



Vincentian Spirit

Spring 2023

A publication of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of San Mateo County



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of San Mateo County's 12th Annual signature fundraising event, "Hands & Hearts Making a Difference" Dinner and Auction was held on April 27, 2023 -- a beautiful, warm, Spring evening at the breathtaking Kohl Mansion in Burlingame.



Guests had a wonderful time watching incredible magic tricks by magician Brad Barton (pictured above), bidding on fabulous silent and live auction items, taking pictures with friends in the photo booth, and enjoying delicious food and drinks while catching up with fellow supporters on the gorgeous grounds of the Kohl Mansion.



Diane Dwyer was the excellent host of our successful fund-a-need, which supported SVdP's core Safety Net Service Programs. We are so grateful for our guests, who, year after year, help fulfill the needs of our neighbors through their participation in this important event.

There is a tremendous need for SVdP's works of charity throughout San Mateo County. Our mission is to make a real difference in the lives of families and individuals in our community who struggle and who are in need, and the generosity of our event supporters and sponsors helps make that possible.

Spring Greetings from President Melody



This Spring, we have much to celebrate, with the bounty and beauty that each day brings. The Winter has brought much needed water to refill our lakes and reservoirs, supporting California farms.

The hillsides are green, trees and flowers are blossoming. Due to the decrease in COVID cases we are moving around more, feeling more comfortable visiting with friends and family, and traveling.

The Pandemic was hard for all of us. We experienced isolation, fear, loss of control and decreased access to resources. Those with fewer resources were exponentially affected but thanks to you, St. Vincent de Paul of San Mateo County never “went on shut down”. We found a way to continue to help those in need.

As the world goes back to “business as usual”, for us that means to continue to Serve Christ through service to each other. For Vincentians it means we are back to our model of person-to-person interactions. For many, the pandemic created challenges that placed them at even greater risk. They faced job loss, inability to meet the necessities of food, shelter, and clothing.

But St. Vincent de Paul is here, because of you. Thank you for never forgetting our neighbors in need. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you for your donations, caring and for your ongoing commitment to serving those in need.

Your Sister in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melody Davenport-McLaughlin".

Melody Davenport-McLaughlin, SVdP's District Council President

We thank SVdP's Grantors: NOVEMBER 2022 - MAY 2023

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SVdP's Beyond the Brown Bag

Annual Ozanam Formation Experience

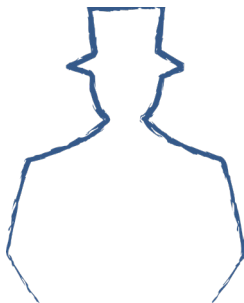


On Saturday, March 25, 2023, Vincentians new and seasoned came together to participate in SVdP's annual Ozanam Formation Experience at St. Robert's Parish in San Bruno. The theme, *Beyond the Brown Bag*, helped renew our focus on the Essential Elements of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul -- Spirituality, Friendship, and Service.

The formation experience, held annually, is essential for every Vincentian to attend, as even the most experienced Vincentians gain new insights by participating. Of great importance is the sharing and learning that takes place when members of different Conferences come together and interact with each other throughout the course of the program. It was wonderful to have this event back in person to connect and grow spiritually together. Thank you to SVdP's St. Robert Conference for hosting!



Looking Ahead...



SVdP's Annual Ozanam Liturgy & Awards Celebration

will take place on September 30, 2023 at St. Patrick's Seminary. At this event we award our Vincentian volunteers for their outstanding

service. A day of fellowship, Vincentians will meet new friends, renew old acquaintances and grow spiritually. *Nominations are open until August 1st, 2023. To request a nomination form, email info@svdpsm.org.*



SVdP Catherine Center's 20TH BIRTHDAY RAFFLE

Please join us in celebrating Catherine Center's 20th Birthday! Since its inception in 2003, we have welcomed over 160 women with the determination and courage to build a new life. Please consider supporting our women and help us to sustain our mission through our annual birthday raffle. Enter for a chance to win wonderful prizes. Drawing on St. Vincent de Paul's Feast Day, September 27, 2023 and the winners will be notified. *To request tickets, email vmarans@svdpsm.org.*



Ozanam Sunday

On April 23, 1833 Frédéric Ozanam and six companions founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Also, St. Vincent de Paul was born on April 24, 1581. To commemorate these events, the Society in the United States celebrates the last Sunday of April as Ozanam Sunday.

Members of St. Andrew Conference celebrated the occasion by attending the 4:45 Mass on Saturday, April 29, where they renewed their commitment as Vincentians and received a blessing from the new pastor of St. Andrew Parish, Fr. Arsenio Cicera. Joining in the photo is Deacon Noel Santillan.

If you are a member of a SVdP Conference, how does your Conference celebrate Ozanam Sunday?

“MINI” VINCENTIANS IN ACTION



On April 1, members of St. Andrew Conference distributed bags of food, Safeway gift cards, and Easter treats to neighbors in need. Joining Conference members in packing the bags of food were four 4th graders from Our Lady of Mercy School: Jayden Varilla, Xavier Rougley, Jake Paragas, and Genesis (DJ) Alejandro. Thank you OLM students!



SVdP's South San Francisco Homeless Help Center, aka "North County" or "Cafe St. Vincent", always has something special in store for our guests! Sr. William Eileen is pictured above with 4th and 8th graders from Our Lady of Visitation, who fundraised, organized and collected special Valentine's kits for our homeless guests.



St. Vincent de Paul remembers...

We remember those who have died and in whose memory the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has received donations from October 1, 2022 to May 1, 2023. These donations give life to others. Thank you.

Emilia Alarcon	David & Jan Dunn	George & Marie Leyes	Fred Raineri
Paul Ang	Donald Elliott	Eileen Patricia Linn	Doretta Riley
Paul & Cornela/ Emanuel & Rosa Axiaq	Frances Ellis	Ray Mancini	George Rinaldi
Paul Bacigalupi	J. Edgar & Margaret Fennie	Barbara Mape	Agripina Rivera
Bob & Rita Balliet	Nickolas Fesunoff	Marlene Marcotte	Tony Robinson
Cathy Benham	Ruairi Flanagan	Rachael Z. McBride	John Rouse
Anna & William Biagi	Donald Fox	Arthur & Norma McKay	Nan Scarfino
Lydia Bini	Gallegos Family	Gertrude McKenna	Eleanor Scarpino
Patricia Birmingham	Berna Garcia	Tom McKittrick	Jan Selenger Robertson
Richard Bona	Delores Gibbs	Kay McNab	Elsie Tonelli
Sister Marguerite Buchanan, RSM	Robert Gonzales	Art Miller	Angela Truscelli
Margaret Bugnato	Jack Haber	Itaskia Miller	Jack V.
Bill Bulant	Lee Heise	Robert Moratto	Bill Walters
Bernadette Bunnag	Anita Herrera Sneathen	Mickey Murphy	William Wiederhoeft
Beatrice Cameron	Hudelson Family	Ruth & Ed Murphy	Donald Wittry
Terri Campbell	Paul Isaacs	John Murphy	Diana Wong
John Carambat	Teri Jackson	Edward Nannini	Zane Zaninot
Ray Childs	Gerald Jaurigui	Niland Families	Charles, Marie & Rose
Mark Cleary	Paul Johnson	Bobbi Nocon	Agnes, Gabriel, Mary, Michael, Denise, Nancy & Vincent
John Clinton	Thomas Keefer	Lynn Noonan	Brian
Gloria Coltart	Cathy Kelber	Anne O'Brien	Fazio, Vincenzo & Rose
Cooney Family	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Kennedy	Sarah Olson	Albert & Olga
Albert & Olga Corlopossi	Chris Kenney	Grace Ortese	
James & Agnes Cotter	Stanley James King	Janet, Eddie & Alan Paolucci	
Renzo Di Pego	Loraine Marie Kohnke	Mary & Esperanza Pazmino	
Denis Dineen	Betty Krause	Manuel Pereira	
John Doyle	Harold, Phyllis & Gordon Kullberg	Phyllis Phipps	
	Patricia Ann Leyes	Agnes Piva	

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