. Thomas Aquinas Conference



VINCENTIAN CONTEMPLATION

The apostles' request of Jesus to "increase (their) faith" is made in the face of the seemingly impossible demands of discipleship. Jesus answers by illustrating what faithful discipleship looks like. The servant has been laboring all day in the field, but more is yet to be done. The work of the disciples is never completed. Discipleship is never-ending. To be a disciple means to be a servant. Here faith means faithfulness, that is, faithfulness in service. The faith-filled person puts in an honest day's work. That person is gracious to those with whom he or she comes in contact. That person is ready to reach out and help another, even beyond one's own workload. That person does not judge or condemn others. The faith-filled person sees Jesus in the other and responds to the situation with Jesus' love and mercy. Faith is faithfulness in action. (Living Liturgy, p.220)

We are called to be servants of the poor. And, mercy, says Vincent, is the "proper attribute of God himself." Mercy is a facet of charity that calls us, first to identify in spirit with the other person. For instance, St. Vincent tells us, "To be compassionate toward the sufferings of our neighbor and to weep with him...to soften our hearts and to render them responsive to their sufferings and miseries." Indeed, "love gains for us an entrance into the hearts of others." Mercy calls as well for outward signs or gestures. As St. Vincent observed, "Heart and hand should go together as far as possible." Consequently, he urges, "Weep with your poor and your sick. God has appointed you to be their consolation...Serve the poor with gentleness, compassion, and love." (Melito, St. Vincent de Paul "Windows on His Vision", p. 139)

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St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Parish Office

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

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



A Note From Our President

Candace Hintenach

*“Do not be afraid of
new beginnings.*

Be creative.

Be inventive.”

BL. Fredric Ozanam

Fall has arrived and the Holiday Season will be here soon!

As I mentioned in the July newsletter, our Office Manager, Laura Greico, made a decision to move to Indiana to be with her family. She left New Mexico at the end of August and is now settling into her new home. She has been keeping in touch and we wish her well!

We now have a new Office Manager, Cecilia Kahle. Cecilia has been involved with our Conference since 2019 as a home visitor and a volunteer in our office. She also prepares the food bags we provide to walk-ins during our business hours. In addition, she has been our Conference Secretary and member of the Advisory Board since January 2021. All this experience has prepared her to take on this important role in our Conference. I know she will do an excellent job! Thank you, Cecilia for accepting this position!!

Unfortunately, Cecilia has to step down as our Secretary since taking on her new position. So, we are in need of a new Secretary to take her place. If you are interested in getting more involved with our Conference and filling this key role, please contact me at 505-331-8383.

Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and Distribution is coming in November. It starts on Friday, November 11 through Saturday, November 19. We formed a Thanksgiving Committee this year and they have been meeting regularly to do the initial planning. I want to thank each and every one of them for the time they are spending to plan the details of this event. It will be drive-through style the same as last year. We will be collecting frozen turkeys, frozen pies, and accepting monetary donations to purchase gift cards and food as needed to serve approximately 600 families. This is a huge effort and takes many volunteers to be at D'Arco Hall collecting food for 8 days from Friday the 11th through Friday the 18th and distributing food on Saturday the 19th. We will be asking for volunteers to sign up for three-hour shifts during the collection days for as many days as you are able. This will avoid any one person having to be at the Hall for extended periods of time. We will also need volunteers on distribution day for controlling traffic in the parking lot, taking basic information from people who drive through, and distributing the food. Please mark your calendars and think about when you could volunteer. You can sign up at our October 6th general meeting. Sign up requests will also be sent via email near the end of October and circulated at our general meeting on November 3rd.

Wishing you a blessed All Saints Day, All Soul's Day and a joyous Holiday Season!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SVDP OFFICE MANAGER

We welcome our new office manager, Cecilia Kahle. Cecilia has been volunteering in our SVDP office for the past three years. We're thrilled she accepted the position and know she will be a great addition to our team!

Thank you Laura! Our entire team thanks you for an exceptional job! We wish you the very best and pray for God's continued blessing for you and your family.



We want to extend a warm welcome to our newest member of our St. Vincent de Paul Society...
Brad Hayden
We're so excited you joined!

SVDP CALENDAR—OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

October 6, 7:00 pm—Gen. Mtg; Membership Drive	November 30, 7:00 pm—Advisory Board Meeting
October 26, 7:00 pm—Advisory Board Meeting	December 1, 7:00 pm—General Meeting
November 3, 7:00 pm—General Meeting	December 28, 7:00 pm—Advisory Board Meeting

JULY 1—SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance- \$64,611	Total Receipts- \$41,960
Total Distributions- \$37,079	Ending Balance- \$69,492

Friends & Neighbors Assisted: 84

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.

*Thank
You*

A HUGE thank you to Anne Austin for a fantastic job coordinating our SVDP Weekend & all who volunteered to make it a success.



This time you have is a gift from Me.
Use it with great care,
as it will end as I decide.
Use this gift to provide for others.
Help them enjoy their gifts,
as I do for you.

May you seek your gifts from Me.
May you bring a wealth of happiness
to those around you.
What greater giving can be found than this?

- Bring peace to those with whom you come in contact.
- Give joy and peace to them.
- Bring life to those who suffer pain.
- Help them pass over this time of suffering.

Be gentle with those who are angry with their situations.
Bring wisdom to them as they cross your path.
Let compassion show forth from your eyes
and cross over into their pain.
Your strength will heal their pain.

I bring them to you for healing.
Let My strength pass over into them.
These people need My strength.
Let Me use you for this purpose.

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

Richard Acuna
Laurene Harris
Ben Maes
Mabel Romero
Yolanda Roybal
Ingrid Schumacher
Mary Wallen

NOVEMBER

Jayne Bukowski
David Sena
Connie Shingleton
Esther Vera-Trujillo
Melissa Pedraza
Harold Hitch

DECEMBER

Carmela Alcon
Catalina Davis
Paul LaPierre

*Birthday
Blessings*