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The Vincentian Voice of
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Archdiocesan Council of New Orleans

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Thank You for another successful Friends of the Poor Walk!

The 2018 Friends of the Poor® Walk was bigger, better and more successful than any before. Even though it was cloudy, the weather turned out to be very comfortable and contributed toward the record-breaking attendance of 414.

In addition to good weather, we were also blessed with the support of 84 onsite volunteers. Sixty-six of these were Vincentians from 12 Conferences and Councils, five were Xavier University students and thirteen others were non-Vincentians providing special services such as “Celebrity Server”, face painter, disc jockey and medical aid. We thank all who helped us plan and execute this event. Without our gracious volunteers the task would be insurmountable and the Walk would simply not occur.



Tasty refreshments were provided by The Velvet Cactus Big Shot Beverages, Tic Toc Café Ozanam Inn, (Hilton Garden Inn) Canseco and Robert’s supermarkets. Four Conferences pitched in to provide additional items – Corpus Christi-Epiphany St. Agnes, Our Lady of Perpetual Help-Kenner, and St. Raymond-St. Leo the Great.

Online donations to date were ~\$12,208 and walk day income, ~\$5338. Figures are still incomplete for direct donations made to the Conferences and Councils. The Southshore FOP® Walk had a 75% rate with twenty-four of the thirty-two Conferences/Councils being involved, as compared to the North shore’s 100%.

The fantastic young Vincentians of the St. Francis Xavier Youth Conference again earned the privilege of leading the Walk next year. These dynamic students collected donations of \$ 3680!!



More on pg. 2

THE TOP HAT....

Is a publication for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and it’s designed to inform its communities of past, present and future services and events. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization that offers service to the needy in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam and its patron, St. Vincent de Paul.

More from the 2018 FPW

While we are noting great results, a few Conferences also garnered impressive sums. Christ the King collected \$5015 in donations and St. Angela Merici >\$4700. Both have enthusiastic leaders who strongly encourage participation in Vincentian activities year round. Kudos to them!

The **FOP Walk/Run** is a unique annual event conducted for the exclusive benefit of the Conferences to enhance their financial ability to serve the needy. The first FOP® Walk/ Run was at Audubon Park in 2008. That year there were **490 walkers** and an income of **\$23,926**. This year, as an archdiocesan-wide event (Southshore and Northshore combined data), there were **812 walkers** and **\$62,000** in known earnings to date.

Still we dream... and plan... and hope ... that next year will be a record-breaker with 100% of the Conferences and Councils participating and more than **\$70000** in income.

Special Thanks to fellow event Co-chairs, Conner Ellis and Caress Roberts.

Save the date, **September 28, 2019** will be here before you know it. See you then!

-Sandy Norman

Conference News

Theresa Rodrigue, a dedicated Vincentian of the Westbank district (OLPS Conference) passed away on October 25th.



Theresa passed away peacefully at her home, surrounded by her family and friends. She had been battling cancer for over a year and stepped down from her Vincentian duties several months ago because of her illness.

She played a vital role in our mission of serving the people of Westwego and the West Bank community at large. We ask that you keep Theresa's family and the Westbank District family in your thoughts and prayers.

From the President

Dear Fellow Vincentians,

Welcome Aboard!

New Spiritual Advisor/Formation Team

Welcome Deacon Gregg Eiden our new Archdiocesan Council Spiritual Advisor. Also, Deacon Gregg and his wife Jane are our new Formation Team. Existing members are encouraged to join the formation team. I look forward to working with Deacon Gregg and Jane on new possibilities for our council. The new Serving In Hope VII module on the "HOME VISIT" will be introduced to members. This module will take us on a journey from our head to our heart. Additional information on this and other formation possibilities coming soon.

New Deputy CEO

Welcome Brian Harris (Young Adult conference), our new part time Deputy CEO. He will assist Deacon Rudy in moving the Archdiocesan Council of New Orleans St. Vincent de Paul Society into the future. Brian has been shadowing our CEO for several months and will officially assume his responsibilities on October 1, 2018. We look forward to implementing many of his new ideas and support him in this new role.

Vice-President

Welcome Fern Carr as Vice-President of the Archdiocesan Council Board. Fern has recently served as President of the Archdiocesan School Board and has been involved in ministry for some time now. She joins Michael McNeil, our existing Vice-President, serving on the Archdiocesan Council Board. I am looking forward to both Vice-Presidents using their talents to assist in our efforts moving into the future.

SE Sub regional Meeting

Our council is hosting a sub-regional meeting for members in May 2019. Morgan Gillett, our National Vice President, requested New Orleans as a host site at the National Convention in San Diego. More information will be available once the committee begins the planning process for this event. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please let us know.

National Convention – San Diego

A separate report will be provided on this event.

Jazzin on the River, a Celebration of Family

Archbishop Gregory Aymond along with several other religious attended this year's gala. The gala was well attended by 285 patrons. After final expenses, the net revenue raised was \$39, 718.18 to assist with our efforts providing for those in need.

Again, congratulations to **Paul Claudel**, this year's Top Hat recipient!

If you didn't leave early, you were treated to a special firework show on the river. A good time was had by all who attended. Thank you for supporting and promoting our Vincentian Family.

Neighborhoods of Hope

Our council is introducing the National program Neighborhoods of Hope to our area. This is a conference-based program that can be started in any neighborhood within our archdiocesan council. We are in the process of hiring a staff member to oversee the implementation of this program. A representative from the National office will come to New Orleans and provide training for those interested in implementing this program in their conference. Please advise if your conference is interested in participating.

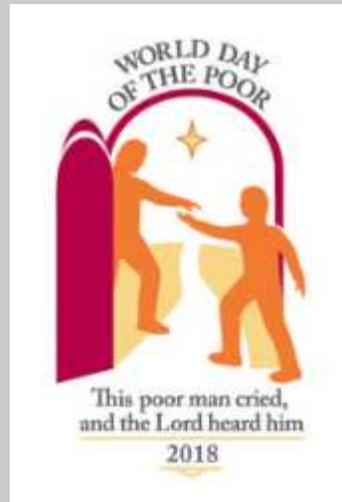
Trademark Enforcement

Trademark protection is getting enforced throughout the nation. The use of the name Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Vincent de Paul, Vincentians, and Ozanam are only allowed to be used by those registered in the National database. Anyone using these names or variations of these names will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The National Council has spent over \$100,000.00 on legal fees so far this year and are prepared to spend more if required.

Thank you for all you do serving those in need!

Together In Christ
Alan Demma

National World Poor Day is Nov. 18th



World Day of the Poor – Nov. 18, 2018

“The poor man cried, and the Lord heard him.” (Ps 34: 6) “Psalm, 34 allows us today, surrounded as we are by many different forms of poverty, to know those who are truly poor. It enables us to open our eyes to them, to hear their cry and to recognize their needs.” (Pope Francis).

Every day is a “Day of the Poor” with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul as Vincentians grow spiritually by putting their faith into action as they serve people in poverty throughout the year.

SVdP National Disaster Relief

[“Storms of a Lifetime” - Hurricanes Florence and Michael](#)

Hurricane Michael will hit land on October 10, 2018, following Hurricane Florence’s devastation and destruction and both are among the strongest storms to strike the Southeast in decades.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) formed the Disaster Services Corporation (DSC), a national organization, specifically to aid local SVdP Councils in responding quickly and effectively to natural and manmade disasters.

Your donation today will help to support the SVdP DSC with resources to respond to Hurricanes Florence and Michael and other disasters across the United States. Thank you if you have already made a donation and for your continued support. Please pray for those impacted by these hurricanes.

To find out more about ways to donate and support disaster relief efforts, go to svdpusa.org.

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From the Central Office

SVdP Announces new leadership

Randsell Hebert –St. Tammany/Washington District, District President-
Succeeding Angela Wattler

Steve Tomino— Immaculate Conception, Conference President-
Succeeding Don Ory

John McCrossen— St. Rita, Conference President-
Succeeding Ron Cambias

Congratulations to our new leadership and special thanks to their predecessors
for their fine work and dedication as leaders in the society.

#IGIVECATHOLIC on #GIVINGTUESDAY

As the first-ever online giving day created to celebrate our unique Catholic heritage, the #iGiveCatholic Giving Day inspires faithful stewards to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving. The goal of the #iGiveCatholic Giving Day is to rally our Catholic communities across the country in support of the organizations that shape our souls: Our parishes, schools, and nonprofit ministries.

Please spread the word to take part in the 2018 #igivecatholic campaign, and give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul!

<https://neworleans.igivecatholic.org/organizations/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-04c67339-a792-4677-8541-4446edee7e02>

November 27th is Giving Tuesday!



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**Our Website has a
NEW LOOK!!**

After many months of hard work, our Communications Committee (Michael Champagne & Richard Carbo) have designed and launched our new site.

Also, special thanks to Dr. Andy Chu for his guidance and advice during the process based on his knowledge of our previous website.

**Don't forget to
CHECK IT OUT!!**

For general info, and resources, go to

WWW.SVDPNEWORLEANS.ORG