Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date September 8, 2020

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| Next meeting: |  |   |
| Regular |  | Tuesday, October 13 at 9:30 AM |
| Formation |  | SVdP Mass, Thursday, October 8 at 11:00 AM, St. Ann Church |

<https://stannbb.org/volunteer-2/social-concerns/st-vincent-depaul/>

## Call to Order; Opening Prayer

President Tish Galu opened the combined in person/Zoom meeting at 9:38 AM in Delaney Hall. Jack Freebery was having sound problems, so Tish led the members in the opening prayer.

## Welcome

Tish gave a quick welcome to those on the meeting call.

## Treasurer’s Report

#### The treasurer’s report follows:

Beginning Balance Checking Account  8/1/20: $42,000

                                   Revenues                             23,501

                                   Expenses                             14,304

                                   Balance 8/31/20                $51,197

Note that the expenses include $4,559 for the School Supply project.

We were recipients of money from other Conferences for a twinning project. We had requested $3,500 and received $9,000. The surplus will be used to pay the neighbor’s mortgage for the next 9 months.

## Spiritual Formation

#### Jack Freebery gave a short presentation on Vincentian spirituality and resources that are available for its development.

As Vincentians we are called to grow in personal holiness. But, as with all Christians, we are also called to contribute to the growth of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Because we are Vincentians, our vocation is to support this through our service to the poor.

To continue and to enhance our personal growth, Jack suggested several resources that we should make use of on a regular basis. These include:

* The 7 Pillars of Catholicism that Jack has distributed over the last several months (<https://stannbb.org/our-faith/the-seven-pillars-of-catholicism/>)
* The FORMED library, available to all parishioners who register (for free!) (<https://formed.org/signup>)
* The SVdP national web site (<https://www.svdpusa.org/>)

(Also in formation section of <https://famvin.org/en/>)

* Publications such as The Word Among Us and Magnificat

(<https://wau.org/> )

(<https://magnificat-ministry.net/life-in-the-spirit/prayer/mass-booklet/>)

(Dan took the liberty, following the meeting, of adding several resources available on our own parish web site:

* Video, audio, and written prayer and reflection on Sunday readings

(<https://stannbb.org/about-us/events/mass-schedule/worship-companion/>)

* Information on the saints and other Catholic beliefs

(<https://stannbb.org/our-faith/>)

* Vincentian spirituality, including the 7 pillars, on the members page
* (<https://stannbb.org/volunteer-2/social-concerns/st-vincent-depaul/svdp-members-page/#VincentianSpirituality)>
* Short prayer and meditation videos on our Parish YouTube channel
* (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDU-JzyKfZYaz_n5488EObQ/playlists>)
* Multiple resources on the (free) downloadable myParish app
(<https://stannbb.org/about-us/myparish/>)

Jack offered a reflection on the September 8 Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, which, coincidentally, marks the anniversary of the death of Frederic Ozanam.

## Fund Raising Team Update

Current plan is to send out letters to those who were attending the VIC dance, requesting donations to our Conference. Mike and Lorraine are heading this effort, but will need some assistance down the line.

##

##  Food Pantry, NCT updates and changes

A state of emergency is still in effect in Delaware; however, there have been some recent changes to state policies that will impact us.

New foreclosures are still on hold. However, if a foreclosure was started before the beginning of the pandemic, it may proceed.

If rent payment is a hardship, renters must be able to demonstrate that their inability to pay was due to the pandemic; e.g., job loss, reduced working hours, lack of available child care, etc.

The Delaware Housing Authority is still providing rent subsidies for those affected, but any such request must come from the landlord of the property, not directly from the renter.

New evictions can proceed, but Delaware continues to stay eviction proceedings, to determine if the case may benefit from mediation.

The food pantry is continuing its high volume. Mike McGowan is refilling the storage area every two weeks, at a cost of $2,000-3,000 each time. In addition, our food card purchases are running around $5,000.

##    Extended Care Team Report

Darlene had no new activity on the team this past month. However, she did inform those present that our neighbor Ruth Ann’s sister had passed away; this makes it harder for Ruth Ann, since her sister was one of the caregivers for her daughter.

## Garden Team and Furniture Project Team Reports

Vegetables, flowers and herbs are still being harvested for the pantry each week. The team is now transitioning the garden to fall plantings.

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## School Supplies Project

##  Despite the constraints imposed by the pandemic, the project was able to help 128 kids with their back to school supplies. Supplies need to be delivered on Friday of this week to 3 elementary schools; and we’ll need volunteers to help; we’d like to have 5 cars.

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## President’s Remarks – where we are – where we are headed – twining – Feast of SVDP (9/27) – Annual Council Meeting (9/20) – Mass for SVDP members

##  We are in the middle of difficult times, and there are more to come. We need to continue to communicate with one another and support one another and our neighbors; above all else, we need to continue to pray.

We will probably continue to meet in this fashion through the end of this year, and hopefully we’ll be able to meet face-to-face next year.

Our annual mass and recommitment ceremony will not be held on the 9/27 memorial of St. Vincent de Paul this year; it will be delayed. More to follow.

Joe Lane was nominated for the Wilmington Council’s annual Ozanam awards, in recognition of all of the fine work he has done for our Conference, especially in the area of fund raising. His nomination application will be shared with the membership via email.

Members are reminded that the CROP walk will be held at OLG on Sunday, October 18 at 3:00 PM. We’ll be looking for volunteers to assist.

Online giving through the parish’s donation portal was investigated. Unfortunately, we will be unable to use that portal, since the auditable information that we need to supply for gifts over a certain amount cannot be obtained from the vendor.

## Upcoming Meeting

We will be holding meetings once a month, on the 2nd Tuesday; the next meeting will be on October 13. Leaders meetings TBD

**XIII.         Closing Prayer (Prayer Card)**