



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

St. Vincent Times

SVDP Archdiocese

Galveston-Houston Council

March 15, 2025 Issue



Rule 3.3 Meetings of the **Vincentian Members**

Members meet as brothers and sisters with Christ in the midst of them, in Conferences that are genuine communities of faith and love, of prayer and action. Spiritual bonds and friendship between members are essential, as is the common mission to help the poor and marginalized. The Society is a true and unique worldwide Community of Vincentian friends.

Be the face of Christ. See the face of Christ.

Archdiocesan Council President Election Nomination Deadline:

- Deadline to submit nominations to our Council Office is **April 15, 2025**.
- Names of persons nominated, who agree to serve if elected and meet the requirements of this position, and their autobiographical statement and a platform will then be submitted to all District Presidents before **May 1, 2025**.
- District Presidents will share candidates' information within their District Conferences and ask each Conference to prayerfully discern their choice. Voting will take place via secret ballot at the **July 14, 2025** Council Board meeting.
- The person having the majority of the votes will be duly elected; Conferences will be notified by **July 18, 2025**.

[Election Letter & Nominee Statement](#)

Submit nominations to [Vincentian Services Email](#)

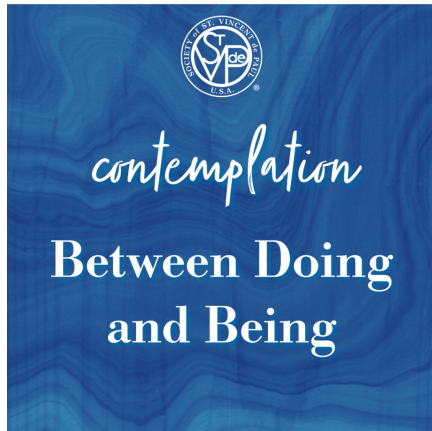
ONE SOCIETY DEADLINE EXTENSION

Our One Society model seeks to be the fabric connecting Conference to Conference and Council to Conference. Please complete this short [survey](#) to help us improve how we are serving to increase our mission impact throughout the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

A small group with representatives from diverse conference perspectives will meet in April to review the results of the survey and develop a game plan which will be shared with the board at their May meeting and then rolled out later in May to the membership. If you have an interest in participating in this work or if you have any questions about this survey, please contact Ann Schorno at ann.schorno@svdphouston.org.

The deadline has been extended to **March 20th, 2025**. A huge thanks to everyone who has submitted a response!

ONE SOCIETY SURVEY



Aristotle said that you build something if you want to become a builder. If you want to become virtuous, you do virtuous things. (Nichomachean Ethics) We become by doing; what begins as an exterior practice, becomes interior. We no longer simply act generously, we become generous.

So, what do we become if we do too much, especially if we do so much that we can do no more without suffering burnout, compassion fatigue, or physical exhaustion; if our very actions of virtue lead to our inability to continue them? [READ MORE HERE](#)



Upcoming getFED Topics:

Thursday, March 27, 2025

12:15PM-1:00PM

"60 Years of Women's Contributions"

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

7:00PM-7:45PM

"Celebrating Essential Elements"

[Click Here](#) to register for Formation Events

Calendar:

March	April	May
March 29, 2025 Lenten Retreat	April 5, 2025 Basics of the Home Visit Workshop: "The Encounter"	

<p>St. Anne 2140 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77098 8:30AM- 1:00PM</p>	<p>St. Dominic 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Houston TX 77021 Morkovsky Hall 202 <u>*Limited Space Available*</u> 9:00AM-12:30AM</p> <p>April 12, 2025 Ozanam Orientation (District 3) St. Frances de Sales 8200 Roos Rd., Houston TX 77036 8:30AM-2:30PM</p>	<p>Guidance on Enforcement Agencies</p>
June	July	August
<p>June 7, 2025 Ozanam Orientation (District 6) St. Anthony of Padua 7801 Bay Branch Dr., The Woodlands, TX 77382 8:30AM-2:30PM</p>	<p>VIRTUAL Ozanam Orientations: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 6:30PM-8:30 PM & Thursday, July 17, 2025 6:30PM-8:30PM</p>	<p>TBD</p>
September	October	November
<p>TBD</p>	<p>Leadership training begins!</p>	<p>TBD</p>

Check out Formation page on the Council website

New Vincentians: Check out your Digital Pathway

Members, volunteers, leaders, and staff are all Vincentians, each with our own special role to play. We share our dedication to the works and the spirituality of our great patron, Saint Vincent de Paul, and we seek to carry on the traditions of the Society founded by Bl. Frédéric Ozanam, and we also recognize that our specific roles may change over time.

Click the button below to learn more!



VINCENTIAN PATHWAY

Did you know the Conference Assessment is based on the
National SVdP Standards of Excellence?

[LEARN MORE](#)

**Whoever is kind to
the poor lends to
the Lord, and will
be repaid in full.**

PROVERBS 19:17



As we enter the sacred season of Lent, we seek to imitate Christ by freeing ourselves of unnecessary attachments, praying and fasting, and almsgiving—opening our hearts to those most in need.

Many neighbors in Galveston-Houston are hungry.

They simply don't have enough to pay the bills and put food on the table Your Lenten gift to SVdP Houston is a beautiful way to share our abundance with our neighbors in need. Your almsgiving recognizes Christ in our suffering neighbors.

Will you join us in making a special Lenten gift to meet the needs of our struggling neighbors?

17

Is the number of computers Council provided to Conferences to remove technology barriers and improve service in Galveston Houston communities

Case Management Systems (CMS) Archiving Records

SVdP's Record Retention Policy

During operation, Conferences generate case records, bank statements, invoices, etc. Confidentiality demands that all records on individuals and families served be kept in a secure, private place. Electronic records maintained in CMS are considered secure and private for purposes of record retention.

c. Record Retention Schedule

Annual Conference Report *...Permanent	Bank Statements.....	7 Years
Letters of Aggregation Permanent	Cancelled Checks.....	7 Years
Bank Deposits (envelopes, etc.) 3 Years	Invoices Received.....	7 Years
Bank Reconciliations..... 3 Years	Meeting Minutes.....	7 Years
Case Records..... 3 Years	Treasurer Statements	7 Years
General Correspondence.....3 Years	Donation Acknowledgement letters required by IRS 2 Years	

**Kept at the council level including statistics, membership list, and items with historical significance.*

Case records **do not and should not** contain any detrimental information that violates HIPPA, reveals citizenship, or contains social security numbers.

[CLICK HERE to View Best Practices for Data Management](#)

Data Management Practices Checklist

February 23, 2021

Data Entry - Vincentians

- Minimize handling and sharing: SS#s, DL#s, Passport #s, bank account #s, credit card #s, etc. Do NOT record unless grant requirement and discuss with Council how to safely record.
- Do NOT document medical info. Use: "Health is an issue in this case."
- Do NOT mention immigration status.
- Do NOT retain neighbor documents on personal hard drives.
- Minimize sharing personal information and PDFs in email and texts
- Delete email and text strings after case is closed. Review monthly
- Delete paper and electronic records annually per retention guidelines (3 years for case records & 7 years for financial records)

[View Complete Checklist Here](#)



Tax Scams, MFA, and More from NCA!

By adopting smart security habits, you can protect your data and ensure your tax refund goes where it belongs—your bank account. Criminals often impersonate the IRS or trusted services like H&R Block.

[READ MORE](#)



What is Phishing And How to Avoid It:

Cybercriminals love to go phishing, but you don't have to get hooked. Falling for a phishing scam can expose your personal information and can even result in cybercriminals installing malware on your device. Become an expert at spotting phishing attempts and not taking the bait.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Multifactor Authentication (MFA) And Why Should You Use It?

You can protect your online accounts with more than just a password. Multifactor authentication (MFA) adds another layer of protection—think of it as securing your front door with both a deadbolt and a keypad lock. MFA is a simple, effective way to keep hackers out, even if they manage to get your password.



SVDP Archdiocese Galveston Houston Council

[Member Portal](#)



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