

MONTHLY REMINDERS For April 2024

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APRIL						
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Monthly Quote for Reflection

"By love, Our Lord won over those he wanted to believe in him. No matter how much we exert ourselves, people will never have faith in us unless we show charity and compassion to those whom we wish to believe in us."

~ St. Vincent de Paul



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ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

April 2024

1 - St. Joan of Arc
8 - St. Anthony
15 - St. Bruno
22 - St. Jerome
29 - St. William

SVdP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment

The number of guests at the Meal Program is increasing. Please note new requirements: It is asked that **6-7** conference members arrive at 4:50 with 4 gallons of milk (**2 white & 2 chocolate**) and **80-100** desserts of any type. The commitment is comprised of serving the meal with cleanup afterwards, normally completed by 6:30. Thank you all for your great support of the SVdP Monday meal program. Please contact Peggy Fahl to confirm your assignment and/or if you have any questions. Call/text 414-828-6999 or email pegfahl@gmail.com

April 8 Housing Survey

The Housing Initiative needs your input & assistance for our program development. We will send an email on April 8th with a link to a survey, regarding questions around housing, homelessness and how your conference tackles these tough cases. Please discuss this survey together as a conference and then submit one response from your conference president or another officer. Thank you, in advance, for your time.

April 10 Home Visit Training

6:00pm – 8:30pm in the Council Meeting Room
A light dinner is provided. Registration is mandatory.

REGISTER HERE

April 21 Archdiocesan Council Meeting & Lunch

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish, Random Lake, WI
8:15 Mass, Hospitality/Brunch/Meeting to follow
RSVP by **April 11** (see attached flyer)

April 22 Quarterly Membership Meeting

6:30 pm to 8:00pm
Council Meeting Room
RSVP to Bonnie at bpranger@svdpwaukesha.com

April 30, May 2, 7 Virtual Ozanam Orientation

6:00pm – 8:00pm
Presented by Milwaukee SVdP Council
REGISTER HERE no later than **April 17** or call Beth at 414-667-0240

This orientation series is offered for all Vincentians in the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council. Meet and share with others from around our 10 Counties. Must attend all three Virtual sessions to complete the orientation requirement. The Milwaukee Council will mail the orientation materials directly to you.

WAUKESHA COUNCIL

SVdP Safeguarding – March 30 deadline met

Thank you to the many, many members, associate members and volunteers who responded quickly and took care of Safeguard Training. Your efforts are appreciated.

We have now met our March 30th deadline and there are still members and volunteers who have yet to register. Is this you?

Vincentian members and volunteers who are not Safeguard Certified may no longer have any contact or any interaction with people in the vulnerable group as a Vincentian or under the auspice of

St. Vincent de Paul. Vulnerable groups are defined as all the people we serve. Members may NOT participate in activities such as Home Visits, group activities or where Friends in Need are present such as a Meal site, food pantry, etc.

Conference Presidents and Secretaries will receive a list of members who have completed the training also displaying those that have not. Contact Bonnie if any member should be removed from the conference roster or if it needs to be updated.

If you need to register, the link to the SVdP Safeguard database site, registration instructions and a helpful step-by-step guide are on the website: Member Info / Meeting & Trainings / Safeguarding. You may also contact Julie or Bonnie with questions or if you would like to take the training at the Council office. Stations are set up for this purpose. Contact one of them for an appointment.

Upon completing the registration process and training(s), members can resume full conference participation.

Safeguard training is now a SVdP requirement for all. Any new conference members or volunteers must complete the training prior to any interaction with friends in need.

Now that we have met the March 30 deadline, you will no longer receive the Safeguard Training weekly email. Future Safeguard updates will now be included in the Monthly Reminders.

St. Vincent de Paul Waukesha Council Elections

Council President Election

Carol Maurer, Waukesha District Council President will conclude her 1st term September 30, 2024. It is time for an election.

Conference Presidents and officers will receive a mailing specific to this election kicking off the nomination process on or before April 19. Watch your inbox.

If you meet, however, in advance of this mailing, it is not too early to discuss this election. Place the Waukesha District Council President Election on conference meeting agendas now and prayerfully consider a nominee/candidate for this important role among members.

Conference President Elections

Records indicate 3 Conference Presidents will conclude their 1st or 2nd term on September 30, 2024. Now is the time to identify new leaders. Holding elections early will give the new President time to shadow the current President and be fully prepared to take office on October 1.

It's time to begin the nomination and election process. Materials are posted on the website under Member Info/ Conference Officer Forms / Conference President Election Forms

1st Term ending Sept 30, 2024	2nd Term ending Sept 30, 2024
St. Teresa of Calcutta – Joan Benson	Holy Apostles – Bob Nolan
	St. Agnes – Andy Igl

Once the election is completed, Conference Presidents for both 1st and 2nd terms are asked to complete the New Conference President Agreement form and submit to Council office. The form is also posted on the website as noted above.

SVdP NATIONAL AND NORTH CENTRAL REGION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mid-Year National Business Meeting Re-Cap

On March 13-16, Rob Shelledy, our Associate Executive Director, attended the Mid-Year National Business Meeting in St. Louis. Zoltan Estes, our Archdiocesan Council President and member of the St. James, Menomonee Falls conference also attended.

Three highlights:

- The meeting was the formal introduction of Vision SVdP. This is a synodal process. It will start at the North Central Regional meeting and then will be rolled out at the Council and Conference level.
- Archbishop Bellisario, our new Episcopal Advisor, focused on how we should strive for a holy humility that allows God to act within us.
- The National Council will continue to emphasize homelessness prevention.

June 20 – June 22

North Central Regional Meeting

Holiday Inn Sioux Falls

Sioux Falls, SD

Save the Date! *(Flyer attached)*

Susan Wiland, our National VP for the North Central Region, invites all Vincentians to grow spiritually, learn new ideas/best practices, and inspire personal growth by attending this year's North Central Regional Meeting. **(June 20 – 22 at Holiday Inn City Center in Sioux Falls).** We will welcome John Berry, National President, who will introduce *SVDP Vision – Every Voice Matters* and how this will unfold for all our Vincentians in the United States. You will have the opportunity to participate in facilitated sessions to share your voices. It is perfectly appropriate to use conference or council funds to reimburse meeting expenses (Statute 28). Scholarship funds are also available where needed.

Detailed daily program agenda and information on registration and hotel reservations will be sent in early April. You will have the option to register for the full meeting or as a day participant.

August 14 – 17

2024 National Assembly

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown

Phoenix, AZ

Mark your calendars for both of these events!

Each event offers workshops geared specific to conference operations, activities, best practices, etc.

Attending these events also provides a great opportunity to gather with fellow Vincentians from around the country and learn and share experiences. We learn best from each other! Council hosts also include social events, highlighting their communities on their agenda. Consider attending!

PROGRAMS & MINISTRIES

2024 Summer Lunch Program

To date, SVdP will be serving during the Parks, Recreation and Forestry's Park Program and during LaCasa de Esperanza's summer school program. Another site is currently being sought using census data and data from the School District of Waukesha's Free and Reduced Lunch and from the District's Bilingual Community/Family Liaison. This information has been helpful in learning where there is the greatest need. It is also being investigated if park locations are available to us over the summer months. Participating conferences will be updated when the best site to host the Summer Lunch Program is determined.

Back-to-School Program

Aug 5 – 15 St. William gym

Will your conference be hosting a Back-to-School supply drive? Parish calendars book up quickly! Please consider any weekend on or before August 11 to host a Back-to-School supply drive.

GETTING AHEAD

Workshops 33 and 34 are currently in progress and our English and Spanish-speaking participants are doing an excellent job creating their financial plans. We're proud of the hard work and dedication shown by everyone involved.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the meal teams who have already supported the workshop. If you are interested in supporting us, you can still sign up for April to bring a meal or donate to contribute. You can follow

this link to register or contact our team for more information: <https://signup.com/go/kHGQUHY>

Thank you for your continued support.

The Getting Ahead Team

Liliana Cavazos

Getting Ahead Program Manager

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A St. Vincent de Paul program to help individuals and the community become more financially stable.

Ending Poverty – One person, One neighborhood, One community at a time.

Patron Grant

Over the last quarter the Endowment Fund – Patron grant board is pleased to announce that two individuals were recipients of a patron grant to help them improve their life situation. One individual was a candidate through the Conference Ministry and the other was a candidate through the Getting Ahead Program.

STORES



Electronic Voucher Updates

Please include a description in your voucher entries. If a single voucher entry has more than one category checked (a no-no) or a change was made to that category in the program, it may show up as “unknown” on the report used to create conference invoices, leaving us no idea what the purchase was for. Having a description helps us to identify what was purchased.

The updated Voucher Categories & Values Sheet that was attached to the March Reminders is attached to April as well for your convenience. Please print a copy of both sides to assist you when entering a voucher.

Store contact information:

Waukesha: John Erdmann, 262-719-8486, jerdmann@svdpwaukesha.com

Oconomowoc: Bridgette Bronk, 262-853-8257, bbronk@svdpwaukesha.com

Pewaukee: Matt Wojczak, 262-347-6165, mwojczak@svdpwaukesha.com

SVdP Sunday Scheduler/Truck Driver: Tom Colburn, 262-693-7124, tcoburn@svdpwaukesha.com

Director of Marketing & Development: Rod Colburn rcolburn@svdpwaukesha.com

CONFERENCE RESOURCES

Conference Corner

Meet St. Leonard Conference in Muskego:

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference in Muskego has forty-nine members with four home visit teams. Muskego itself has a 2024 population of 25,737 with approximately 4.4% of those residents living below the income poverty level. The Conference serves these neighbors and those who are caught in the middle without federal or state help.

Our Conference drives for Systemic Change and connecting with Muskego businesses. In a great example of living out Rule 7.9, we had a family this past year who had been without water since May due to severe financial difficulty. They contacted SVdP in November, after six months without running water. With the work estimated to be over \$3,000, we solicited The Water Store in Muskego, asking for any charitable donation, and they donated time & materials (worth over \$3,500). They worked for several days to replace the pump and get running water into this family's house. A Church member donated \$500 which covered the cost for the new electrical pump. While trying to get the pump in action, a Vincentian prayed over the digger machine so that it would work without having to move to a more expensive machine. The Water Store owner never saw anything like it, because after the prayer, they were able to get the pump working. Through prayer, collaboration with the

community, and a special donation from a St. Leonard church member, a significant improvement was made to the life of this family.

If you have responses to last month's article, please send them in and your conference may be part of next month's Conference Corner. Questions, comments, responses, etc. please contact Rob Shelledy at rshelledy@svdpwaukesha.com or 262-327-8089.

Conference and Member Questions and Answers (from the E-Gazette National Newsletter)

Q: In the interest of having more of our members assume an officer position, our Conference would like to change the term of office to be one year, with re-election possible for more than one year, but not more than six. I cannot find any provision in The Rule for changing the term of Conference office. Can we do this with a simple vote to change the term of office?

A: The answer is No; the president is only elected for a three-year term. It is in the international Rule of the Society and cannot be changed. All other officers are appointed by and serve at the elected president's pleasure. See the Rule Part III, Statute 12: Servant Leadership Positions.

Index of Conference & Member Q & A

Questions and answers appear in the E-Gazette, the National E-newsletter. The National office has put together a collection of all Questions & Answers since this practice started! [Index of Conf & Member Q&A's](#) Pam Hudson, National Director of Governance & Membership Services, phudson@svdpusa.org

WHAT'S AHEAD

May 2024	June 2024
6 - St. Teresa of Calcutta	3 - St. Leonard
13 - St. Dominic	10 - St. James, Muk
20 - St. Luke	17 - St. John Vianney
27 - Memorial Day	24 - St. Jerome Mini-V's

SVDP Meal Program Volunteer Commitment

Contact Peggy Fahl before your week for up-to-date information on serving needs. Call/text at 414-828-6999 or email pegfahl@gmail.com

May 11 retreat in Rice Lake, entitled "The Heart and Soul of the Vincentian Vocation."

Our friends in the Superior District Council will be hosting a retreat on Saturday May 11, 2024, from 9:00am-3:30pm (Mass 4:00pm) at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 2411 23rd St Rice Lake, WI 54868. To register go to <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/b07f1f41-c644-4b8f-9f8e-ee9dc2d467da>. There is a \$10 registration fee that covers lunch and refreshments. Tim Williams, National Vincentian Formation Director, will lead the retreat.

May 21

Best Practices

1:00pm – 2:30pm
Council Meeting Room

May 27

Holiday Meal Service

Volunteers are needed to serve at the *NEW* Hope Center meal site on Memorial Day, May 27. Call/text Peggy at 414-828-6999 or email pegfahl@gmail.com if you are willing to participate.

June 26

Getting Ahead Bridging Seminar

11:00am – 1:30pm
Council Meeting Room

PETITIONS

Prayers for Health

John Quaal, St. Dismas member

Rest in Peace

Jane Babcock, St. Dismas Jail Ministry

Erna Schultz, longtime SVdP store volunteer

Rita Schroeder, St. Charles member