

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Officers:

- Diocesan Council President: Bill Sparks
- Diocesan Council Vice President: Warren Wright
- Treasurer: Janet Jobko
- Secretary: Open
- At Large: Kym Haskins
- Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Shawn Corcoran

District Council Presidents:

- East: Denny Devine
- East Rural: Thomas Winans
- N-NW: Charles Kielkopf
- N-NE: Bill Killilea
- E-SE: Lesha Farias
- South Rural: David Lanning
- Inner-City: Cliff Eckle
- S-SW: Joffre Moine

Committee Chairs:

- Ozanan Orientation: Rose Ann Stevenson, Maureen Meck
- Voice of the Poor: Warren Wright
- VOICE & Website: Charles Kielkopf
- 2010 Friends of the Poor Walk: Dennis Hanzel

Secretary, Pat Summers

(e-mail: psummers@colsdio.org)

Office:

197 East Gay Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Phone: (614) 221-3554

Fax: (614) 221-3554 (call first to turn it on)

Manager, Diocesan Ministries, Heather Swiger:

St. Lawrence Haven & Clothing Distribution Center:
(614) 241-2569, hswiger@colsdio.org

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

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Diocesan Council of Columbus
197 East Gay Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3279**

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The new men's shelter will provide temporary housing for men in the Newark area while helping them find employment and more permanent housing, and, in general helping them get back on their feet. A mentoring program will also be a part of the services that will be provided by Vincentians and other volunteers at the shelter. .



The St. Vincent de Paul Society Thrift Store, managed by Tom Martin, plays an important role in providing assistance to those in need.

A staff of employees and volunteers works to collect, evaluate, and merchandise a variety of donated goods. The inventory changes daily, which provides customers with a good selection of the reasonably priced items for purchase. It is very competitive with other thrift stores in Licking County and unlike other stores, it provides a limited selection of clothing and household items at no charge in a free outlet for the poor. Surplus funds from the Stores' operations are used to help other assistance programs provided by the Society for needy individuals and families; especially the food pantry and the new men's shelter.

Statistics for the Diocesan Ministries

These are statistics of service for the Vincentian accounting year, October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009.

Funeral Fund: 76 funerals supported at a cost of about \$100.00 per funeral. Conferences donated \$7750.00.

St. Lawrence Haven:
Days open: 251
Clients served: 86,545

Clothing Distribution Center

Days open: 149
Families served: 3,535
Adults served: 3,693

Children served: 1,994
Total served: 5,687

Saturday Food Program

Number of Saturdays on which deliveries were made: 20
Households served: 200
People served: 800

Help Wanted

If you would be willing to help us publicize all that we are doing in various newspapers in the area, please contact Bill Sparks (614-439-0038). **If any interest at all, please call to find out more detail – it just might work for you and is a much needed service.**

There is a continuing need for volunteers to sort clothes and serve clients at the Clothing Distribution Center, 578 E. Main in Columbus. Contact Heather Swiger 241-2569 or hswiger@colsdio.org. Or better: Drop by on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 10 and noon to see if working there suits you.

Congratulations to New Conference Presidents

St. Andrews, Cindy Coykendale replacing Marilyn Dougherty
St. Mary, Groveport, Mary Miles replacing Tony Grilli
St. Francis of Assisi, Dennis Smith replacing Butch Goffos
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Conference, Buckeye Lake, Pat Mayes replacing Jim Weidner
St. Agatha Conference, Laura Brennan replacing Dan Hutson
St. Mary Conference, Chillicothe, Kathy Senff replacing David Lanning
St. Cecilia Conference, David Gahn replacing Warren Wright

Remember in Your Prayers

Tom Sparks, son of Bill Sparks

to serve and to evangelize the poor. The original members of the Vincentian family, founded around 1630, are St. Vincent’s Congregation of Missions, CM, and St.Louise’s Daughters of Charity, DC. About two hundred years later, Frederic Ozanam, mentored by Sr. Rosalie Rendu DC, added our Society of St. Vincent de Paul to the family.

Major celebrations of this Jubilee Year are two masses. On March 14, 2010, there is a Mass in Notre Dame Cathedral In Paris in honor of Saint Louise de Marillac. On September 25, 2010, there is a Mass in the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome on the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. It would be fantastic if some Vincentians from the Columbus Diocese attended these Masses. All Conferences and Councils are invited to actively participate in the 350th Anniversary celebration of the Vincentian Family. How?

A link on the national SVdP Web site will get you to the FAMVIN Web site from which you can download the monthly reflections, in English or Spanish. Links to “Jubilee Year” in the left column of our own Columbus Diocese Web site, “vincentianvoice.org” also bring you to FAMVIN.

Bishop’s Appreciation Mass

Over 200 Vincentians and guests, from all parts of the diocese, gathered at St. Joseph's Cathedral to deepen Vincentian spirituality by celebrating our annual Bishop's appreciation mass for Vincentian volunteers. Bishop Campbell was the principal celebrant and homilist at the mass.



After mass the hearty buffet supper in the Cathedral undercroft fostered Vincentian friendship. During the meal Council president Bill Sparks and the Council's spiritual advisor, Fr. Shawn Corcoran recognized the work of Diocesan Vincentians in the council's direct services to the poor: St. Lawrence Haven, Clothing Distribution Center , The Saturday Food Program, and The Funeral Fund. Special appreciation was expressed to Al Voll and his committee for their work in making our new event, Friends of the Poor Walk, a great success.

Many thanks to the St. Joseph Cathedral Conference for hosting the buffet supper and spearheading a special collection for underwear, sox and soap to be distributed to the poor and needy who come to the SVdP Distribution Center for help. Thanks, too, to all who brought donations.

Dedication of Newark Center

On Sunday Dec. 13, Bishop Campbell dedicated the new St. Vincent de Paul complex sponsored by the Newark area Conferences.

This Herb and Pat Murphy complex houses a food pantry, a thrift store and a new men's shelter





The Voice

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Newsletter

Columbus Diocese

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President's Message

Bill Sparks

In the last issue of the Voice I mentioned that for this year: “ hopefully we can focus more on ministry than administration”



We will start by playing a larger role in providing advocacy on issues that will assist the poor and needy that we serve. We will be working with Mark Huddy and the Social Concerns Department of the Diocese as well as the Voice of the Poor endeavors by our National St. Vincent de Paul organization. Warren Wright, our Diocesan Vice President, will be spearheading this effort. We will also be asking for a representative from each conference to serve on a committee to promote legislation which will bring about social justice.

I was contacted by Mark Fleming of Divine Mercy Ministries which provides shelter and mentoring to women just getting out of prison. If this is a ministry in which you might have an interest, contact Pat in the office and she can put you in touch with Mark.

Another service opportunity will be serving as a Conference representative for the Friends of the Poor Walk which we will hold again next September

Finally, whether you are a new or long-time Vincentian, consider the Ozanam training which will be held in several locations on March 13th. It will definitely increase your understanding of being a Vincentian, be fun, and deepen your spirit of Vincentian friendship.

Please let your Conference President know if you are interested in getting more involved with any of the above opportunities.



Mark Your Calendar!

- March 13, 2010**, Ozanam Training
- April 24**, Top Hat Award and Recognition Banquet. **Save this date!**
- August 22**, Day of Recollection
- September 25**, , Walk for the Poor
- December 6**, Bishop’s Appreciation Mass

To deepen Vincentian friendship, please save these four dates and plan to attend

Top Hat Award Nominations

We will be accepting Nominations for the Top Hat award during February and March. The Top Hat Award recognizes a top Vincentian for his or her contributions over the years. Nomination forms are available from Pat in the Vincentian Office (614-221-3554). Also plan on attending the Top Hat Mass and dinner on April 24th – more information will follow.

.Jubilee Year

For this Vincentian year, which runs through September, the Vincentian Family celebrates the 350th anniversaries of the death of our founders Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Louise de Marillac. The theme of the Jubilee Year “Charity and Mission” reminds us that our Vincentian mission is both

