



Inside this issue:

The Top Hat

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

Vol. 3 Issue 77

December 2017

Tis' the Season of Giving!

ADCNO Holiday Gathering	2
From the National Office	3
2017/2018 Meeting and Events Calendar	4
News & Notes	5



Several of our conferences have taken part in the many drives and giving events for the needy this holiday season. Our Lady of the Lake Conference on the Northshore partnered with the OLL elementary school to give baskets to the needy for Thanksgiving (left)

Members of the Young Adults and the St. Benilde Conference also worked together to help out the needy this season.



On December 20th, the Society took part in the annual Christmas Basket distribution (below) at the Academy of the Sacred Heart; allowing many of our conferences to give baskets of food items to residents in need prepared by ASH students.



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.

We salute the many conferences that went out into their communities and gave to needy residents this year! A complete recap of giving that took place in 2017 will be featured in the January Top Hat Newsletter.

We thank the Academy of the Sacred Heart staff and students, along with organizer Jana Fogelman for helping US help those in need in our community again this year.

The Archdiocesan Council and Works Celebrate the Season

Food, Good Cheer and Caroling was on the agenda for the festive Christmas gathering that took place on Thursday, Dec. 14th, at the Community Pharmacy/Conference Resource Center.

Council President, Alan Demma and Executive Dir./CEO Deacon Rudy Rayfield played host to members of the board, special works volunteers, Thrift Store, Adult Learning Center and Central Office staff members all gathered to eat drink and be merry!



Pharmacy volunteer Kathy Crosskill entertained attendees with fun holiday trivia, and Christmas caroling; in which all participated.

Alan and Deacon Rudy recognized all in attendance for their dedication and service to the Society, in the hopes that a new tradition in which all ADCNO groups and works will celebrate the season together.



From the National Office

2017 Annual Reports Revised Due Dates

The new and improved 2017 reports have been streamlined and now require 50 percent less data collected! Hardcopy forms are available now at: <http://www.svdpusa.org/members/Documents/Annual-Report-Forms>

Given some technical difficulties with our new database development, the integrated annual report functionality is temporarily impacted.

We are working hard with the vendor to resolve these problems; meanwhile, the online annual reporting capability will not be accessible. At this time we anticipate the online reporting capability to be available in January 2018.

As a result the online annual report data entry deadlines have been extended as follows:

Thrift Store & Special Works Annual Reports:

The owner (Conference or Council) of the store or special work has to do these reports first since the owner needs the store and special work information for their (Conference or Council) report.

Conference Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 9/30 Due Date: January 31	Conference Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 12/31 Due Date: February 28
District Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 9/30 Due Date: March 31	District Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 12/31 Due Date: March 31
(Arch)Diocesan Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 9/30 Due Date: April 30	(Arch)Diocesan Council Annual Reports Due online for Fiscal Year ending 12/31 Due Date: April 30

-National Vehicle Donation Program-

With the holidays upon us, there will inevitably be an increase in requests for assistance made to local Conferences and Councils. The National Vehicle Donation Program (NVDP) is a great revenue stream to help offset these expenses. The holidays are also an excellent time to promote the NVDP program, because many individuals donate their vehicles in an effort to receive a year-end tax deduction. Do you know someone getting rid of a car, truck, motorcycle, boat, or even an airplane? Have them donate it through the National Vehicle Donation Program before January 1st, and they will receive a 2017 tax deduction.

Donors can call **1-800-322-8284** to donate, or visit the NVDP website, at www.svdpusacars.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

June 30, 2018 – Gala
September 29, 2018 – FOP Walk/Run
(More in the works)

SVdP Mass/Celebration – February (TBA)

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Archdiocesan Council of New
Orleans**

1995 Gentilly Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70119

Phone: 504-940-5031
Fax: 504-940-5031

e-mail: svdp@bellsouth.net
website: svdpneworleans.org

**Top Hat
Newsletter Staff:**

Deacon Rudolph Rayfield
Executive Director

Alan Demma
President

Kelly Parker
Publications

From the Central Office

THE FUNDRAISING SEASON HAS BEGUN!

Mark Your Calendars:

The First of many 2018 SVdP Fundraisers will take place on

Friday, January 19th

Starlight Horse Racing at the Fairgrounds

5pm-10pm

\$10.00 per person

All benefits benefit the charitable works of the Society



More details to come!

"But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." -Luke 1:30-35

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



**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:**

svdp@bellsouth.net



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 679