

DOING GOOD!!

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



DOING GOOD!!

is sent monthly.

To join our Doing Good mailing list, view past issues, or to learn more about SVDP, visit us at svdpcle.org.

Correspond with us via email at doing-good@svdpcle.org.

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

To unsubscribe, simply reply to the email from which you received this newsletter with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.



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

KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

Saturday, May 6, 4pm-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

MIDEAST REGIONAL MEETING

June 16-17 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
300 Center Rd., Bedford

Vincentian Communion Breakfast: Come celebrate with us!!

What: Commissioning mass followed by a communion breakfast & awards ceremony

When: Sunday, May 21, at 9:00 am

Where: Assumption Parish at 9183 Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, 44147

This commissioning mass is for both new and seasoned members to be officially welcomed as **Vincentians in the Diocese of Cleveland**, receiving a pin in celebration of their commitment to Spirituality, Friendship and Service. The mass is followed by a breakfast and awards to honor Vincentians we have lost, as well as recognize those still in active service. **This is THE opportunity for all Vincentians to come together and celebrate the joys of being part of this Vincentian family!**

An individual invitation was mailed to you. The event is free to attend, but please **RSVP by calling 216-696-6525 x. 3150** or emailing anader@svdpcle.org, so that we have an accurate count for the caterer. We truly hope to see you all there!



Director's Corner

John Litten, Executive Director

(No Report this month)

WANT TO ATTEND THE 2017 MIDEAST REGIONAL MEETING AT NOTRE DAME?

By Bob Reuter

Our next Mideast Regional meeting will occur Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17, at Notre Dame University in South Bend Indiana. We understand Vincentians can stay in a dorm room for \$25 a night. Our officers have instructed the Central Office to reimburse the \$30 registration fee for any active Diocese of Cleveland Vincentian attending this meeting.

There will be many workshops and special events during this two-day meeting. You can register and see the agenda by [clicking here](#). The deadline for registration is May 31, 2017.

It might be fun to car pool with two or three other members of your Conference. Send a copy of your Registration receipt to Anelize, anader@svdpcle.org, for reimbursement.



"Out of the Mouths of Babes..."

With the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima this month, I have been recently reflecting upon her miraculous appearance to the three shepherd children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta – ages 10, 9, and 7. When they began to tell others

about the "beautiful lady", there was much scorn and disbelief. At one point, government officials threatened to boil them in oil if they didn't change their story. But the children remained steadfast. They knew what they had seen and were not willing to change the truth for anyone – even to save their own lives!

When I have thought about the children recently, I imagine the children in my parish school who are about that same age. Sometimes I think we consider children to exaggerate and distort what they see because we contend that they do not have the ability to put information into context. But there are often situations where children can view a situation objectively and are even able to say what no one else can say.

In our work as Vincentians, we encounter children when we visit many of our clients in their homes. There may be times in our desire to obtain the necessary information that we restrict our conversation to the adults present. But we miss out on the truth often told by children! The three children of Fatima provide us with the example of great courage and holy faith.

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



SVDP ON CHANNEL 3 & CHANNEL 5 LAST MONTH

Natalie Schrimpf, our Development and Marketing Manager, appeared on Channel 5 Kaleidoscope Sunday April 16th. She did a great job explaining what we do to Leon Bib and a couple of 1000 other area listeners. You can view her clip by [clicking here](#). Segment begins at 15:16 mins into video.

Thanks to the good influence of Mark Straub, PAC Advisory Board, and the programming and editing of Natalie Schrimpf, there was a very nice three-minute clip on Channel 3 TV last Sunday about our SVDP Hunger Centers and this Saturdays Derby Day. To watch this video: [Click here](#)

DO YOU THANK YOUR BENEFACTORS?

By Bob Reuter

If your Conference is like most, about 95% of your income comes from your parishioners. Without their generosity we couldn't help all the people we do. I'm sorry to say a few of our Conferences NEVER thank the very people who make possible the good works we do. Any wonder that some Conferences complain they don't have the funding to help all the needy that ask for help? I suppose sometimes we get so involved with our clients that we forget to honor the hand that feeds us. Sad to say some parishioners don't even know their parish has a St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Conferences that place little requests in the Sunday Bulletin asking for winter coats for a client, or a bed, or a table, or anything at all, really announce to potential benefactors that there is a local organization that is really helping people in our neighborhood. And a few weeks later when a "thank you" appears in the Bulletin saying thanks for the coat, or the bed or the table, it makes people feel proud *that their parish* is making a difference and responding to a local need.

In addition to frequent little "want ads" and "thank yous," many Conferences publish a short 1/2 page annual report about the number of clients served the past year, with a breakdown of dollars spent on rent, water, heat, electric bills, clothes, furniture, medications, bus passes, car repair or uniforms needed to get or keep a job, visits to sick, incarcerated, home visits, etc. It doesn't need to be a fancy P & L table which most people don't understand, just a short simple report. If it's only a half-page some parishes will print it in their bulletin. Some parishes allow Conferences to place their report in the bullet.

It's just common courtesy to thank the people that help make your hard work possible.

MANUAL FOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS AVAILABLE

Did you know there is a special "How To" manual for Conference Presidents? It explains how to pick your Officers, how to be a Servant Leader, how to recruit members, the term of office, why change is good, ideas on running a meeting, etc. The principal focus of the manual is to assist a new or seasoned president in knowing the Society and his/her responsibilities as a Conference leader.

A copy of this manual may be obtained by calling Anelize at 216-696-6525 x 3560



400 YEARS 1617 -2017

By Bob Reuter



Charism is any good gift that flows from God's love to humans. Vincentian Charism refers to serving those in need in the way begun by St. Vincent de Paul the 17th century priest and patron saint of our Society, along with St. Louise de Marillac. They embraced humble and grateful service to others, especially to those who were poor.

This year we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the birth of St. Vincent. Isn't it amazing to think WE, you and me, are the engine of Vincentian Charism in this age 400 years from its start by our founders?

I invite you to share this occasion with a special celebration in your Conference of this auspicious occasion. A special Mass for all your parish donors that make possible your good work, and attended by all your members might be one such remembrance. I have confidence that you'll think of others.



VINCENTIAN TOUR TO ROME IN OCTOBER

By Bob Reuter

The Vincentian Family will celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the charism of St Vincent de Paul this year. Pope Francis is joining in the celebration on Saturday, October 14, 2017. He will meet with all Vincentians (Vincentian Priests, Daughters of Charity, Ladies of Charity and Society of St. Vincent de Paul). Then, on Sunday, October 15, he will celebrate the Eucharist with all of us in St. Peter's Basilica (only us).

There will be a special Vincentian group tour that will depart Atlanta October 9 and fly non-stop to Rome on Delta Airline. When we arrive in Rome, we will be transported by a deluxe motor coach to a safe and comfortable hotel in the center of Rome. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, we will tour ancient Rome, visit the very special churches, tour Rome by night and taste exquisite Italian food. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday we will celebrate our Vincentian heritage with members of our Vincentian Family from around the world and [with Pope Francis](#).

Those interested may contact Perillo Tours directly at 855-784-7687 or email them at info@learningjourneys.com.

SVDP DISTRICT MEETING	DATE & TIME	PLACE	DISTRICT PRESIDENT
Akron District	July 16th 8:00 am Mass	Prince of Peace Barberton	Mike Zorena akron@svdpcl.org
East District	TBA	TBA	John Patton eastdistrict@svdpcl.org
Lake/Geauga	June 6th 7:00pm	Our Lady of Mt Carmel Wickliffe	Marilyne Brandoni lake-geauga@svdpcl.org
Lorain County	May 11th 7:00 pm	Sacred Heart Chapel Lorain	Jim Watling loraindistrict@svdpcl.org
West District	June 6th 7:00 pm	St. Ladislav	Jim Beesley westdistrict@svdpcl.org