

MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 8 September 2025

Call to Order/Opening Prayer: Ann Lund/Father Greg

Time: 5:00 PM

Spiritual Enrichment: Father Greg

Minutes of Previous Meeting: (X) Read/Approved; Approved with Changes

Motion by: Glenn Seconded by: Toni

Attendance: Total Active Members (33) LOA (0) Present (21) Absent (12) Quorum (16)

MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS		Associate Member	
Al	X	Margaret	X			JoAnn	
Ann F.	A	Marge	X			Martha	
Ann L.	X	Mary Ellen	A			Mechelle	
Colleen	X	Mary	X			Michaela	
Dennis	X	Michael	X				
Diane	A	Norm	A				
Dotti	X	Pam	X				
Estela	X	Pat	X				
Francisca	A	Pauline	A				
Gini	A	Sandra	X				
Glenn	X	Scotty	A			Visitors	
Gloria	A	Stephen	A				
Hilary	X	Tom	A				
Ilona	X	Toni	X			Training	
Janet	X						
Jerry	X			Father Greg *	X		
Judy	X			Stan *		Berlynda Schaff	
Kathy	X						
Larry	A						

*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

September Birthdays – 5 September – Pat; 9 September – Martha; 11 September – Pauline; 14 September - Father Greg; 24 September – Diane; 29 September - Gini

Father Greg related a story from St. John Luis Vianney, the Patron Saint of Parish Priests, who was noted for his charity. People were constantly coming to the door of the church to get help. The young associate complained about all of the people that were coming and knocking on the door at all hours. St. John Luis said, well, I look at it this way, we're sort of fortunate that they are coming to us because of the Gospel; because if they weren't coming to us, we would have to be going out and finding them. So, it's kind of a convenience that they come to us because we have to find them and serve them, and they're making it easy. Father Greg said - some days when you're thinking that you're overwhelmed by the number of folks in the waiting room and coming through the door, just say to yourself because of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I would have to be out there finding them and here they're making it easy on me; easy on us; they are coming to us. What a Blessing!

Glenn gave an overview of the finances for the SVdP Conference. Some of the issues presented were:

1. a. For the first 6 months of the year, we averaged \$38,000 in sales and averaged \$41,000 in grants and donations. We had money to cover our operating expenses and aid to friends. We received \$70,000 in grants in the first 6 months; we got \$20,000 in the 2nd 6 months. Sales dropped from \$38,000 a month to \$31,000 a month and that's \$7,000 per month or \$35,000 in the 2nd half that we didn't have.

b. Grants and donations went from \$41,000 to down to \$31,000 that was a loss of \$10,000 per month for the last 6 months.

c. Food and aid to friends during the first 6 months was \$35,000 a month and \$36,000 the next 6 months. Expenses were \$40,000 the first 6 months and \$42,000 the 2nd 6 months. While we made \$18,000 through March, we lost \$110,00 through September 30th. Fortunately, we had a surplus of \$200,000 in the bank. We're going to have a loss this year between \$80,000-\$90,000.

d. What does next year look like:

(1) Sales projection is \$420,000 at \$35,000 a month; income projection at \$350,000 in income, grants and donations.

(2) Total income is \$770,000 with expenses being \$480,000 so we have \$290,000 left for our friends; last year we had \$340,000 left for our friends but actually spent \$423,000. This year will be tough, especially the first quarter but when the grants come in the budget can be adjusted. An example of how the \$290,000 could be spent and the impact on each category from last year is listed here:

Food	\$145,000	
Aid to Friends	\$145,000	
Average/Month	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
Total Food	\$12,500	\$16,000
Rent	\$ 4,700	\$ 8,500
Utilities	\$ 3,200	\$ 5,020
Homeless	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,100
All Other	\$ 500	\$ 760
Fernandez	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,900
Single Moms	\$ 300	\$ 300
St. Andrew's Assist	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,200
Toiletries	\$ 300	\$ 350
Total Aid	\$12,500	\$21,130

2. There was discussion concerning the following and the board will have to discuss and come up with revised guidelines:

a. How often can we help a friend? Once a year, i.e., Sep-Sep; May-May. Is the time period different for families versus a single person?

b. Father Greg recommended that Kate attend the next finance meeting so that she can be aware

of what is going on with SVdP. Father Greg also stated that SVdP is the outreach for St. Andrew's and that if we cut back our support to friends, he doesn't want the overflow coming to the office. Last year St. Andrew's provided \$144,000 to the conference; \$12,000 of which went to the food bank. Father Greg suggested that we need to come up with some ideas to boost the sales at the store.

c. Glenn stated that grants totaling between \$90,000-\$100,000 have been submitted. However, there is not guarantee what will be received. Scotty told Glenn the grants are looking good and the grant team (Scotty, Tom and Larry) are working them. Pam asked if information and paperwork on the grants to see where they come from and how they are used.

Current Events:

Upcoming Events:

- 9 September 2025 – Corporal Communion Mass, 9:00 AM
- 14 September 2025 – Ministry Fair – sign-up sheet went around
- 15 September 2025 – Weekly Vincentian Meeting, 5:00 PM, Madonna Hall
- 20 September 2025 – Pulpit call for the Walk for the Poor; grocery bags will be handed out after all the Masses
- 27 September 2025 – Walk for the Poor. 27 September is the feast of St. Vincent de Paul and after the 9:00 AM Mass, we'll walk from the Church to the food bank.

Old Business:

1. SSVEC: please make sure the friend's notice has a disconnect warning on it. Please make sure you call the respective utility company (gas, electric, water) to verify the friend's information.
2. Water leak: the water leak should be fixed by Tuesday, 9 September 2025.

NEW Business:

1. Installation of the updated security cameras should be completed this week. The cameras, installation and new tires for the store truck are being paid for by a private donor. This donation was over \$4,000.
2. Coats for Kids will begin again in October. The Real Wishes grant provided the money for the new coats. \$7,000 has been invested in new coats – adding the schools to the stats. SVdP will receive information and paperwork for requesting coats before October.
3. The store needs your help for a couple hours a week to help with sorting. Leah and the store employees will tell you what's needed.
4. Vouchers: Toni and Leah handed out a copy of the clothing and furniture vouchers used by the store. Try to use a pen with blue ink on the vouchers because if the voucher is copied, the writing will show up as black. Ensure the friend knows they have 30-days to use the voucher and if what they need is not available at the time they present the voucher, they can call to see if the item has come in. The following is requested for each voucher:

a. Clothing Voucher:

(1) Make sure all the information is filled in – date, name, phone number, number of adults and children in family. The friend's signature is required after you go over the guidelines for the voucher.

The Vincentian's name and number must be on the form.

(2) The Vincentian does not need to fill in any quantity on the form.

(3) The name of each adult and the children (plus the children's gender and age) need to be filled in. If there are more than 2 adults (parents; partners), anyone 18 and older needs a separate voucher. The friend who is requesting the voucher can sign for it. Please mark a line/X through any section not being used.

(4) The voucher must be taken to the front desk when they go to the store.

(5) Special circumstances area: if the clothing is for a special circumstance, i.e., a job interview, please mark it and put your initials and number in the space. If there is no special circumstance, please scratch the area out. The voucher should say St. Andrew's Conference on the bottom right-hand side of the voucher.

b. Furniture Voucher:

(1) Make sure all the information is filled in – date, name, phone number, number of adults and children in family. The friend's signature is required after you go over the guidelines for the voucher. The Vincentian's name and number must be on the form.

(2) Please call the store to see if they have the items requested by the friend. Remind the friend to take the voucher to front desk and they will be directed to where they can shop.

(3) Mark out any items not requested by the friend.

(4) Special circumstances area: if there is a special circumstance, please mark it and put your initials and number in the space. If there is no special circumstance, please scratch the area out. The voucher should say St. Andrew's Conference on the bottom right-hand side of the voucher.

(5) Sleeping bags, tents, and backpacks are in the CONNEX at the conference. Stan, Simon and Blanca have keys to get into the CONNEX. However, the CONNEX is supposed to be open during conference hours.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Due 8 September 2025

A. Food Bank Report:

B. Thrift Store Report: Monthly total: \$28,531.15; daily average: \$1,272.72

Clothing: \$1,228.29, 19 families helped

Furniture: \$2,264.25, 13 families helped

Misc: \$611.50, 9 families helped

Total: \$4,104.04

Volunteer hours: 183.05

C. Finance Report:

D. Poor Box Report: \$189.05

Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases: Toni had a person come in on Monday who was in an abusive situation and just needed to talk and needed a hug.

Home visits:

Special cases:

For the Good of the Order:

Spiritual Reading: Margaret

Conference Members Sick or in Distress: Mary was visiting her mother-in-law at Life Care Center and saw Teresa Bly and said that she looked well.

Prayers for others: Will be emailed separately

Vincentian Schedule: Will be emailed separately.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Food Bank Meeting:
- Finance Meeting: 25 September 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Thrift Store Meeting: 9 September 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Ad Hoc Meeting:
- Board Meeting:

Vincentian Meeting: - 15 September 2025, Madonna Hall - Weekly Meeting

Closing Prayer: Pam

Adjourned: 6:26 PM

Recorder: Pat