



Conference News and Notes for Friday, June 25, 2021

Sent to all Vincentians & Staff

Vincentian Reflection for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, June 27, 2021

Gospel: (Mark 5: 21-43) When Jesus had crossed back to the other side of the Sea of Galilee in the boat, a large crowd gathered around him and he stayed close to the lake. One of the officials of the synagogue, a man named Jairus, came near. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet and made this earnest appeal: "My little daughter is critically ill. Please come and lay your hands on her so that she may get well and live." Jesus took the child's father and mother and his own companions and entered the room where the child lay. Taking her hand he said to her, "*Talitha, koum,*" which means, "Little girl, get up." The girl, a child of twelve, stood up immediately and began to walk around. At this the family's astonishment was complete. He enjoined them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

Reflection: Just as Jairus overcame his fears in order to encounter Jesus and receive life, so we must surrender our own wills in order to encounter Jesus and receive life. Living the paschal mystery is none other than our daily dying to self—overcoming our fears and reaching out to Jesus in humility—in all the little, practical ways that fill our daily routines. Paschal mystery dying is as simple as smiling at the children even when we're bone tired or taking an hour out of our day to visit the sick. When we surrender in humility to his goodness and power, Jesus offers us life and in this we encounter the Lord of life. (*Living Liturgy*, p.164)

Vincentian Meditation: If St. Vincent de Paul was able to do so much for the poor of his day, it was because with his mind and heart he had come to know something of the length and breadth, the height and depth of the love of God that is in the heart of Jesus. As children of God, we must constantly be convincing ourselves in prayer of the excessive love with which God has reached out and is still reaching out to us each day and each moment of the day. If we are not convinced that God loves us as we are, even with our frailties, it will be very difficult for us to show the love of God to the poor. It is the work of humble prayer to come to know oneself as a person who is loved by God. It is the work of humble prayer to share that experience with the poor and to convince them that God cares for them. (McCullen, *Deep Down Things*, p292)

**How have you come to know that you are loved by God?
How do you share this vital message of hope with our neighbors?**

***Please Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Join Us
for an Upcoming Vincentian Gathering or Workshop!!***

The 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](#)

PLEASE NOTE that the locations are still pending for some events. If you would like to host a group of Vincentians for a workshop or large gathering -- and your parish is welcoming outside groups to your facility -- please contact us! We would love to work with you!

Home Visit Workshop Sign Up Now Open!

This workshop will take place on **Saturday, July 17th, from 9:00 am until Noon**. Whether you are new to making Home Visits, or would like a refresher as you resume visiting neighbors in their homes, this workshop provides an opportunity to refine the art of prayer, connection, and person-to-person service.

To register for the Home Visit Workshop, please contact Kelly Albainy-Crosby directly at 513.345.1767 or kalbainy-crosby@svdpcincinnati.org or [SIGN UP BY CLICKING HERE](#)



Please join us this Wed evening, 6/30!

Our Neyer Outreach Center (NOC) reopening is right around the corner (Thurs, 7/8), and we still have many volunteer positions we need to fill. Please, if you or anyone you know has any capacity to support our work here, get in touch. Your gifts and skills as Vincentians are invaluable to us at Bank St; we would love to welcome you to the NOC.

Our Volunteer Fair is also shaping up to be a great evening, if you are in any way interested in the work done at the NOC or in volunteering, **please come down and see us this Wednesday, 6/30, 6-8pm. Parking will be available in our Liz Carter Center lot just across Bank St. You can RSVP using the link right [here](#).**

If you want to learn more about volunteer opportunities before the event, please contact Volunteer Manager Alec Jewell at ajewell@svdpcincinnati.org or 513.562.8841, ext 211.

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 four 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:

Poverty Simulations:

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.

Register at:

Monday 7/12/21: 5pm - 7pm <https://forms.gle/dJdGrRtjLZg5iBFr9>

Saturday 7/24/21: 10am - noon <https://forms.gle/DCNJGzEGD6kb3qy26>

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.

Register at:

Friday 7/16/21: noon - 2pm <https://forms.gle/GJbipux8R8goK5qJ7>

Tuesday 7/20/21: 5pm - 7pm <https://forms.gle/LDpzJpQLuBGrLhbr8>

Annual Conference Presidents Meeting Joyful in Hope, United in Action!



Forty-four Vincentian servant leaders representing forty of our adult Conferences braved a monsoon to gather in the undercroft of St Mary Church in Hyde Park this past Sat, 6/19 - yes, in-person! We shared faith-filled reflection; immersed in robust breakout dialogue addressing home visits, engaging / re-engaging / recruiting Conference Members, and the Archdiocesan *Beacons of Light* initiative; absorbed informative presentations on subjects which included our 2021 schedule of formation/training/events, Data/CMS, CAF, & the reopening of our NOC; and enjoyed the blessing of being able to come together. Follow-up content is being sent to participants and Presidents of each of our Conferences. So much happening...and so many opportunities to engage...for our Conferences and members. Here's hoping this session leads to fruitful dialogue and impactful action in your Conference to empower your/our practice of faith, friendship, and service...and advances connectivity throughout our Council.

Our Resource Spotlight #4 to Feature Our Charitable Pharmacy

Please take note and mark your calendars - **Mon, 7/12, 1-2pm** - Rusty Curington, Director of our Charitable Pharmacy, will lead a lively Zoom session to better inform us of how this arm of our organization so positively impacts our community's health, neighbor by neighbor, while drawing upon volunteers and developing healthcare providers of the future. You'll hear how easy it is to refer a neighbor to our Charitable Pharmacy...how responsively your/our neighbor's needs are holistically addressed...most often with donated resources...in a manner most consistent with our mission & values.

Link to join this Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84106887456?pwd=aEhYanVxTCs5bmJCN21CemdTQi94dz09>

Meeting ID: 841 0688 7456

Passcode: 812261

We would love to have each of our Conferences participate. Please join us!

If you do miss this or any other Resource Spotlight session, we will continue to post links to recordings on our SVDP website, Members page. Click on the Learn More tab under Member Support and Forms, then click on Resource Spotlight Recordings to make a selection.

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.

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

More Resources for our Conferences and Neighbors

Conference Assistance Fund ("CAF")

Those cicadas are dwindling, but June is still buzzing. You've submitted 114 CAF applications through Thurs morning, 6/24, and we still have 4 business days remaining in the month.

We will surpass our May CAF activity when we received 129 CAF applications and extended \$49,928 in assistance...and May was up from April. It appears need is once again growing as some of our neighbors have exhausted their federal direct distributions and tax refunds.

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 will have to **limit the number of July bed requests to two beds per Conference. These requests should be submitted by the end of the day on Monday, July 5.** Depending on how many requests we receive, we may not be able to fulfill all requests, so please make sure you reiterate to neighbors that you are submitting a bed *request* and there is no guarantee we will be able to provide them a voucher. 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. 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.

Publicly Funded Resources Available through SVDP Social Services - Process Update

Our Social Services team continues to administer the City of Cincinnati's Eviction Prevention Initiative (EPI) for qualifying residents of the city as well as Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) for qualifying Hamilton County residents.

Guidance from our Social Services team:

To access an SVDP Social Services program, please coach neighbors to call the SVDP Help Line, **513.421.0602**. After they leave a message, a staff member or volunteer will return their call. This call back begins the process of assessing eligibility. Assistance will be extended if eligibility criteria are met and if funds are available.

To check on EPI or TANF cases when a neighbor has not been able to connect with our staff or when a case seems to have been delayed, and If you have a question, please follow the process below:

- Email Mary Reid at mreid@svdpcincinnati.org . Please be as thorough as you can in your email, including the neighbor's name, address including ZIP, their need, and which program they have applied for
- Please cc Margaret Rahn on your email
- Mary will check the status of the case and will email you within 48 hours, cc'ing Margaret Rahn

Watch for more details about these assistance programs and how we administer these resources most productively and impactfully.

Fans & Air Conditioners Distributions

Hot fun in the summertime, Cincinnati style, has arrived! Relief from the heat is also quite popular...and sometimes medically necessary.

Our Fan & AC distributions began Monday, 5/3/2021, at the Neyer Outreach Center.

Neighbors interested in receiving a fan can simply call 513-562-8850 *on the day that they plan to pick up their fan*. Neighbors are eligible if they live in Hamilton County and did not receive a fan from SVDP last year. **Neighbors interested in receiving an air**

conditioner must fill out an advance request at www.svdpcincinnati.org/AC . Neighbors are eligible to receive an AC if they live in Hamilton County; are 65 years old or older or have a medical need for an AC; and haven't received an AC from us in the last four years (2017-2020). Please note that neighbors may receive one fan or one AC per household, but not both. Complete details on the program were sent out to Conference Presidents in April.

Through early Thurs, 6/24/2021, we have distributed 466 ACs and 634 fans. This is already a record year for our total of heat relief assistance extended.

Christine Deckard, our Mount St Joseph University student immersed in this seasonal program, 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 will operate **by appointment** 9am - 2pm on alternate Thursdays; our July dates will be 7/1 (this Thurs) & 7/15. A limited number of walk-in exams can also be accommodated on 7/15. 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

**Jesus, give us the humility to know that you love us,
and to trust that you will answer our prayers.**

**Jesus, give us the grace to share our faith in you with the poor,
and to convince them that you care for them.**

Amen.

STAY CONNECTED

