

# FROM THE HEART



A MONTHLY SVDP MKE VINCENTIAN NEWSLETTER

## *St. Patrick's Day Prayer*

*Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me...*

Infuse me with your presence, Jesus, and encircle me with your grace.

*Christ besides me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me...*

Walk with me along life's uneven paths and heal me with your gentle touch.

*Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger...*

Solidify my trust in you, Jesus, and shine your light upon me.

*Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

Show your face in all those I meet, Jesus, and help me to embrace them.  
May the prayer of your servant, Patrick, shield my heart from cynicism and  
enlarge my capacity to love.

In your gracious name, Jesus. Amen.

[www.sadlier.com/religion](http://www.sadlier.com/religion)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MARCH

- 9** Group Session Safeguarding Training-see page 2
- 9** VOP Committee Virtual
- 10** Vincentian Day of Service at South Meal Site 4PM
- 11** Group Session Safeguarding Training-see page 2
- 16** Group Session Safeguarding Training-see page 2
- 20** Growth & Revitalization Committee Meeting
- 29** Good Friday- Council Office & Both Meal Sites Closed
- 31** Easter Sunday- South Meal Site Cross Roads Kitchen serving dinner from 12:00PM-12:45PM | North Meal Site Harambee Kitchen is closed.

### A Look Ahead

Apr 30, May 2 & May 7 Ozanam Orientation Virtual



# Safeguarding for Members of the SVDP Society

Please register for the online Safeguarding training **by March 16th!** click on the links below for informative flyers. For assistance to complete registration, please see contact information. We are ready to help you!

- [Safeguarding Explanation Flyer](#)
- Milwaukee Council [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Process to Register](#) for those who have previous training with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee
- [Process to Register](#) for all others in need of full training

**Need help? Email or Call us!**

**Mike Farrell** [mfarrell@svdpmilw.org](mailto:mfarrell@svdpmilw.org) 414-828-8232

**Penny Krafczyk** [penkraf19@gmail.com](mailto:penkraf19@gmail.com) 414-315-1441

**Liz Burke** [eburke3@wi.rr.com](mailto:eburke3@wi.rr.com) 414-243-3717

## Group Sessions Available

These sessions are for those who do not have computer access or would like a hand in getting through the process. At these sessions, participants will be able to submit permission for a National Background Check AND view all Safeguarding video segments on protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults. **Pre-registration is required** so that we can prepare an adequate amount of workstations. Attend only one of the sessions.

Milwaukee Public Library-Bay View Branch 2566 S Kinnickinnic Ave.

**Saturday, March 9** 9AM-11:30AM - Community Room

**Monday, March 11** 5PM-7:30PM - Community Room

Wauwatosa Public Library 7635 W. North Ave.

**Saturday, March 16** 9AM-11:30AM - Conference Room B

Kindly rsvp to Beth [bhohenfeldt@svdpmilw.org](mailto:bhohenfeldt@svdpmilw.org) or 414-667-0240

# From the Philanthropy Team

We raised **\$500+** as the January 2024 Charity of the Month at Metcalfe's Market in Wauwatosa. Wonderful news!

Thank you to all who shopped with us, and thank you to our generous partners at Metcalfe's!



We are blessed to have received **\$20,000** in support of our Meal Program from our friends at **The Catholic Community Foundation**. What a blessing!

# HAPPY EASTER

Our **2024 Easter Appeal** mailing is in the mail and on the way to your home! Thank you for your generous support of our mission this holiday, and thank you to our friends at **Gesu Conference** for sharing their home visit story!

# Council Office News

## Conference Cares Program Begins in March

The Conference Cares Program started on March 1, 2024. This new process will eliminate the use of paper vouchers/gift certificates and will put an end to altered, lost or misplaced certificates and streamline the redemption process. Contact Beth if you need Care Cards or Conference Cares Forms or need additional information.

Resources on our website:

How to Issue a Gift Certificate Guide- Rev. 2-2024

Care Cards (6 per page)

Conference Cares forms are available on ServWare or by contacting Beth.

Email [Beth](#) or call 414-667-0240.

## Summary of Conference Cares Process

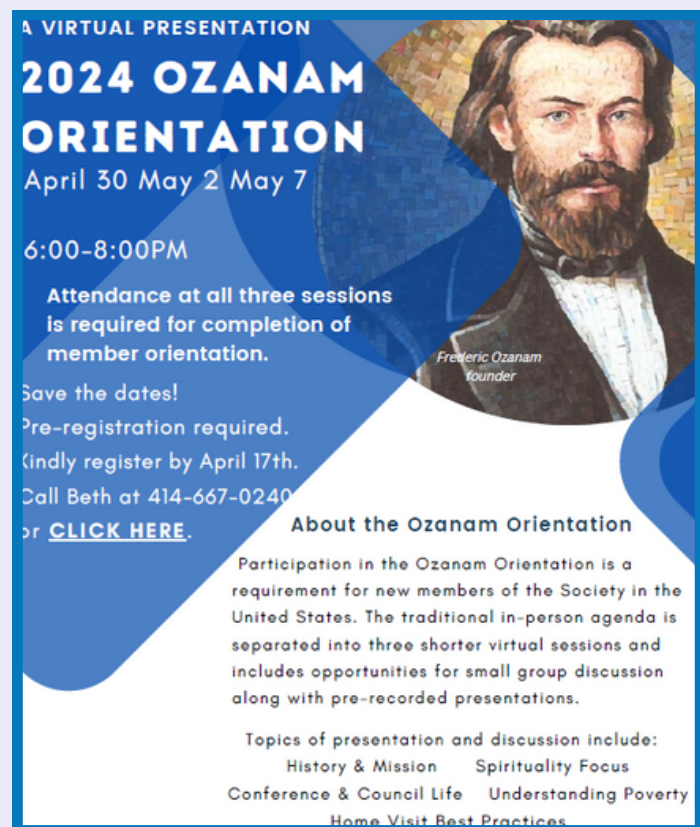
1. Determine items to be redeemed at the Thrift Store.
2. Complete Cares Form. List specific items OR enter a general \$\$ amount for furniture, household items, and clothing.
3. Provide Neighbor with the Instruction Card- 'Care Card'. Picture ID and proof of current address required.
4. Submit Conference Cares Form to Beth. Several options available.
5. Neighbor provides picture ID and proof of current address to Customer Service counter. Staff retrieves shopping list based on the information on the submitted Cares Form.

Valid for 30 days from data entry date.

## Please Join Us! Virtual Series Ozanam Orientation

This virtual series is open to all Vincentians from the 9 districts of the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council. Meet fellow Vincentians across our Archdiocese as you learn about our history, mission, works and so much more. Share in small group discussion from the comfort of your home! Please [pre-register](#) by April 17th so that materials can be ordered for you.

[Contact Maria](#) if you have any questions.



A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION  
**2024 OZANAM ORIENTATION**  
April 30 May 2 May 7  
6:00-8:00PM

Attendance at all three sessions is required for completion of member orientation.

Save the dates!  
Pre-registration required.  
Kindly register by April 17th.  
Call Beth at 414-667-0240  
or [CLICK HERE](#).

**About the Ozanam Orientation**

Participation in the Ozanam Orientation is a requirement for new members of the Society in the United States. The traditional in-person agenda is separated into three shorter virtual sessions and includes opportunities for small group discussion along with pre-recorded presentations.

Topics of presentation and discussion include:  
History & Mission    Spirituality Focus  
Conference & Council Life    Understanding Poverty  
Home Visit Best Practices

Frederic Ozanam  
founder



Dear Vincentians,

I hope this message finds you well! I wanted to take a moment to update you on the status of the Society's "Back2Work" Workforce Development Program.

After careful consideration, our board has decided to place this program on hold while we reevaluate it. We are truly grateful for all the support and referrals you have provided to the "Back2Work" program over the past several years.

While the "Back2Work" Program is on hold, we encourage you to explore other workforce development programs available in Milwaukee. One such program is offered by [Goodwill Industries](#), which provides valuable resources and support to individuals seeking employment opportunities. Another program to explore is [Employ Milwaukee](#).

Once again, thank you for your understanding and continued support as we navigate this re-evaluation process. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

With gratitude,  
Debbie Duskey



## Resource Links

Check the links on our website for more resources: [Vincentian Resources](#)

- [La Causa Crisis Nursery & Respite Care](#)
- [UniteWI- Bridge to Community Health](#)
- [Center for Veterans Issues](#)
- [Impact211- Website for Resources](#)
- [Community Advocates-Services Website](#)

# Gesu Conference is sponsoring a Financial Literacy Workshop on Saturday, March 23.

Read article on page 7 for more information.

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# STOP LOSING MONEY



**LEARN SIMPLE STEPS TO KEEP MORE OF YOUR CASH**

**10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.  
SATURDAY, MARCH 23**

**ST. JOHN CATHEDRAL  
831 N. Van Buren St.  
(the St. John offices)**

**REGISTRATION IS FREE.**

Please register. Just call (414) 288-7101 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or leave a message to get a call back.

**FREE LUNCH INCLUDED  
plus gift card drawings**

Free parking on the street or take **BUS ROUTE 30** & get off at Wisconsin & Van Buren, just two blocks away.

#### LEARN:

- How a checking account lets you cash checks for **free**
- How much check-cashing stores cost you
- Why paying the minimum on a credit card bill robs you
- How to save money by following a budget

**FREE WORKSHOP**



St. Vincent de Paul Society  
At the Heart of Giving.



Workshop conducted by: Brewery Credit Union.  
Sponsored by: St. Vincent de Paul Society of Gesu Church

ALL ARE WELCOME

Click on [flyer](#) image to access link.

# Vincentian News

## Financial Literacy Workshop

**Saturday, March 23 10AM-1PM**

**St. John Cathedral, 831 N. Van Buren St.**

By sponsoring a financial literacy workshop, members of Gesu conference want to provide an opportunity for those in need to gain an understanding of basic financial information that many of us take for granted.

Body

Vincentians provide for basic needs or assist in crisis situations, but perhaps the greatest gift is a path toward self-sufficiency and away from the cycle of poverty. Members of Gesu conference saw this workshop as a way to inform and empower neighbors in need.

As conference President Bob Friday noted, "Some never hear about things like banks and savings accounts, so they use check-cashing stores to cash checks and get what are supposed to be short-term loans. They end up losing their hard-earned money to fees for cashing those checks, and to extremely high interest rates for the loans, to the point where their balance is a never-ending albatross around their neck."

The workshop will be taught by representatives of Brewery Credit Union and includes topics like budgeting, making credit card payments more effectively, checking account basics and warnings about check cashing stores. The event will be held at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist to accommodate accessibility. Registration is requested as lunch and materials are provided.

This workshop is open to all! Please [share the flyer](#) with Neighbors in Need as part of your home visit. Post flyers on bulletin boards, church bulletins, businesses, libraries, food pantries or other sites where others might benefit.

Your prayers are kindly requested so that God may grant success to the efforts and outcomes of this event. With God's help, we can get people started on the road to financial stability.

If you have any questions or would like more flyers, just call Gesu SVDP president Bob Friday at (414) 628-1095 or email him at [bobtgif@att.net](mailto:bobtgif@att.net).

Submitted by Bob Friday, Gesu Conference.



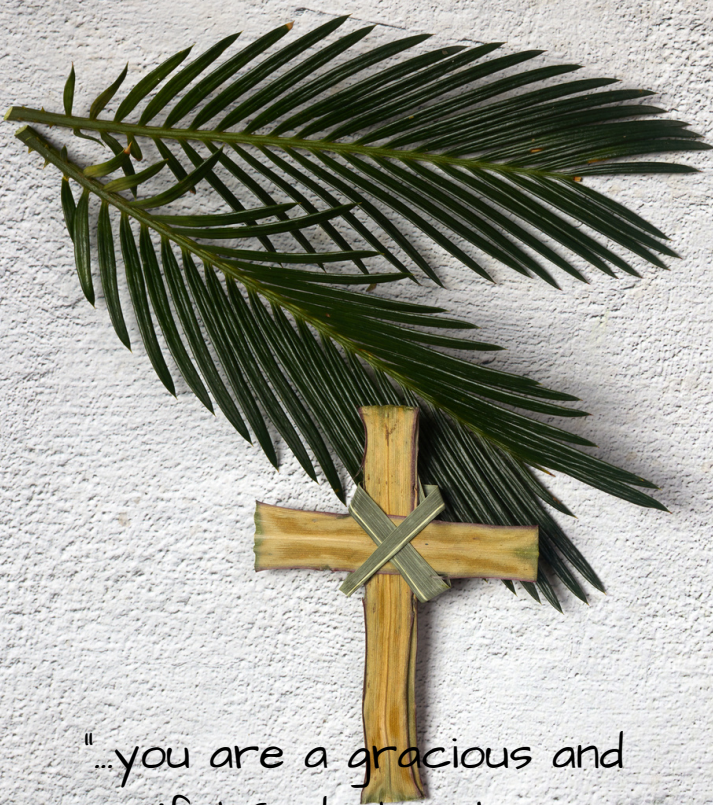
# Vincentian Life

## Vincentians Journey Together Through Lent

Members of the St. Catherine and St. Sebastian conferences gathered together on February 21st for a Lenten Evening of Reflection. Members try to gather together annually for reflection and prayer experiences. This year, they were led to reflect upon the messages found in the story of Jonah by Mary Homan, a Vincentian of Six Saints conference.

In small group activities, participants considered the wideness of God's love and mercy in relationships as a preparation for the season of Lent.

Submitted by Judy Ballard, St. Sebastian conference



"...you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in kindness, repenting of punishment." Jonah 4:2



## VINCENTIAN LENTEN SERVICE

Vincentians will be joining together for a **Day of Service** at the South Meal Site- Cross Roads Kitchen, 931 W. Madison St. on **Sunday, March 10th 4PM-7PM**. [Contact Maria](#) if you are interested in additional opportunities to serve at the Meal Program with fellow Vincentians.

Thanks to all who offered to help and share your Time to Serve this Lent!



## From the National Office

### Lenten Reflection: [With the Love and the Joy of Angels](#) by Tim Williams, Director of Formation

Take a moment to read this short reflection Tim shared with Catholic Charities USA.

### [Vision SVdP](#)

### by John Berry, National President

Read about the launch of listening sessions on the topic of what it means to “Adapt to a Changing World” (Rule Part 1 1.6)

## Time to Nominate Ozanam Medallion recipients

The **Ozanam Medallion** is awarded to an individual or to a conference within the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council to present a model of service for the broader community, for the purpose of increasing its knowledge of the works of the Society and to assist the Society in creating an image helpful in recruitment and resource development.



The **2024 Medallion** will be awarded at the Archdiocesan Council General Meeting to be held on **Sunday, April 21st** at Our Lady of the Lakes Parish in Random Lake (Sheboygan Council) after the 8:15AM Mass. ***Nominations need to be submitted by Wednesday, April 3, 2024.*** [Click here](#) for a fillable PDF nomination form.



## Intake Summary

### January 2024

Appliances- 132  
Beds- 182  
Furniture & Household- 233  
Rent & Utilities- 8  
Other- 65

**Referrals Made to Conferences: 374**

### February 2024

Appliances- 135  
Beds- 190  
Furniture & Household- 274  
Rent & Utilities- 5  
Other- 65

**Referrals Made to Conferences: 379**

*We must do what is agreeable to God. We must do what Our Lord Jesus Christ did when preaching the Gospel. Let us go to the poor Let us learn of Him. F. Ozanam*



## MEAL PROGRAM

*Updated 2024 Volunteer sign-up links :*

### **South Meal Program Site** **Cross Roads Kitchen**

**931 W. Madison St. 414-649-9555**

**[crossroads@svdpmilw.org](mailto:crossroads@svdpmilw.org)**

**Serving: Sun.-Fri. 5:30PM-6:15PM**

### **North Meal Program Site** **Harambee Kitchen**

**2600 N. 2nd St. 414-249-3866**

**[harambee@svdpmilw.org](mailto:harambee@svdpmilw.org)**

**Serving: Mon.-Fri. 5:30PM-6:15PM**

**Meal Program Manager - Peggy West-Schroder**  
**[pwest@svdpmilw.org](mailto:pwest@svdpmilw.org) 414-722-1353**

*Cross Roads Kitchen* is serving hot meals indoors Sundays through Fridays from 5:30pm to 6:15pm.

*Harambee Kitchen* is serving in person dining on days when we have enough volunteers; otherwise, to-go meals are provided. Meals are served (Mon-Fri) from 5:30pm to 6:15pm.

Please continue to pre-register for volunteer shifts. Click on the location links above for calendars on Sign-Up Genius.

## THRIFT STORES

**GREENFIELD 4476 S. 108 St. 414-377-9077**

**Mon.-Sat. 10:00AM -7:00PM Sun. 11:00AM -6:00PM**

**Donations Mon.- Sat. only 10AM-5PM**

**LINCOLN 2320 W. Lincoln Ave. 414-672-2040**

**Mon.-Fri. 10:00AM - 7:00PM Sat. 10:00AM-6:00PM Sun. Closed**

**Donations Mon.-Sat. 10:00AM-5:00PM**

**BRADLEY 8010 N 76 St. 414-363-8099**

**Mon.-Fri. 10:00AM - 7:00PM Sat. 10:00AM-6:00PM Sun. Closed**

**Donations Mon.-Sat. 10:00AM-5:00PM**

**Donations Pick-Up Line 414-462-7863 Ext 113**

# Contact Your SVP Support Team

Intake line for basic needs requests 9AM-3PM 414-462-7837 ext 110

**To Schedule Pick-Up** 414-462-7863 ext. 113 **Fax:** 414-462-5458

## Debbie Duskey

Executive Director

414-667-0241

414-462-7837 ext 102

[dduskey@svdpmilw.org](mailto:dduskey@svdpmilw.org)

## Michelle Martin

Director of Finance & Human Resources

414-667-0244

414-462-7837 ext 108

[mmartin@svdpmilw.org](mailto:mmartin@svdpmilw.org)

## Becca Surges

Director of Philanthropy &  
Marketing Communications

414-667-0242

414-462-7837 ext 103

[rsurges@svdpmilw.org](mailto:rsurges@svdpmilw.org)

## Paty Landeros

Accounting and HR Assistant

414-285-5515

414-462-7837 ext 111

[planderos@svdpmilw.org](mailto:planderos@svdpmilw.org)

## Maria Welz

Vincentian Membership  
Coordinator

414-667-0245

414-462-7837 ext 109

[mwelz@svdpmilw.org](mailto:mwelz@svdpmilw.org)

## Peggy West-Schroder

Meal Program Manager

414-722-1353

[pwest@svdpmilw.org](mailto:pwest@svdpmilw.org)

## Mark Dimeo

Lincoln Store Manager

414-672-2040

[mdimeo@svdpmilw.org](mailto:mdimeo@svdpmilw.org)

## Melanie Critton

Intake Coordinator

414-667-0243

414-462-7837 ext 107

[mcritton@svdpmilw.org](mailto:mcritton@svdpmilw.org)

## Baki Alwaissi

Greenfield Store Manager

414-377-9077

[balwaissi@svdpmilw.org](mailto:balwaissi@svdpmilw.org)

## Beth Hohenfeldt

Administrative Specialist

414-667-0240

414-462-7837 ext 101

[bhohenfeldt@svdpmilw.org](mailto:bhohenfeldt@svdpmilw.org)

## Ross Tessmer

Bradley Store Manager

414-363-8084

414-363-8099-store

[rtessmer@svdpmilw.org](mailto:rtessmer@svdpmilw.org)

