



Conference News and Notes for Friday, July 16, 2021

Sent to all Vincentians & Staff

Vincentian Reflection for the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, July 18, 2021

Gospel: (Mark 6:30-34) The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, “*Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.*” People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.

Reflection: Last Sunday Jesus sent his apostles on mission; this Sunday they face the harsh reality that the mission will wear them out. The exhaustion can come from the good work and the “great numbers” of people who need help. The needs are great, and it can be exhausting to try to meet them. Whatever the cause of being worn out, Jesus is there to listen, support, and invite us to rest a bit. If we let Jesus gather us in, he will take care of us. We all need to go off to a “deserted place” occasionally to “rest awhile.” Whether this means taking some time alone each day to pray and rest in God, making Sunday truly a day of rest, or setting aside a few days a year to make a retreat, all of us need time to regain our strength so we can take up our own shepherding tasks. If the mission overwhelms us we will be unable to persevere. Living faithful to the mission Jesus has given us requires that we balance action and contemplation. (*Living Liturgy*, p.174)

Vincentian Meditation: Vincent de Paul, a great man of action was also a contemplative, caught up in God and consumed by his love. His contemplation of God’s love overflowed into practical love for the poor. He encourages his followers: “Let us all give ourselves completely to the practice of prayer, since it is by it that all good things come to us. If we persevere, it is thanks to prayer. If we succeed in our employments, it is thanks to prayer. If we do not fall into sin, it is thanks to prayer. If we remain in charity and if we are saved, all that happens is thanks to God and thanks to prayer. Just as God refuses nothing to prayer, so also He grants almost nothing without prayer.” (Maloney, *He Hears the Cry of the Poor*, p. 98)

As a Vincentian, how can you become more like a “contemplative in action?”

Upcoming Formation Opportunities

Call-Taking Workshop: “*Seeing the Face of Christ via the Phone*”

Wednesday, August 4, 2021, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Being a call-taker may be the most challenging job that a Vincentian can have. It can be difficult to make decisions about our neighbors’ needs via phone. In this workshop, we will discuss best practices in call-taking, record-keeping, and dealing with crisis situations. Extensive Q&A time is included.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS CALL-TAKING WORKSHOP, [PLEASE SIGN UP HERE](#) or contact Kelly Albainy-Crosby (513-345-1767; kalbainy-crosby@svdpcincinnati.org)

Deadline for registration: Monday, August 2

Our full current 2021 Conference Workshops, Retreats, and Events Schedule is here!
Please see the attached documents for descriptions of all that is being offered, along with

the dates and times for each:

- [CLICK HERE FOR DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS](#)
- [CLICK HERE FOR SCHEDULE](#)

A vibrant poster for the Cincinnati District Summer Meeting. The background is a collage of pink, yellow, and blue geometric shapes with green palm leaves. At the top center is a white flower icon. The text is centered and reads: 'CINCINNATI DISTRICT CONFERENCES SUMMER MEETING'. Below this, it says 'JOIN US FOR AN EVENING CELEBRATING OUR FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP', followed by 'WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11 5:30-8 PM'. The location is 'NEYER OUTREACH CENTER 1146 BANK STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45214'. The RSVP information is 'RSVP BY AUGUST 4 BY EMAILING OZANAM@SVDPCINCINNATI.ORG'. At the bottom is the logo for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, with the tagline 'Neighbors helping neighbors.'

**CINCINNATI DISTRICT
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11
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† Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Neighbors helping neighbors.®

We are also accepting RSVP's now at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A48A5A928A0FA7-cincinnati2>

Our Resource Spotlights

Announcing Resource Spotlight #5:

Serving our Spanish Speaking Neighbors: Current issues, trends, and available resources

Mon, 8/9/2021, 10 - 11am

Presenters will include:

- Ligia Gomez, Apoyo Latino and Director of Spanish for Service Learning in Social Work and Health @ UC
- Giovanna Alvarez, Director of Su Casa Hispanic Center @ Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio

- Rosalba Arreaga, President, & Aurora Ramirez, Treasurer, of our San Oscar Romero Conference

Link to join this Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88913749440?pwd=NG1sZkVYeFo2NWtlNFQxVFBGaUFVdz09>

Meeting ID: 889 1374 9440

Passcode: 260677

Our Resource Spotlight #4 featuring Our Charitable Pharmacy was this past Mon, 7/12. You can find the link to the recording on the Members page of our website.

Click on the Learn More tab under Member Support and Forms, then click on Resource Spotlight Recordings to select his or other Resource Spotlight recordings.

COVID Vaccine Available

Our Charitable Pharmacy has access to single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine for **any** community residents who are at least 18 years old. Vaccine is provided immediately upon request without an appointment or prior certification into the Charitable Pharmacy program. Please forward anyone who is interested to either location of the Charitable Pharmacy at our Neyer Outreach Center (Mon - Fri, 8am–4pm) or our Western Hills Thrift Store (Tues & Fri, 10am–4pm). For any questions related to the vaccine, you may email Rusty Curington, Pharmacy Director, at rcurington@svdpcincinnati.org.

You are Invited to the Ozanam Center this Summer!

We are excited to offer two opportunities to learn more about Social Justice issues this summer. Please consider joining us for one or both of the following in-person events at the Ozanam Center:

Implicit Bias Workshop:

The Implicit Bias workshop explores our hidden, unconscious beliefs that have been formed in us by our environment and the media. We will unpack statistics that show the devastating effects of implicit bias and provide you with tools to avoid biased decision-making.

This Tuesday, 7/20/21: 5pm - 7pm

Register at: <https://forms.gle/LDpzJpQLuBGrLhbr8>

Poverty Simulation:

The Cincinnati Poverty Simulation challenges participants to walk in the shoes of our neighbors in need—to explore poverty experientially. The objectives are to better understand the complexities of poverty and to become more compassionate, more understanding, and less judgmental of those experiencing poverty.

Saturday, 7/24/21: 10am - noon

Register at: <https://forms.gle/DCNJGzEGD6kb3qy26>

Join St. Vincent de Paul – Cincinnati on Monday, July 26th at our annual Prescription For Fun Golf Outing and Wine & Bourbon Tasting!

All proceeds benefit our [Deaconess Health Check/ Charitable Pharmacy](#), the only pharmacy in Southwest Ohio dedicated to providing free medication and professional pharmaceutical care to people in need from Hamilton, Butler, Warren, and Clermont counties.

As a result of the pandemic, many neighbors experienced difficulty accessing their life-saving medications and thus, turned to our Charitable Pharmacy for help. After a 68% increase of new patients last year, your support is more critical now than ever. For every \$1 invested, the Charitable Pharmacy is able to dispense \$13 worth of medication to its patients.

This popular annual event returns to Clovernook Country Club after a COVID hiatus. If an afternoon of golf won't work (or play) for you, please consider joining for the social fun of

the Wine & Bourbon Tasting that follows.

For more information and/or to register, visit CincyGolfOuting.com and CincyWineTasting.com.

More Resources for our Conferences and Neighbors

Conference Assistance Fund (CAF)

You have submitted 66 July CAF applications as of Thurs, 7/15/2021. This is a similar pace to June.

Please note that we are transitioning the processing of CAF applications as Hannah wraps up her VVC Conferences Support year of service today. Hannah has been a blessing. Your patience during this transition is appreciated.

For your convenience, the Conference Assistance Fund's email address is noted on the front page of the CAF application form; please send CAF applications to caf@svdpcincinnati.org.

Rahe Beds Fund & Program

Our supplier is still experiencing significant **supply chain issues** that affect their ability to deliver beds to us. **For this reason, we limited the number of July bed requests to two beds per Conference. It appears that the 2 bed requests submitted per Conference by Monday, July 5, will be accommodated with bed vouchers this month.** Timely reminder – we receive many more requests for full beds than we do twin beds, so please consider encouraging/asking neighbors if a twin bed would work for them, as they have a much better chance of receiving a twin bed. It is too early to project the number of beds we will have available for August assistance. Please know that we share your frustration with the bed supply issues and are looking into solutions that will enable us to continue providing beds for our neighbors in need.

Please contact rahebedfund@svdpcincinnati.org if you have any questions about our program and process.

An Important Note about EPI & TANF Funding & Assistance

We once again have City of Cincinnati's Eviction Prevention Initiative (EPI) funding and can accept applications for this assistance from eligible City of Cincinnati residents in Conference footprints. We do not yet have new Hamilton County Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) funding. We will share any news of additional funding as we learn more.

If you have questions about the status of a previously submitted neighbor request, please email Mary Reid at mreid@svdpcincinnati.org, including the neighbor's name, address including ZIP, their need, and which program they have applied for, and cc Margaret Rahn.

Fans & Air Conditioners Distributions

Through Thurs, 7/15/2021, **we have distributed 590 ACs and 810 fans.** Our record year for total heat relief assistance extended continues to grow. **Our distributions will conclude on/by Friday, 7/30/2021.**

Neighbors interested in receiving a fan can simply come to our NOC during our normal operating hours. Neighbors are eligible if they live in Hamilton County and did not receive a fan from SVDP last year.

Important news on ACs: Due to the depth of our AC Waitlist, we can no longer accept new AC requests. We are not certain we will be able to provide an AC unit to every neighbor currently on our waitlist. Please manage the expectations of our neighbors accordingly.

Christine Deckard, our Mount St Joseph University student administering this seasonal program, completes her time with us today. Thanks, Christine! Mercy Torres, a Xavier University student with us this summer, will handle the remainder of this year's program. Mercy can be reached at 513.562.8841, ext 766, or via email at summerrelief@svdpcincinnati.org.

Cincinnati Eye Institute Foundation Vision Clinic in our Neyer Outreach Center

The Vision Clinic re-opened in March and operates **by appointment** 9am - 2pm on alternate Thursdays; our remaining July date is 7/29. A limited number of walk-in exams can also be accommodated. To schedule an appointment, or to inquire for additional info,

please call 513.207.6140.

City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County COVID Assistance

There is a huge sum of COVID federal economic recovery & relief emergency funding which has been allocated to our area. If you encounter a neighbor who has experienced financial hardship due to COVID, please refer them to <https://513relief.org> . There is an array of resources available through this website.

Hamilton County Job and Family Services (HCJFS or JFS) and Community Action Agency (CAA) are among the prominent providers.

A prime example: CAA's Home Relief Fund, in partnership with the City of Cincinnati, is now available to assist families with bills ranging from rent, **mortgage**, and utilities including water, sewage, stormwater, and trash removal. This Home Relief Program is being funded, in part, through federal treasury allocations made available to the City of Cincinnati due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The total sum amounts to \$9 million. While this Home Relief Program is intended to support City of Cincinnati residents, there is also funding available to Hamilton County residents. For eligibility, income guidelines, and qualifications, residents are encouraged to visit cincy-caa.org/CAA-home-relief , call 513.569.1840 (then select option #4), or email epa@cincy-caa.org .

Summer Crisis Program Available to Eligible Hamilton County Residents

This program administered by Community Action Agency (CAA) assists with electric utilities and/or the purchase of an air conditioning unit or fan from July 1 to Sept 30, 2021. Please use this link to learn more about eligibility and process:

[The CAA Summer Crisis Page](#) .

Metro Bus Tickets - Everybody Rides Metro Program

The Human Services Chamber of Hamilton County (we are an active member) championed the revival of this Everybody Rides Metro program which had been inactive since 2017. This program enables us to be reimbursed for half of the face value of Metro bus passes which are extended to neighbors for specific transportation use. We are happy to share this resource with the neighbors you serve. **If you are serving a neighbor who needs bus tickets for employment, medical services, and social services including food assistance, please encourage them to call our general help line, 513.421.0602.** As a reminder, all Hamilton County residents are eligible for short-term assistance with this need through our Neyer Outreach Center, subject to our qualification policies. Our team members will handle the documentation requirements for assistance we extend.

Call to Prayer

Lord, give us the grace to become "contemplatives in action",

Let our prayer rise before you.

For all those whom we have served this week,

Let our prayer rise before you.

For all those who labor for unjust wages,

Let our prayer rise before you.

For all those who have no work,

Let our prayer rise before you.

Amen.

STAY CONNECTED

