

# DOING GOOD!!

An E-Publication of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Cleveland

## DOING GOOD!!

is sent monthly.

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Correspond with us via email at [doing-good@svdpcle.org](mailto:doing-good@svdpcle.org).

Please share this issue with your fellow Conference members who may not have email.

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### Give Hope

Donate a car  
Give hope to those in need

Donate old vehicles to SVDP by calling 1-800-322-8284 or by visiting the webpage: [Click here](#)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OZANAM ORIENTATION

Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>  
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Cleveland  
10:00am- 3:30pm

### KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

Saturday, May 6, 4:00pm-8pm  
Great Lakes Brewing Co.

### DIOCESAN SVDP COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Sunday, May 21, 9am mass  
Assumption Parish, Broadview Hts.

### BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome  
Monday, June 12, Noon  
Our Lady of Hope  
300 Center Rd., Bedford

### MID EAST REGIONAL MEETING

June 2-3. Notre Dame, IN

### 5K RACE TO "OUTRUN HUNGER"

Saturday, June 24, 9:00am  
Edgewater Park  
Benefits SVDP Hunger Centers  
Get a group of friends to run with you!

### GOLF OUTING

Friday, July 21, 8:00am-4:00pm  
Sleepy Hollow Golf Course  
Brecksville

### INVITATION FOR RENEWAL

August 9-13 & December 6-10  
Florissant, MO

### SVDP NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

August 29-September 2. Tampa, FL  
For all Vincentians

### BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome  
Monday, September 11, Noon  
Our Lady of Hope  
300 Center Rd., Bedford

### FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

Saturday, September 30/ Sites TBA

### RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

September/October

### BLANKET SUNDAY

Saturday/Sunday, October 7 & 8

### BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome  
Monday, December 11, Noon  
Our Lady of Hope

## Annual Kentucky Derby Party Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

The first of three important fundraisers for the Society's hunger centers kicks off Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 8 p.m. with the annual **Kentucky Derby Party** at Great Lakes Brewing Company.



Presented by Community West Foundation, the fun-filled event features the Run for the Roses on the large screen, a silent auction, horse betting, a hat contest, raffles (for a chance to win up to \$1,000), prizes, authentic Derby fare, valet parking, mint juleps and Cleveland's own Great Lakes Brewing Company beer.

Admission tickets are \$75 each (includes valet parking) and raffle tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20.

Whether you plan to don your derby and attend the fun, purchase a sponsorship, buy raffle tickets or make a general donation, **we need your help** to make the evening a success. To **order tickets, click here**. For **sponsorship information, click here** to download a printable form.



For more information, contact Natalie Schrimpf, Marketing & Development manager at 216-696-6525 x.2520 or [nschrimpf@svdpcle.org](mailto:nschrimpf@svdpcle.org).

And please remember to spread the word about the **Best Kentucky Derby Party in Cleveland!**



### Director's Corner

John Litten, Executive Director

### Vincentian Rebirth

As Lent rolls along with the leaves beginning to bud, we are awakened on a number of levels. As Easter nears, even if it is your 38<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 90<sup>th</sup> (or more) there is always a sense of remembering what it was like to first realize all that Jesus did for us and what those sacrifices truly meant. We are reborn, and possibly reminded, of what our faith is all about.

In a similar way, for me, getting to help facilitate the Ozanam Orientation on March 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary in Hudson was a rebirth as well. Working with Anelize to share what being a Vincentian is all about to a group that included both new and veteran Vincentians was incredible. We truly are a part of a worldwide network of charity, and you are making some incredible contributions to that. We had a very engaged group, and discussed an array of topics from modern poverty issues to the original Conference in 1833 and everything in between. I encourage you to ask yourself if you ought to participate in an Ozanam Orientation. The good news is that we have another one coming up very soon! On April 29<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (where we're getting another Conference started!) on Detroit Ave. in Cleveland we will hold our next one from 10 am to 3 pm. Please let me know if you can join us.

There will be other opportunities to spread your Vincentian wings coming up as shown in our calendar. I encourage you to refresh, learn, have fun, run or even golf as a Vincentian!

### The Brevity & Beauty of the Hyacinth



I am not much of a horticulturalist, but my favorite flower (and one of the few that I can recognize on sight) is the hyacinth. These fragrant flowers always remind me of spring and Easter. However, they tend to be short-lived and the flower dies very quickly. In some of my contemplative moments, these beautiful flowers cause me to reflect on the brevity of life. Time goes fast, as I am sure many of you will attest to, and before we know it, we have advanced in age and are in the twilight of our lives.

Our time here in this world is brief and fleeting. Yet we want to ensure that we make the most of the gifts that God has given us – including the gift of time! As Vincentians, we have an opportunity on a regular basis to make a real impact on someone's life, even if only for a brief moment. When we want to procrastinate or defer a necessary task, we can think of the hyacinth which God gives us for just a few days. A Blessed Easter Season to all Vincentians!

Yours in Christ,



**Father Doug Brown**  
Spiritual Advisor

**“He who has compassion on the poor, LENDS to the Lord, and He will repay him for his good deed.” Proverbs 19:17**



## JOSEPH CLEARY APPOINTED SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

SVDP President Bob Reuter appointed Joe Cleary Second Vice President of the Executive Council late last year because of his successful experience in running a for-profit sales and marketing business.

Joe was born in Cleveland and grew up in Lakewood, Ohio. He graduated from St. Ignatius High School, and attended Xavier University in Cincinnati and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science. Joe then went on to obtain a Master's degree in Business in 1970.

Immediately after college, Joe served in the U.S. Army and at completion of that service joined Rex Pipe and Supply, a family business. He worked through a number of various management positions including sales and administration and became President of the company when his father retired in 1985. Rex specialized in wholesale selling of plumbing, heating and industrial supplies. It had 80 employees and 6 sales offices and locations scattered across Northern Ohio. Joe retired in 2015 when he sold the business.

Joe is a member of St. Angela Merici church in Fairview Park, and believes he can bring his business acumen and experience to St. Vincent de Paul Society to help and enhance our service to the needy and disadvantaged in Northeast Ohio.

Joe is married to Anne, his wife of 40 years. They have 2 sons, a daughter and one grandson, all in the Cleveland area. In his leisure time Joe likes traveling, reading and golf.



## Ozanam Orientation: What a refreshing workshop

On March 9, the Society had a wonderful session at St. Mary in Hudson, with 23 Vincentians from five Conferences. The feedback we received from attendees was incredibly positive, with comments such as “How energizing!”, “I learned so much today!”, “Thank you for such a thorough and comprehensive workshop!”, and “I can't wait to go back to my Conference and share all this with everyone!”

It was so well-received and productive that we will offer another one **on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Cleveland from 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.** John Litten will be the presenter. If you have never attended an Orientation, or if it has been a while since the last one you attended, please consider joining us. It is a great opportunity for both new and seasoned Vincentians to be reacquainted with our values and beliefs, to reconnect with our Spiritual mission and to be re-energized to carry this mission forward! *Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, to [anader@svdpcle.org](mailto:anader@svdpcle.org) or 216-696-6525 x. 3560. This helps us have an adequate count for materials and lunch. Thank you!*

## NOTES FROM OUR MARCH BOARD MEETING

President Bob Reuter reported that there will be need for two new District Presidents to be elected before September 30, the end of our fiscal year. Marilyn Brandoni will reach maximum term limits after 6 years of service to Lake/Geauga District. Marilyn announced they have formed a nominating committee to fill her post and her District is exploring the possibility of International Twinning with a needy Conference through National SVDP.

The Lorain District will also be electing a new President and interested Vincentians should contact Jim Watling, District President, or Anelise during the next two months. The Central Office has informational brochures that will help explain duties to interested parties.

Bob also mentioned that one of our Diocesan goals for the coming year will be to add 2 or 3 new Conferences to our existing 64. He appealed to Conferences and Vincentians to notify John Litten of any parish that might be interested.

Our SVDP National Leadership training location has been moved from Indianapolis to St. Louis. Almost all of our Officers have attended this very special four-day program that is held in August and December each year. Vincentians that would like to monitor this program are welcome to contact their District President or Bob. Our Diocesan Board believes that better trained leaders will help us all more effectively serve the needy and disadvantaged in our service area.

Jim Beesley, West District President, mentioned that *Jim Schleck* was the main speaker at the last District Meeting and he highly recommended him to all our other Districts. Mr. Schleck is a staff worker at Care Alliance and an expert on helping long term Homeless populations finally accept help.

## TWINNING OPPORTUNITIES IN HAITI

If your Conference is interested in international twinning with an aggregated Conference in a country approved by the International Commission, please consider twinning with Conferences in Haiti, which are in great need of twins, especially after Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti in October, 2016. Please pray about this opportunity.

If you have questions or concerns, and would like additional information about the opportunities to twin in Haiti, please contact Lizzette Garcia, SVDP International Twinning Coordinator at [lgarcia1@svdpsusa.org](mailto:lgarcia1@svdpsusa.org).

## Conference Supply Center update:

Please note that there have been a few updates on the prices of our beds, due to a change in supplier. The average price increase is only 5%, and the new prices are effective April 1.

[Please continue to use our Online Form \(click here\).](#)

**Remember we also have laptops for families with school-aged children!!**

SVDP DISTRICT MEETING	DATE & TIME	PLACE	DISTRICT PRESIDENT
Akron District	April 23rd Mass at 8:00 am	St. Augustine/ Barberton	Mike Zorena <a href="mailto:akron@svdpcle.org">akron@svdpcle.org</a>
East District	TBA	TBA	John Patton <a href="mailto:eastDistrict@svdpcle.org">eastDistrict@svdpcle.org</a>
Lake/Geauga	TBA	TBA	Marilyne Brandoni <a href="mailto:lake-geauga@svdpcle.org">lake-geauga@svdpcle.org</a>
Lorain County	May 11th 6:00 pm	TBA	Jim Watling <a href="mailto:loraindistrict@svdpcle.org">loraindistrict@svdpcle.org</a>
West District	June 6th 7:00 pm	St. Ladislav	Jim Beesley <a href="mailto:westdistrict@svdpcle.org">westdistrict@svdpcle.org</a>