

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

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- Diocesan Council President: Bill Sparks
- Diocesan Council Vice President: Warren Wright
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- Secretary: Kym Haskins
- At Large: Jody Stahr, Darrell Bragg
- Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Shawn Corcoran

District Council Presidents:

- East: Denny Devine
- East Rural: Thomas Winans
- N-NW: Charles Kielkopf
- N-NE: Walter Ohm
- E-SE: Lesha Farias
- South Rural: David Lanning
- Inner-City: Gina Langen
- S-SW: Joffre Moine

Committee Chairs:

- Ozanan Orientation: Rose Ann Stevenson, Maureen Meck
- Voice of the Poor: Warren Wright
- VOICE & Website: Charles Kielkopf
- 2011 Friends of the Poor Walk: Patti Aellig
- Publicity: Marilyn Dougherty

Secretary, Pat Summers

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Send news items and articles for The VOICE to Charles Kielkopf kielkopf.1@osu.edu or to the Diocesan office.

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Vincentian activities, events and workshops. I anticipate strengthening my Vincentian vocation by attending one of the Invitation for Renewal retreats in 2011. *from* Charles Kielkopf, Immaculate Conception

Conference Interests

Report your Works of Charity

In future issues of the VOICE we would like to highlight the various kinds of “acts of charity” you do in your conference. **No work of Charity is Foreign to the Society.** For example, in the Lancaster conference Vincentians serve as pall bearers for indigents who pass away. Your projects may inspire other conferences and given them ideas to implement in their own conferences. Send your items to our editor of the VOICE, kielkopf.1@osu.edu.

Changes of officers

St. Mary Magdalene - Rick Schritzing, replacing Joff Moine

St. James the Less - Gary Grove, replacing Jake Mayer

St. Paul's, Westerville - Mike Habing replacing Walt Reed

St. Augustine/St.Gabriel – Tanya Holliman replacing Kym Haskins

Our Lady of Victory – Randy Harlor replacing Anastasia Synder

Activities

Bob Evans restaurants offered the **Immaculate Conception Conference** the opportunity to distribute prepared dinners on Thanksgiving and Christmas. These *Harvest Feast* dinners serve six to eight people with a full course holiday meal, including desert. Microwaving makes them table ready. Twenty meals were distributed for Thanksgiving and eighteen for Christmas. Recipients were from clients referred from JOIN and the Clintonville

Resources Center. The feedback was very enthusiastic.

Major Pantry Service in 2010

St. Philips, Columbus ,East Side
3828 households, 14,893 clients

Bishop Griffin Center
16,681 Clients

St. Ladislav/ Corpus Christi, South Columbus
2008 households, 7,755 clients

St. James the Less, Northeast,
Columbus,
2,051 households, 9,938 clients

St. Michaels, Worthington
1244 households, 3302 clients

Perry County Consortium
96 households, 600 clients

Scioto County pantry
800 clients

Newark Pantry,
7988 families, 71,892 clients

Lancaster pantry
870 households, 1336 clients

Bishop Watterson Youth Conference

Again a big welcome to the new Bishop Watterson Conference. Congratulations for helping those in need through the following activities. **Packing boxes** for overseas troops, **Wrapping gifts** for Children's Hospital, Clintonville Resources Center and guests at Holy Family.

Ringing bells for the Salvation Army, **Servin**g guests at Holy Family while decorating the dinning hall, **Makin**g sandwiches for St. Lawrence Haven **Helpin**g children make gingerbread houses at Whetstone Recreation Center.

Report on Bishop's Appreciation Mass

At 6:30PM on the very cold Monday, December 6, about 175 Vincentians and guests, from all parts of the diocese, gathered at St. Joseph's Cathedral to deepened Vincentian spirituality by attending our annual Bishop's appreciation mass for volunteers of our Diocesan ministries. Bishop Campbell was the principal celebrant and homilist at the mass. At the mass Dennis Hanzel and his Friends of the Poor Walk committee were also recognized for their excellent effort in leading this year's walk. After mass the hearty buffet supper provided by the Cathedral conference fostered much Vincentian friendship.

The volunteers were presented with an 8x10 icon picture of St. Vincent and the Beggar - who was in reality Christ, reflecting the fact that we all hopefully see the face of Christ in those we serve. This is becoming the "icon" of our Columbus Diocesan Council.



2011 Update on Our Funeral Fund by Jane Sotak

The St. Vincent de Paul Funeral Fund was started in 2004 when it was determined that there was a need to help families bury their loved ones. The first year, fifteen families were helped and since October 1, 2009, we have helped almost 70 families.

The Funeral Fund is a separate account with its own checks that is administered by the St. Andrew Conference Treasurer. Last year we received almost fifty donations from various conferences, with some conferences providing multiple contributions. A good will offering of \$100 is the usual amount given and this is doubled if the family is referred by a Conference.

Conferences in Central Ohio should contact JOIN when they have a request for funeral funds. People at JOIN will talk with the family to explore options and may be able to secure additional help from other agencies as well as local funeral directors. Conferences outside Central Ohio should call me directly at (614-451-8035) and we will be happy to help their clients.

A very "Special Thank You" to the twenty-four Conferences who responded to an SOS e-mail in July.

As we begin the new Vincentian year, we hope each Conference will participate as it is able, and if possible, give at least \$200 or more. If your Conference has given in the last two months, we hope you will donate again later in the year. Please keep these grieving families in your prayers.

Send donations to:
St. Andrew Conference of SVdP
1899 McCoy Road
Columbus, OH 43220

On the Vincentian Vocation

My Vincentian vocation started early but grew slowly. As a Catholic boy in St. Paul, Minnesota in the 1940s I was proud that ordinary Catholic men helped the poor in important ways without seeking any recognition. I was not clear about who they were nor exactly what they did. Anonymous manly charity stayed in the back of my mind as an ideal.

When the Immaculate Conception Conference generously supported my volunteer work at the Interfaith Hospitality Network, I realized that I had found the organization I had envisioned as a boy. The extension of membership to women has in no way diminished the opportunity to serve the poor in manly ways. I decided that I would join the IC conference as soon as I retired in 2000.

I have grown spiritually by Vincentian service to the poor and needy. I continue to discover more of the spiritual rewards through



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President's Message

Bill Sparks

Thanks to all Vincentians who advanced our mission, in so many ways in 2010. For 2011 let us resolve to continue in our mission to grow closer to God by service to the poor and needy as we enrich our Vincentian friendship.



To grow spiritually as well as to become more informed in the ways of the Society consider attending an Ozanam Orientation this year. I think that you will find it very enriching. Our Day of Recollection in August also offers all of us an opportunity to reflect on aspects of Vincentian spirituality. Remember also that the National Council offers opportunities to develop Vincentian spirituality. Think seriously about participating in one of the two **Invitation for Renewal** programs. This is a three and a half day program put on by our National Office and held in Indianapolis. It is for all active Vincentians and I recommend it highly. The next sessions will begin on February 23rd and November 10th, 2011. Contact Pat Summers or me for a brochure and more information.

Be sure to submit your nominations for outstanding Vincentians for the Top Hat award. The nominations which are read at our April Top Hat Dinner inspire us with new ways to serve. See your conference president for nomination forms. The deadline for submission to our diocesan office (221-3554) is March 17.

To enrich our Vincentian friendship resolve to participate in as many of our Diocesan Council events as you can: The Top

Hat award ceremony, the Day of Recollection, the Friends of the Poor Walk and the Bishop's Appreciation Mass.

I would like to welcome our new Youth Conference, Bishop Watterson High School. Under the able direction of Barb Sauter, Conference Advisor, and the leadership of Sarah Huber who is the president, we are thrilled to add Watterson to our other youth conferences at St. Francis De Sales High School, Bishop Ready High School, St. Anthony's Parish, and St. Michael's Parish. Bishop Watterson has gotten off to an impressive fast start so we are highlighting their accomplishments later in this issue.

Mark Your Calendar! Save these dates!

February 23-27, Invitation for Renewal, Indianapolis, IN

March 17, Deadline for Top Hat nominations

March 19, Ozanam Training, St. Michael's Church, Worthington

April 16, Ozanam Training, St. Peter's Church, Chillicothe (tentative)

April 30, Top Hat Awards Dinner, St. Francis DeSales High School

June 24-26, Mideast Region Meeting, Dayton, OH

August 28, Day of Recollection, St. Therese Retreat Center

September 24, Friends of the Poor Walk, St. Francis DeSales High School Track

December 5, Bishop Campbell's Appreciation Mass, St. Joseph Cathedral

Remember in your prayers

Molly Pertee, **Church of the Ascension**, Johnstown