



Inside this issue:

Conference News	2
Spiritual Advisor Resource	2
From the Council President	3
Thanksgiving Blessings from the Central Council	4

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.

The Top Hat

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



Vol. 3 Issue 76

November 2017

Giving Tuesday is Approaching!

#igivecatholic / Giving Tuesday is Nov. 28th. On this very important day, please think of the needy residents that are struggling to take care of the most basic necessities: Food, Utilities, and Shelter. Our Central Office, along with our partnering Vincentians at various SVdP conferences, assist our fellow neighbors with assistance for these essentials; while also providing spiritual uplifting and resources by way of the Adult Learning Center and the Community Pharmacy.

We are asking all Vincentians and fellow church parishioners to **SPREAD the WORD!**

Inform friends, relatives and neighbors to mark their calendars for Tuesday, Nov. 28th and visit www.igivecatholic.com and choose The Society of St. Vincent de Paul as their charity of choice—donate funds that may be used to help us continue our important mission, of helping those in need.

Please visit the [igivecatholic](http://igivecatholic.com) website to make your gift TODAY!



Conference News

Calling All Conferences!



Once again, our SVdP Conferences are taking part in the annual Sacred Heart Christmas Basket distribution-

This year's event will take place on December 20th, from 12:30-1:30pm, at 4301 St. Charles Ave., at the Corner of St. Charles Ave. and General Pershing.

With the help of the staff and students at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, our conferences can help brighten the holidays with a gift basket, filled with goods to prepare a meal!

Conference Leadership: Please fill out the basket request forms sent out last week with the number of baskets who wish to have. Please note, we cannot guarantee the number of baskets received. If your conference did not receive event communication, please contact us ASAP.

All requests for baskets should be forwarded to the central office, and copied to event contact, Yvonne Morise by December 4th.

Spiritual Advisor Resource

The booklet **Vincentian Meditations**, by Fr. Tom McKenna, CM is an excellent resource that spiritual advisors can use for reflection at their Conference meetings, taking a chapter each month. To evoke discussion, you may want to ask the question "What insight touched your Vincentian heart?" A special thanks to **Gail Rowe**, the **Spiritual Advisor for the Midwest Region**, who has created a wonderful PowerPoint which suggests a facilitation process and a document of the scripture reference for each chapter.

It will be important to have the Conference provide a copy of the booklet for each member. Vincentian Meditations can be purchased from the National Office, Catalog #9500 at \$2.00 each.

To Order:

Online at www.svdpusa.org (Click on SVdP Members, scroll down and click on Order Materials) or
Email order to: materials@svdpusa.org

From the Council President

Please see (below) the meeting/event SVdP ACNO calendar for (the remainder of 2017)-2018:

Archdiocesan Board Meetings – Pharmacy/Resource Center – 6:00 PM

October 25, 2017
January 31, 2017
April 25, 2018
July 25, 2018

Archdiocesan Central Council District Meetings – Pharmacy/Resource Center – 6:00 PM

October 26, 2017
November 30, 2017
(Scheduling monthly after each meeting - TBA)

East Jefferson District Meetings – 7:00 PM

January 10, 2018 – St. Catherine
April 11, 2018 – St. Benilde
July 11, 2018 – St. Francis Xavier

St. Tammany/Washington District Meetings – North Shore Pastoral Center – Covington – 9AM – 11AM

October 27, 2017
January 26, 2018
April 27, 2018
July 27, 2018

Westbank District Meetings – 6:00 PM

November 9, 2017 – Our Lady of Perpetual Help
February 8, 2018 – Our Lady of Prompt Succor
May 10, 2018 – Visitation of Our Lady
August 9, 2018 – Immaculate Conception

Ozanam Orientation

November 11, 2017 – Mary Queen of Peace – Northshore
January 20, 2018 – East Jefferson – TBA
January 27, 2018 – St. Joseph Gretna – West Bank
April 14, 2018 – Archdiocesan Central Council of N O District

Spring Retreats

April 21, 2018 – North Shore
April 28, 2018 – East Jefferson District
May 5, 2018 – West Bank District
May 12, 2018 – Archdiocesan Central Council of N O District

Ozanam Inn Board Meetings

November 11, 2017
January 27, 2018
April 28, 2018
July 28, 2018

Fund Raisers

July 2018 – Gala
September 29, 2018 – FOP Walk/Run
(More in the works)

SVdP Mass/Celebration – February (TBA)

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From the Central Office

THANKSGIVING...A TIME TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep... you are richer than 75% of this world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace ... you are among the top 8% of the worlds wealthy. If you woke up this morning with more health than illness... you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation... you are ahead of 500 million people in the world. If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death... you are more blessed than three billion people in the world. If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful... you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not. If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder... you are blessed because you can offer a healing touch. If you can read this message... you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world that cannot read at all.

THANKSGIVING is indeed a time to **BE THANKFUL...** so count your blessings and remember how blessed you are.

**Happy
Thanksgiving**

**Want to be a part
of our
2018 Gala
Planning
Committee??**

**We'd love to have
you part of our
team!**

**If interested,
please send your
contact info to:**

svdpps@bellsouth.net



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