

MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 6 October 2025

Call to Order/Opening Prayer: Father Greg **Time:** 5:00 PM

Spiritual Enrichment: Father Greg

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

Motion by: Ann Lund Seconded by: Toni

Attendance: Total Active Members (32) LOA (0) Present (18) Absent (14) Quorum (16)

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

*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

October Birthdays – 6 October - Kathy; 13 October – Marge; 16 October – Sandra; 21 October – Margaret

SVdP had two visitors speak at the meeting. Their information follows:

1. a. Jerry Currier, from the Primavera Foundation, Project Action for Veterans. This organization provides a pathway out of poverty for Veterans. They provide transitional, short-term housing for the homeless and those on the verge of homelessness. Once notified about a Veteran, an initial assessment is done and help will be initiated; whether it be a hotel room or getting the Veteran into an apartment.

b. The Veteran must have an honorable or general discharge from the service. Documentation is required to be entered into the program: ID, social security card, birth certificate, DD 214/SQUARES, bank statements for last 60 days, last month of paycheck stubs, and financial summary. If the Veteran doesn't have this information, the organization will help the Veteran to obtain what is

required.

c. The organization will help the Veteran find a job which is a requirement to remain in housing. Shallow subsidy is a program which provides up to 2 years in an apartment and the organization picks up 30% of the rent. The VA takes over rent if a Veteran is in HUD housing; for non-HUD housing, VA provides about 90 days support. Everything is on a case-by-case basis.

d. Project Action for Veterans is located in the Warrior Healing Center. Information for Project Action for Veterans is: 520-302-6596; email: SSVFIntake@primavera.org. Information of Jerry Currier, Rural Outreach Specialist is: 502-88-5383, ext. 1523; email: jcurrier@primavera.org. Jerry thanked SVdP for our support.

2. Teresa Celestin, DES.

a. Teresa works closely with the Project Action for Veterans, specifically in helping them find jobs. She also helps spouses who take care of disabled Veterans; the homeless and the under-employed Veterans. She also advocates for businesses to hire Veterans.

b. Tool kits for Veterans Program. This program provides the Veteran with what he/she needs to get a job and to perform that job be it clothing, small car repairs, electronic equipment, etc. The Veteran has 10 business days to submit a tool kit request and the amount is limited to \$700. If a Veteran wants to pursue a job in a different state, there is a Hilton Honors Program which will assist them. Each case is managed for 1 year. The Veteran only has to have served only 1 day on active duty to qualify.

c. Mental health resources are available. Information for Teresa is: email: dersjvsg@azdes.gov.

Current Events:

Upcoming Events:

- 13 October – Columbus Day – Conference and Food Bank are closed
- 14 October - Corporal Communion Mass, 9:00 AM
- 20 October – Vincentian Meeting, 5:00 PM

Old Business:

1. The Presidents meeting is in Tucson on 11 October 2025. Pauline be leaving at 8:15 AM if anyone would like to go.
2. The SVdP Conferences of Cochise Couty district meeting will be 25 October 2025 in Bisbee. We'll depart at 8:15 AM for Mass and meeting.
3. Turkey box applications are now being taken. Pauline passed around the forms to be used for applying for a turkey box. Maximum number of boxes is 300. The boxes are for families of 4; the friend's file must show that there are 4 or more people in the household and they cannot add extras to qualify.
4. Coats for kids: the information for friend's applying is in place. Remember that once a friend requests coats, they have one week to pick them up.

NEW Business:

1. Guidelines will remain as they are. Help for families with children is every 6 months and ALL other adults (single, couples, groups) once annually.
2. We received \$550 from SSVEC for October. 13 October 2025 is SSVEC Employee Appreciation Day. Maybe we should make a basket for them to thank them for supporting us.
3. The homeless budget is set at \$1,000 per month; \$300 from SVdP and \$700 from Sacred Heart.
4. The Salvation Army.

a. Pauline met with Susan, a worker at the Salvation Army, who handles requests for rent and utilities. The Salvation Army does have money to support both rent and utilities but they have to meet with Susan and fill out paperwork to include income verification. If you refer someone to the Salvation Army, **please stress** to the friend they will need to provide paperwork as if they were applying to DES for help; a copy of their lease, earnings statements, all documents of job loss and income, and whatever else is required by the Salvation Army. She is available to meet with friends starting at 9:00 AM.

b. The Salvation Army will be hosting Thanksgiving dinners at two different times on Thanksgiving Day – 11:30-12:30 and 1:00-2:00. People must sign up for the dinners and will be given a ticket for their respective time.

c. The Angel Tree Program is taking applications at the Salvation Army.

5. **SKILLS ACADEMY.** S.K.I.L.L.S. is a private academy for families with special needs children. It is a private school accredited with an A+ rating through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). They serve exclusively students with special needs. They specialize in individualized instruction in a small group setting. This is one of many ways they ensure your student's educational needs are met. They offer lessons in Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies, Science, Social Skills and Life Skills. The curriculum is taught in a patient, loving, and consistent environment, which maximizes student growth. Scholarships are available through the Arizona Department of Education Empowerment Scholarship Account.
Open · Closes 3:30 PM - (520) 263-6789

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Due 6 October 2025

- A. Food Bank Report: 43,000+ lbs. of food; 1,139 boxes; 4,000 families served;
\$16,500 spent on food; Walk for Poor total: 2,700 lbs.
- B. Thrift Store Report: Monthly total (25 days): \$28,602.06; daily average: \$1,272.72
- C. Finance Report:
- D. Poor Box Report: \$239.48

Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:

a. Pam had a friend come in who said he was from Cuba and that he was a doctor in Cuba. As the conversation progressed, his story kept changing and became more unbelievable. If he were a professional in Cuba, he could have been streamlined into a professional status when he came to this country.

b. Judy and Pauline had a visit from Heather Markel. After 45 minutes, they never got to the reason as to what she needed. She talked about all the issues going on in her apartment. The

apartment complex doesn't want our money because they don't want her there anymore and she has called the police over 100 times. The apartment complex is pursuing police and legal action. It seems to be a mental health issue. Pauline said that if Heather comes in, please call her and she will talk with her.

c. See Father Greg's comment in attached document.

Home visits:

Special cases: Al had a special case approved on Friday. A friend needed help with rent and the property manager wanted a substantial payment that day (Friday, 3 October) in order to agree on waiting until Oct 10 for the balance to be paid in full. Otherwise, an eviction notice would be issued.

For the Good of the Order: Pauline talked about twinning. The definition of twinning in the rule book is: Twinning: Conferences and Councils help others in need, both at the national and international level. This is one of the activities most cherished by the Society. The awareness of acute poverty in a great number of countries and the Vincentian preferential option for the poor spurs Conferences and Councils to assist others with less resources or in particular situations. This direct link between two Conferences or Councils, consisting of sharing prayer, a profound friendship and material resources, is called twinning. This activity contributes to world peace and to understanding and cultural exchange among peoples.

Father Greg reiterated Pope Leo's request to pray the rosary daily during the month of October for peace.

Spiritual Reading: Margaret

Conference Members Sick or in Distress:

Prayers for others: Will be emailed separately

Vincentian Schedule: Will be emailed separately.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Food Bank Meeting:
- Finance Meeting: 23 October 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Thrift Store Meeting: 14 October 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Ad Hoc Meeting:
- Board Meeting: 28 October 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall

Vincentian Meeting: - 20 October 2025, Madonna Hall - Weekly Meeting

Closing Prayer: Father Greg

Adjourned: 6:10 PM

Recorder: Pat

