

# MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 27 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: Larry

**Attendance: Total Active Members (32) LOA (0) Present (20) Absent (12) Quorum (16)**

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

\*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

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

Father Greg:

1. a. Father Greg handed out miraculous medals to those who didn't have one. Please wear it. The feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is coming up in November.
- b. Father passed out a copy of a Spiritual Eye Test that was presented at the District 5 meeting last Saturday at St. Patrick's. A copy is attached.
- c. Father said that no one has stepped up to be the President for the Diocese of Tucson. If no one steps up before the end of the year, the Dioceses' conferences will go under California. If you know of someone in Tucson who would be good for the job, please let the Diocese know.

2. Father gave an update on some of the changes happening with Catholic Community Services (CCS). He said that we need to be working more closely with CCS. He also said that Pauline is aware of what is going on and is on top of this and has a good relationship with Terrance.

a. Small houses are being build next to the Forgach House. Ground is currently being cleared. Once the houses are built, we will probably be asked to help furnish them. A person/family can stay in the house for one year.

b. Good Neighbor Alliance (GNA) has a new director. GNA will now be open 24/7. They are offering job counseling, drug counseling, rapid rehousing, and more. Gini asked if they will provide budgeting counseling and Marge asked if we can refer friends to them for drug counseling. Father Greg said he would look into that.

c. We should not be duplicating services with CCS. We are one social network and we are a main player and we may have a big part to play within CCS. We should look to CCS to help with grants and utilize their resources. We will support CCS.

d. Elena Dwyer is the new President of CCS and is also a board member for SVdP. She is a good person for the job. Kathy Calabrese and Maryann Hockstad are also on the CCS board.

3. Father Greg closed with a story about St. John of God who opened a hospital but only worked as a porter at the hospital. A poor man came in who he helped and when he looked down at the man's feet, he saw that they had holes in them and he said I knew if I stayed here, I would see Jesus.

4. Father Greg will check to see if Madonna Hall will be open for use next Monday.

### **Current Events:**

### **Upcoming Events:**

- 3 November 2025 – Vincentian Meeting, 5:00 PM
- 11 November 2025 – Veterans Day, Conference and food bank are closed

### **Old Business:**

1. Turkey box count is estimated to be at 250.

2. 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. Remember that there must be two Vincentians on a home visit. If you are going on a home visit, do not go in until your co-worker arrives.

2. We need stories of hard and/or difficult cases to be published in the Weekly Bulletin and to be provided for the Sacred Heart grant. Please send them to Pauline ASAP.

3. Toni gave a short update on the store. The new store manager starts on 1 November 2025. Toni thanked all the folks who have been helping at the store. As of today, the store has made \$38,000 with 5 more days to go until the end of the month. Thanks to Sierra Pest Control who came on Friday and fumigated the dumpster because a donation that was dropped off was infested with bed bugs.

Also, the store still needs some volunteer help. If you can spare a couple of hours, it would be appreciated.

4. Food Box Express. The board decided on Tuesday, that there will be only one login sheet for our friends to sign in on (future copies of the form will eliminate the two columns for food box and other). Whenever the room is crowded, one Vincentian will ask who is there for only a food box and/or toiletries and who was there first. The Vincentian will take the friend to the office, review their information, write a food box slip, update the file and then take the next person who is there for a food box and/or toiletries. The other Vincentians who are working will handle friends who need other types of help. Vincentians can swap out who does the food box express.

5. Vouchers. Toni went over the vouchers.

a. Clothing vouchers: The top part of the voucher needs to be filled in with the friend's information as well as the Vincentian's name and number. The name of each person requesting clothing needs to be on the form; if for children, their name, age and gender. Make sure to X out any unused areas on the form and to X out the special instructions if there are none. There is no need to call the store to see if clothing items are available.

b. Furniture. The top part of the voucher needs to be filled in with the friend's information as well as the Vincentian's name and number. Make sure to X out any unused areas on the form and to X out the special instructions if there are none. Indicate on the form what furniture is needed. Please call the store to see if those items are available before sending the friend over to the store.

c. Sleeping bags and tents are in the CONNEX at the Conference.

6. We have FEMA blankets in the CONNEX. These blankets are for the homeless. They are warm but cannot be washed.

7. Larry spoke about friends who come in who may be furloughed. Once a bill is passed, these people will receive their back pay. Both SSVEC and SWG have put out information that they will work with furloughed employees. Landlords should be willing to work with these employees as well; the friend needs to talk with their landlord to see if they can work with them. Larry suggested that a federal employee may look into taking a loan against their Thrift Savings Plan. Larry said that the biggest issue will be when SNAP is stopped on 1 November 2025.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Due 3 November 2025

- A. Food Bank Report:
- B. Thrift Store Report:
- C. Finance Report:
- D. Poor Box Report:

#### **Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:**

**Home visits:** Pauline and Pam at the Madisons

**Special cases:** Father Greg said that if Kaylie Slick comes in, we are to help her. She has 5 kids and moved here from Tucson out of an abusive situation. She also has some health issues. CCS got her an apartment.

**For the Good of the Order:**

**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:
- Thrift Store Meeting: 12 November 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Ad Hoc Meeting:
- Board Meeting: 28 October 2025, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall

**Vincentian Meeting:** - 3 November 2025, Madonna Hall - Weekly Meeting

**Closing Prayer:** Father Greg

**Adjourned:** 5:55 PM

**Recorder:** Pat