



U.P. VINCENTIAN

NEWSLETTER MARQUETTE DIOCESE COUNCIL, ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

SUMMER 2019

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OFFICE OF MARQUETTE, MI, SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, 2119 PRESQUE ISLE, RM 101, MARQUETTE, MI 49855

President's Address

Greetings Vincentian

Wishing all of you a family fun filled summer with all Gods blessings upon you.

As always, our three elements of our Society are Spiritually, Fellowship and reaching out to those in need.

Our Society exists for us the members—not the person in need. Our goal is holiness and our work of service helps US ATTAIN THAT. Our Ministry is the bridge that connects the Gospel to the needs of God's people. Through ministry we share with others a glimpse of Jesus. MOTHER TERESA SAYS Our life of poverty is as necessary as the work itself. Only in heaven will we see how much we owe to the poor for helping us love God better because of them.

Just a few things Presidents and Vincentians:

The Effective conference is aware of the Responsibility it has to participate in the activities, programs or events of District Council or Diocesan Council.

Examples:

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING –Each Conference President or Proxy is required to attend to keep their conferences informed and so there is a voting quorum.

DIOCESAN MINI COVENTION-----All Vincentians a learning experience

REGIONAL MEETINGS—All Vincentians and Officers a learning experience, training sessions to learn more about helping people and solving problems.

COROPORATE COMMUNIONS ---Masses honoring our SVDP deceased members and Donors. Everyone is recommended to attend each Conferences Corporate Communion Mass it helps the parishioners identify with SVDP and breakfast after helps us socialize and grow in friendship.

COMMUNITY TIES—Have working ties in your community and knowledge of other public and private agency's for referral of clients. Conferences make yourself known to these groups and cultivate relationships of mutual respect to facilitate referrals to and from such agencies.

APPRECIATION GATHERINGS

You are encouraged to hold Appreciation Gatherings annually for all SVDP Vincentians and Volunteers as a way to thank everyone also an opportunity to grow in friendship.

Surrendering to Gods Will--- He will always lead You--- LET GO---LET GOD

Blessings Pat

— 2019 Calendar of Events —

July 10-14	Invitation to Renewal St. Louis, MO
August 19	Diocesan Council Meeting St. Peter Cathedral
August 29-31	National Assembly Denver, Colorado
September 20	Mini-Convention St. Peter Cathedral
September 21	Corporate Communion St. Peter Cathedral
November 6-10	Invitation to Renewal St. Louis, MO
March 25-28	National Mid-Year Business Meeting St. Louis, MO
June 11-13	North Central Regional Meeting Milwaukee/Waukesha, WI



Summer Prayer

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun
and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me
and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family,
and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray

no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence
and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me

a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

- *Author Unknown*



Save the date!

Mini-Convention and Corporate Communion

What: St. Vincent de Paul Mini-Convention

When: Saturday, September 21, 2019

Where: Workshops will be held at St. Peter Cathedral

Why: The mini-convention is for Vincentians to learn more about the Society, other resources in the community and grow in fellowship with one another.

Hotel Reservations: Ramada Inn of Marquette – 412 W Washington St. - 906-228-6000

Ask for SVdP special room rate of \$129* per night.

Make reservations by **September 1, 2019** - mention SVdP for special room rates

What: Corporate Communion and Annual Meeting/Brunch

When: Sunday, September 22, 2019 - Mass **10:30 a.m.** (EDT)

Brunch to follow in church hall

Where: St. Peter Cathedral, Marquette

Presider: Bishop John F. Doerfler

RSVP for Brunch by September 10, 2019

Ellen 906-226-2311 or 800-430-2311 or svdp@svdpup.org

The brunch costs \$20 per person. Each Vincentian is asked to pay \$10 and the DCM will cover the balance.

This year's workshops will include an Ozanam Orientation, Veterans Services, The Importance of the 2020 Census for the Poor, Bishop Baraga history and Canonization Update, Conference Bookkeeping and more. Look for detailed information in the September U.P. Vincentian.

*(This year's Mini-Convention and Corporate Communion coincides with Northern Michigan University's Homecoming, resulting in a higher room rate.)



VISIT THE BARAGA EDUCATIONAL CENTER THIS SUMMER

The Baraga Educational Center is a new museum, gift shop and pilgrimage site in Marquette, Michigan. The museum contains artifacts from the life and labor of Venerable Frederic Baraga. Bishop Baraga was the first bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Marquette, and a current candidate for beatification and canonization.

Open this summer Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and on evenings and weekends by appointment, the Baraga Educational Center is an excellent resource for those who are interested in learning about Bishop Baraga's legendary ministry and his journey towards sainthood.

In addition to the museum, the Baraga Educational Center will soon have the pleasure of offering visitors access to the Prayer Gardens. Located on the grounds of the Baraga Educational Center, the Prayer Gardens will contain, among other things, a rosary path and the Stations of the Cross. Construction of the Prayer Gardens will begin this summer and will eventually provide a spiritual site for pilgrimage,

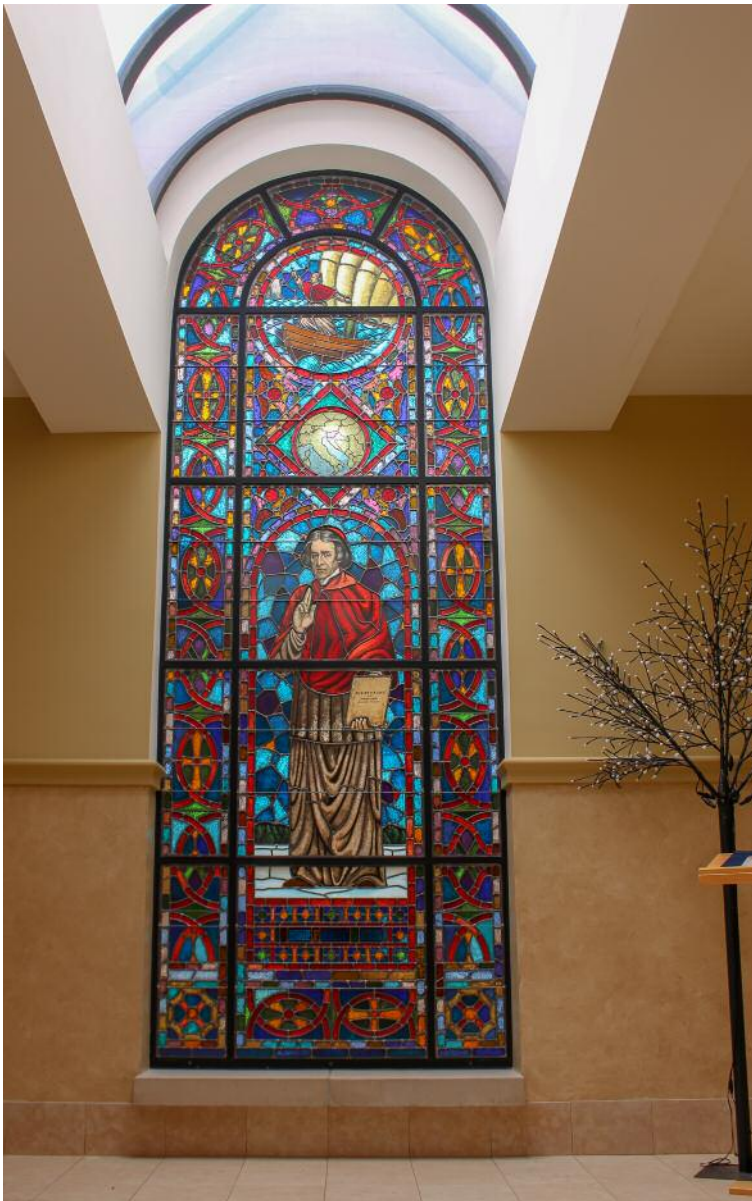
prayer, peace, and tranquility, right in the heart of Marquette.

The offices of the Bishop Baraga Association are located on the second floor of the Baraga Educational Center. The Bishop Baraga Association was formed in 1930 in Chicago, IL to promote the cause for canonization of Bishop Baraga. The headquarters of the association moved to Marquette in 1954. Founder, Mr. Joseph Gregorich, dedicated 40 years of his life to advancing the cause. Gathering documents and manuscripts from 5 different countries and translating them from 3 different languages, Mr. Gregorich was able to provide evidence of Bishop Baraga's heroic virtues. His hard work paid off when in 1998, a positio was accepted by the Congregation for Causes of Saints, validating the diocesan process and allowing Bishop Baraga to move one step closer towards sainthood.

The mission of the Bishop Baraga Association has changed little since its founding. Both staff and volunteers work diligently to educate others about the life and labor of Venerable Bishop Baraga while continuing the work towards his beatification and canonization. The Bishop Baraga Association has gained speed in the last few years, with the launch of a capital campaign in 2017. The campaign enabled the association to restore the historic Baraga house, which the bishop lived in for the last two years of his life. Built in 1857, the house was originally used as a church and priest living quarters. Standing vacant for several years, the Bishop Baraga Association was able to transform the beloved home into the Baraga Educational Center, and the doors were opened to the public in 2018.

The Baraga Educational Center is located within walking distance from St. Peter Cathedral and the Baraga Chapel. St. Peter Cathedral is the mother church of the Diocese of Marquette and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Construction of the cathedral began in 1864, with Bishop Baraga laying the cornerstone. The cathedral offers two daily masses, four-weekend masses, and guided tours. Special masses, devotions and concerts are held regularly throughout the year. The cathedral is a beautiful example of local sandstone architecture and is adorned with twin steeple domes, stained glass windows, and other examples of sacred art.

The Baraga Chapel was completed in 2014, two years after Bishop Baraga was declared Venerable by the Holy Father and the Congregation for the Cause of Saints. His body was transferred from the cathedral crypt to a sarcophagus in the chapel, which is now accessible to visitors. People travel from all around the world to visit the chapel and to pray for the intercession of Venerable Bishop Baraga.



Bishop Baraga has been described as many things throughout the decades; a son of Slovenia, a missionary of the Great Lakes, an author, a linguist, an apostle to immigrant miners, an activist for the rights of Native Americans, a snowshoe priest, a father, a bishop, a saint. Above all though, he was a servant of God. His deep love for God and devotion to the faith has inspired people for generations. The Bishop Baraga Association would like to invite you to visit the Baraga Educational Center this summer and to join in on the effort towards Venerable Frederic Baraga's canonization.

BARAGA EDUCATIONAL CENTER

615 S. Fourth Street

Marquette, MI 49855

BishopBaragaAssoc@gmail.com

(906) 227-9117

CONNECT WITH US  BISHOP BARAGA ASSOCIATION

The following is from the Manual of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States. Just like your car, conferences work best when you pay attention to the Manual. Is it time for some regular maintenance and maybe a tune up?

GUIDELINES FOR EFFECTIVE CONFERENCES

Effective Conferences are *reachable*. Parish-based Conferences must provide a clear means for being contacted. Some use the parish office address and phone number and check in regularly to retrieve messages and correspondence.

Effective Conferences *meet regularly*. The Rule requires weekly or biweekly meetings. At these meetings, all members offer their thoughts and support for providing Christian care to the needy.

Effective Conferences are committed to *grow in spirituality*. Members become friends, care for one another and earnestly follow the Society's religious practices. Like Christ, they identify with the poor, whom they visit promptly, regularly, and attentively.

Effective Conferences show *initiative*. Routine, tradition, and habit do not dictate current thought and action. Can the Conference do more? Alert officers and members continually and deliberately ask, answer, and act on such questions.

Effective Conferences have members committed to *formation*. They read, study, attend lectures and courses, and participate in training sessions organized by their District Council in order to learn more about helping people and solving problems.

Effective Conferences *recruit continuously*. One reason Conferences give for not tackling new problems is lack of personnel. But dramatic vistas are unveiled when members invite new Vincentians to join in the service of the poor.

Effective Conferences have *competent leaders*. The officers of the Conference handle their specific duties with whatever competence they have naturally or can cultivate. They work hard, but share with members the responsibility for decision-making and action.

Effective Conferences maintain *ties to the community*. Helping people today often requires knowledge of and referrals to other public and private agencies. The Conference deliberately makes itself known to these groups and cultivates relationships of mutual respect to facilitate referrals to and from such agencies.

Effective Conferences *participate in their Council activities*. The president or his proxy represents the Conference at District Council meetings. Conference members take part in general meetings and religious observances, provides support and personnel for the special works of the District Council.

Effective Conferences *understand the national and international dimensions of the Society*. Members show practical concern for the work of the Society in less developed or disaster-stricken areas by generously sharing their resources. If possible, they —twinl with needy Conferences domestically or internationally.

Effective Conferences are *both wealthy and poor*. Their members generously support the work of the Conference and elicit similar generosity from friends of the Society. But the Conferences always seem poor, because they share, thoughtfully and intelligently, whatever they have. They do not save for a rainy day, knowing that many are in need here and now.

The “It’s Not Over ‘Til It’s Over” Theory

VINCENTIAN SPIRITUALITY - LIVING AND GROWING AS A VINCENTIAN
THE “IT’S NOT OVER ‘TIL IT’S OVER” THEORY

Shared by Fr. Dennis Holtschneider
The theory goes something like this:

- You serve the poor, then you do something to build up your heart.
- You serve the poor, then you go back and read scripture and realize, perhaps for the first time, how much of scripture is about the poor.
- You serve the poor, then you start to learn about the services that are available from various governmental and charitable agencies, and you learn how to work the system to help the poor.
- You serve the poor, and then you read Vincent’s or Louise’s or Elizabeth Ann’s letters to let them strengthen your inner self and teach you something you weren’t ready to hear before you had actually met the poor.
- You serve the poor, and then you spend time reflecting with others who serve the poor to learn from them and to support one another. You serve the poor, and then you pray, and read the writings of the spiritual masters, and perhaps begin to meet with a spiritual director.
- You serve the poor, and then you begin to ask why it has to be this way, and then begin to read sociology, economics, social work, psychology, substance abuse, history, politics, government, housing, nutrition, health, management, spirituality, and so much more.

The “It’s Not Over ‘Til It’s Over” Theory insists that we keep learning along the way. The “It’s Not Over ‘Til It’s Over” Theory insists that there’s always more to learn, there’s always room to grow as a human being, there’s always a gap between God and ourselves than can be made closer, there’s always more we can understand that will help us help the poor. This doesn’t have to be steady. There are other important things in life too. It can come and go in waves, but formation isn’t something that’s meant to be front-loaded at the beginning, once for all time. It’s not over ‘til it’s over.

Q: (01/21/2016) I have had several Vincentians in our Conference approach/suggest that we enhance our Vincentian spirituality more by offering prayer books, offering spiritual mentoring, guidance, experiences, etc. to our friends when we do home visits. We do ask permission to pray with our friends at the end of our home visits and we ask them if they, as a family, have a home church they attend. However, because when I read the Rule, regarding conducting home visits, I do not find anything there about this type of work, and I know we are not supposed to proselytize to our friends, I am wondering how we walk this fine line, of offering them spiritual assistance, but not proselytizing. Do you have any advice on this matter you can share with me?

A: First, I want to disagree with you on one point. I don't believe that it is a fine line that may or may not be crossed. I believe there are three levels of spiritual influence in the Society:

1. First are the far majority of Vincentians who feel inadequate in this area and really avoid faith discussions with those we serve. They may be willing to pray with those in need but will not discuss matters of faith.
2. There are those Vincentians who are comfortable in praying and discussing matters of faith and who are welcoming and encouraging. This is where Vincentians should be.
3. Then there are those who aggressively promote the faith. Some of these members even bargain with assistance. This is where we should NOT be.

Remember, we are Christ's hands and feet. Jesus did not aggressively promote the faith. He was sometimes challenging, but always welcoming and encouraging. We promote the idea that Vincentians see the face of Christ in the poor. The reverse is also true; we hope those we serve see the face of Christ in us.

10 Quotes from St. Vincent de Paul that will rock your spiritual world

Attention to the poor and a healthy dose of humility were hallmarks of his spirituality.

While St. Vincent de Paul is widely known for his countless charitable works, he also had a deep spiritual life that formed everything he did. In fact, the “Apostle of Charity” was only able to do what he did through a profound devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus that propelled him to see others as Christ sees them.

Two hallmarks of Vincent’s spirituality are attention to the poor and a healthy dose of humility. These two staples of the spiritual life are very challenging, and if adopted into everyday life can entirely change a person’s trajectory.

Here are 10 powerful quotes from St. Vincent de Paul that provide much to think about as we consider ways that we can grow in holiness.

The poor are your masters. You are the servant.

Humility is nothing but truth, and pride is nothing but lying.

Be careful to give no credit to yourself for anything; if you do, you are stealing from God, to whom alone every good thing is due.

The most powerful weapon to conquer the devil is humility. For, as he does not know at all how to employ it, neither does he know how to defend himself from it.

Go to the poor: you will find God.

We should spend as much time in thanking God for his benefits as we do in asking him for them.

Make it a practice to judge persons and things in the most favorable light at all times and under all circumstances.

Fear not; calm will follow the storm, and perhaps soon.

Virtue is not found in extremes, but in prudence, which I recommend as strongly as I can.

There is nothing good that does not meet with opposition, and it should not be valued any less because it encounters objections.



OBITUARIES

ROBERT KEITH LACOSSE

MARQUETTE, MI – Robert Keith LaCosse, also known as “Bobby” or “Bob”, aged 80, died peacefully in his sleep

from natural causes on May 1, 2019 at the Jacobetti Home for Veterans, Marquette, Michigan.

Robert was born January 18, 1939 in Champion, Michigan, to Eugene and Sylvia (Saari) LaCosse, who both have preceded him in death. He has two brothers, Gene LaCosse, of Ironwood, Michigan, and Stanley LaCosse of Gwinn, Michigan, and a sister, Ileana “Kathy” (LaCosse) Peterson who has preceded him in death.

Robert became a Deacon of the Catholic Church in 1990, being ordained by the late Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. Robert and Janet were active members of St. Mary’s Catholic Church during their entire time in Buffalo Grove, Illinois. Robert became part of the diaconate staff at St. Mary’s after his ordination. Robert and Janet also received a Papal Blessing of their marriage in 1987 from Pope John Paul II. Robert was also a Deacon at St. Michael’s parish during his residence in Marquette. He also worked in the diocese office in Marquette, providing financial and analytical services to the Bishop and the diocese.

Robert is survived by his wife of 56 years, Janet (Manzoline) LaCosse, who is a resident of the Jacobetti Home for Veterans, in Marquette, Michigan. He is also survived by his children Jeffrey Paul and his wife Davida Breaux LaCosse, of Millbrook, New York, Scott Norbert LaCosse, of Arlington Heights, Illinois, Robert Michael LaCosse of Marquette, Michigan, and Lee Ann LaCosse of Arlington Heights, Illinois, 6 surviving grandchildren two surviving siblings, Gene LaCosse of Ironwood, Michigan, and Stanley LaCosse, of Gwinn, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marquette, 2119 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855

“Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me” (John 12:26). Robert was a true servant, and he lives on through the good actions of those he touched.

JUDE KAY (LAHDE) RICHER

NEGAUNEE, MI – Judy Kay (Lahde) Richer, 73, of Negaunee, passed away on Friday, June 7, at Marquette County Medical Care Facility in Ishpeming with her husband, sons, and family by her bedside.

Judy was born on April 14th, 1946 in Ishpeming to the late Toivo and Caroline (Baldini) Lahde of Negaunee.

Throughout her life Judy served Church and community. She served as President of the West End Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and was on-call to those who were in need. She also worked as a Negaunee Booster Club volunteer, and served as President for many years. In countless other ways, she personally endeavored to benefit the lives of others. She accepted individuals for who they were. All were someone to love, respect and accept into her life.

She and husband Thom were married at St. Paul Catholic Church in Negaunee on the 4th of July, 1969. They would have shared their 50th wedding anniversary next month.

Survivors include her husband, Thomas Richer; her sons: Dax Richer of Marquette and Nicholas (Holly) Richer of Ann Arbor; brothers: Jim (Virginia) Lahde of Charlevoix and Robert Lahde of Ishpeming; sisters: Gloria Saari of Ishpeming and Barb (Jerry) Flannery of Ishpeming.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Judy’s memory to St. Vincent de Paul Society, 211 Iron St., Negaunee, MI 49866

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

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2119 Presque Isle Ave., Rm. 101
Marquette, MI 49855

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*Executive Director – Ellen Sargent
Accountant – Stacy L. Jandron*

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Representing –
Most Reverend John F. Doerfler
Bishop of Marquette**

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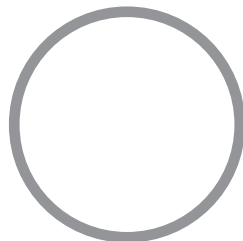
District Councils

Established 1982

Copper Country – David King
Escanaba – Barbara Cavadeas
Ironwood – Carol Yakovich
Iron Mountain – Bob Peters
Ishpeming – Steve Perucco
Marquette – Ron Provost, Interim

Conference Presidents

St. Cecilia & St. Agnes.....Gale Cerney
St. Christopher.....Jeff Bero
St. Peter.....John Keto
St. Rita.....Gerald Pierce
Sacred Heart of Jesus.....Geraldine Franz
St. John & St. Joseph.....Sydney Edington
St. Paul.....Kathleen Carlson
St. Francis.....Mary Gagala
St. Anthony.....Brenda Tregembo
Holy Family (Ont.).....Pam Jacobus
Guardian Angels.....Louise Holmes
St. Anne (Esc.).....Mary Lu Gaudette
St. Sebastian.....Al Gaiss
St. Louis the King.....Tom DeVilbiss
St. Michael.....Karen Reese
St. Stanislaus Kostka.....Cindi Jenkins
All Saints.....Mary Knoch
St. Francis de Sales..... Patricia Mickelson
St. Thomas.....Linda Wuellner
St. Mary & St. Barbara.....Maxine Menghini
Our Lady of the Snows.....Fred Hurban
St. Augustine.....John Kraft
Holy Family (Flat Rock)...Cindy Hurthibise
Immaculate Conception – St. Mary.....
.....Ron Van Wychen
Sacred Heart (L'Anse).....Georgia Schmidt
Our Lady of Peace.....Brian Panich
Resurrection.....Fran Ricci
Precious Blood.....Marie Rivard
St. Joseph & St. Patrick.....
.....Loretta De Christopher
St. Anne (Chassell).....Dave Bezotte
Sts. Martha & Mary.....Doug Slowik
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.....Ray Viau



**Diocesan Council of Marquette, MI
Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

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