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## Feast of Blessed Frederic Ozanam – September 9

Frederic is the principal founder of the Society who devoted his life to charity and social justice. The virtues of compassion, solidarity and service to others figured prominently in his life, making him a model of Vincentian action.

## Feast of St. Vincent de Paul – September 27

The Society is under the patronage of Saint Vincent de Paul, drawing its inspiration from his thoughts and his works. The Confraternities of Charity, later known as the Ladies of Charity, began in 1617. In 1625 he founded the Congregation of the Mission, his community of priests and brothers. With Louise de Marillac, he co-founded the Daughters of Charity in 1633. Pope Leo XIII declared him patron saint of all works of charity. Consider how your conference might celebrate these feast days together.

## Pope Francis Prayer Intentions

### For the Cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

## Calendar Dates

### Ozanam Orientation Schedule

**Los Lunas – September 21, 2024**

**Holy Child, Tijeras – January 11, 2025**

To register, please go to our website

[www.stvincentdepaulsantafe.org](http://www.stvincentdepaulsantafe.org)

If your conference would like to host an Ozanam, please contact Linda Stubbs at [lindalstubbs@comcast.net](mailto:lindalstubbs@comcast.net)

## SVDP E-Gazette

Frederic's E-Gazette is a weekly newsletter from the National Office to Vincentians. It includes registrations for various webinars, trainings, and a weekly Servant Leader column. Please subscribe to the e-Gazette. email [jpioter@svdpusa.org](mailto:jpioter@svdpusa.org).

## Membership Campaign



Join the campaign to bring more members into the Society. Scan the QR Code and download free resources and learn more about SVdP gear.



## The Rule

### Statute 16: Subsidiarity and Democracy

The Society embraces the Principle of Subsidiarity as its basic standard of operation.

Decisions are made as close as possible to the area of activity to ensure that the local environment and circumstances (cultural, social, political, etc.) are taken into consideration. In this way, the Society promotes local initiatives within its spirit. All decisions made by a Conference or Council must be made consistent with the Rule and Statutes of the Society, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and governance policies of the Society.

## ASF Board Meeting

The next meeting will be on Friday, September 27 – 10:00 AM at the Clearinghouse – 4120 Menaul NE, Albuquerque, NM

Meetings are always open; please join us.

## ServWare

Please contact David at [depaul505@gmail.com](mailto:depaul505@gmail.com) with questions and comments.

## Twinning Opportunities

**Thanks** to all conferences who are able to share their extra funding with another conference through twinning, usually a regular, monthly sharing. If your conference isn't twinning with another conference or would like to receive twinning, please reach out to Dawn Miller at [dawnmmiller@comcast.net](mailto:dawnmmiller@comcast.net).

**Clearinghouse** – an average of over 1800 calls a month come in for assistance. Some of those calls are from areas without a SVdP conference but Luana and the volunteers reach out with funding if possible. If your conference can send twinning, this would allow for assistance with others not served now due to lack of funds. Please send your check with Clearinghouse assistance in the memo section.

**Council - training and travel-** Formation and Training; Ozanam Orientation, Spiritual Advisor, Conference Officers, required supplies and travel is funded by the Council. As required by the Council bylaws, the Council President attends 3 meetings per year (region, mid-year, and National) and the Council funds this required travel. If your conference can send a monthly twinning check for this purpose, please write Training and Travel in the memo section of your check.

Thanks to all who can assist with these additional funds.

## Vision SVDP 2024 Listening Sessions

These sessions allow everyone's voice to be heard regarding what's being done correctly, what might need improvement or a creative idea you might have. The schedules are below:

**District Council A** – Oct. 19 10:00 to noon hosted by St. Joseph on the Rio Grande. Or Oct. 26 10:00 to noon at Nativity.

**District Council B** -Sept. 28 10:00 to noon at Prince of Peace.

**District Council C** – Oct. 12 10:00 to noon at Santuario de San Martin de Porres Church Hall  
**Santa Fe District Council** – 10:00 to noon at Our Lady of Guadalupe Santa Fe

**NW District Council** – Oct. 5 9:30 to 11:30 at St. Thomas in Abiquiu.

**SW District Council** – not yet scheduled

## Miscellaneous

**Checkout** some files on our Council website at <https://www.stvincentdepaulsantafe.org/>

If your conference is planning a special event or fundraiser, please share pictures and information with us. Send to [ljstrasburg@gmail.com](mailto:ljstrasburg@gmail.com)

**Trisha Powers, Council Secretary**, is contacting every conference president about our work to update Council/Conference information on the National Council website. Please work with Trisha when she contact you.

## 2024 National Meeting Report



We were extremely fortunate to have 9 attendees from the Santa Fe Council attend in Phoenix. Dawn Miller, Council VP, attended on a scholarship from the Mountain Region.

Below are some thoughts and insights from the attendees.

### **Dawn Miller - Companion Animal Presentation:**

Our homeless neighbors often have no support or love from family or friends. Their furry friend is often the only other creature in the world who treats them with unconditional love. I have always thought that our homeless neighbors can't take care of their pets and that their pet is keeping them away from shelters. After attending this session, I was wrong. Homeless neighbors and their pets should be able to stay together, and the presentation indicated that several shelters in Phoenix are working closely with SVdP to make this possible!

**Linda Stubbs** - The overall take-away that I observed was the need to bring the Society into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, not to change our core values, but to modernize how we do things.

The other was the importance of Home Visits and the spirituality that our Society must put into each of them. As much as we modernize, we must never forget how we started as a Society, and we must remain faithful to the same values that were at the forefront almost 200 years ago.

**Ken Strasburg** – I was impressed with my visit to the main Phoenix campus. They have services for: central kitchen serving 7500 meals/day, Dream Center providing learning opportunities: computers, tutors, books, STEM, a playground, urban farms growing over 20,000 lbs. of produce and fruit annually, food reclamation received and distributed - 3.37 million lbs. of food in 2023, First Generation Scholarship Program, various clinics (medical, dental, companion animal, family wellness with nutrition programs), and Ozanam Manor housing the disabled. All of these programs work because they have an executive director who engages many sponsors and

thousands of volunteers with a small number of employees.

**Timm Stubbs** – I was totally impressed with ways people create new and innovative ways to increase how the thrift store is utilized. They ranged from providing non-selling clothing to mattress makers to be used as wicking for mattress covers. I'd like to see a "book nook" with books arranged by type and alphabetized for ease of browsing and buying. Books by popular artists demand a higher price. Stores with "book nooks" are reporting strong sales. Creativity and thinking outside the box was a key point made during the Stores session.

**Larry Gonzales** - I attended the Lessons Learned from the Pandemic session. It was about the Food Pantry in Madison, Wisconsin and they did provide data from during the pandemic and after. The need for the food pantry spiked during the first year of the pandemic and then it went way down the following year because people were getting monthly child tax credit payments. Then in 2022 the need began to rise again and has steadily grown to all-time highs (inflation). What does this mean? To me it shows the value of our ministry and how we fill a vital need in our communities as times get tough. I was mostly impressed by the fact that the huge 200 employee operation is funded almost entirely from the 7 thrift stores the Madison Council runs. Based on what they do, we have a lot of room to grow!

**Linda Strasburg** – Some of our conferences don't have many calls from neighbors. When the conference participates in a parish ministry fair and "younger" people want to join they find that doing the home visits, although an important aspect of our charism, doesn't keep them engaged. It was suggested that the conference look at other ways to make use of this volunteer time: start a tutoring program for struggling learners, work to start a youth conference, volunteer at the thrift store, arrange a baby shower for another ministry, ask for donations and put together homeless packets (provide to members to distribute whenever they see the need). Be creative and innovative to include new members. Remember, no work of charity is foreign to the society.