



When Presidents Meet

Partners in the Gospel

Come, Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our hearts, and our imaginations to Your inspiration and seek to discern the Father's holy will for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Come, Holy Spirit, transform our doubts, ignite our zeal. Help us discern new and innovative ways to bring more people into the joy of service in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Come, Holy Spirit, grant us the simplicity to share honestly with each other, the humility to serve a mission greater than ourselves, and the gentleness to listen to each other without judgment.

Amen

Opening Prayer



Logistics

- How often does your Conference meet?
- How is your Conference grounded in spirituality?
- Is your Officer slate filled? How long have the officers served?
- How many volunteers do you have? How many make home visits?
- Are you doing in-home visits?
- What was your parish financial support last year? What other fund raising activities do you have?
- Do you participate in twinning (either as a recipient or as a donor)?

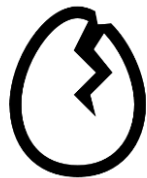
Neighbors

- How many neighbors do you help each week?
- What are your assistance guidelines that determine how you help neighbors?
- What organizations and programs do you usually refer neighbors to?
- How many zip codes and areas does your Conference cover?
- What are the demographics of the people you help and languages spoken?
- Are the Conferences in different political counties?

**What should
we know about
each other?**



What are the greatest strengths and weaknesses of our conferences?



Consider each of these areas --

- Friendship
- Spirituality
- Meetings and attendance
- Membership
- Finances
- Visits to neighbors
- Parishioners' support
- Pastor's support
- Conference "shared roles" (aka roles that are not assigned to any specific officer and must be shared amongst all Vincentians)

A stone archway frames a landscape at sunset. The arch is made of dark, rough-hewn stones. The landscape beyond the arch shows a dirt path leading through a grassy field towards a small tree and distant hills under a golden sky with wispy clouds. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.

Discerning the future

*(For all conferences,
merging or not)*

DISCERN TOGETHER THE FOLLOWING...

How can we open ourselves to the revitalization and renewal through the changes in our archdiocese?

How can we leverage our members' strengths, while preparing ourselves to address the weaknesses?

How can we organize and prepare ourselves to best serve our neighbors?

- ✓ Get to know each other as Presidents of your Conferences; meet regularly to talk
- ✓ Attend at least 1 meeting of the other merging Conference(s)
- ✓ Ask your Spiritual Advisors to meet and talk. Ask them to consider facilitating a retreat for the Vincentians.
- ✓ Ask your Treasurers to meet and talk about how they conduct the finances of their Conference (no decisions to change; just talk to understand)
- ✓ Create a FUN committee with representatives from each Conference to plan opportunities to gather for social gatherings, Mass, etc.
- ✓ At each of your Conference meetings, talk about Partners-in-the-Gospel.
- ✓ *(This will likely happen after the quarterly council meeting in July) Request a meeting with the new Pastor and/or Vicar after they have “settled in”. If you are invited to meet, please do so at the Pastor’s convenience. More tools to come regarding tips on how to best discuss your ministry with your pastor*

Next Steps

To occur before the next quarterly council meeting in July

