

LADIES OF CHARITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA® SERVICETTE

"To serve rather than to be served"



AIC USA

VOL. 53, No. 2
JULY 2014

LCUSA WEBSITE UPDATED: SUBSCRIBE NOW!



The LCUSA website, aic.ladiesofcharity.us, has been redesigned. It is filled with fresh news, spiritual enrichment and updated forms. The site offers assistance with organizational needs of associations, with spiritual reflections for your personal use or for your association meetings, an interactive association map, connections to tablets and smart phones, rosters of leadership, statistical information and access to all forms that are in use by LCUSA.

It is important that each member who uses email sign up to receive not only notifications of new postings, but also important information that LCUSA leadership wishes to communicate in a timely manner. Members may sign up for email communication on the homepage in the upper right corner by selecting "SUBSCRIBE" and completing the required information. You must reply to an email that will be generated to confirm your agreement or you will not be activated. Contact information for the LCUSA Board and all associations is

Continued — see Website p. 8

MILWAUKEE LOC HOSTS 2014 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Mary Domer and Mary Johnson, Co-Chairs

The "Marys of Milwaukee" invite you to attend the 14th National Assembly Sept. 11–13. This small but mighty band of women has worked this past year to provide an unforgettable Vincentian experience.

They were so excited when LCUSA selected "Just Care! Vincentian Women in Action" as the theme. Pondering the words they thought of Just CARE! or JUST Care! or JUST CARE! No matter how one stresses the words, everyone's ideas will be addressed in prayer, in speeches, in friendships formed and in activities that join all together as a powerful group with Vincentian hearts.



Milwaukee is in the middle of the United States, 90 miles north of Chicago, a six hour drive from St. Louis, a quick flight from the East Coast, a two and a half hour flight from Naples, Fla., and a beautiful place for an autumn trip from the West Coast. Prayerfully consider a trip to renew your spirit and bond with other Ladies of Charity in a city of famous restaurants, quaint neighborhoods and beautiful museums on the shores of Lake Michigan.

Thursday, Sept. 11 will include a variety of tours (see page 11) and a "Meet and Greet" get-together in the evening. Bishop Don Hying will preside at the opening Mass on Friday morning, followed by keynote speaker Lady of Charity Marilyn Martone. As described in the last issue of the *Servicette*, Marilyn is retired from St. John's University where she taught health-care ethics as well as moral theology, feminist ethics, gender and social justice, sexuality and business ethics. She will present "Persons Aren't Burdens But Caregiving Labor Can Be Burdensome." How often have you heard someone say, "I don't want to be a burden?" Maybe you've even said it yourself. Persons are not burdens but gifts from God. It is only when we do not value caregiving labor and justly allocate resources to it that this work becomes bur-

Continued — see Assembly p. 8



**LCUSA Leaders
Nominated**
Page 4



**Jr. LOC
Graduates
with Honors**
Page 7



Assembly Tours
Page 11

The *SERVICETTE* is a publication of the Association of the Ladies of Charity as a record of their activities in the USA

Editor-in-Chief Gayle Johnson
Editor Kathleen Sieracki
Executive Administrator Maureen McMillan
Layout & Design Elena Miranda

Direct all correspondence and inquiries to:
Servicette, LCUSA Service Center
100 North Jefferson Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63103
Email: LCSTLOUIS@aol.com

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide Vincentian leadership to women acting together against all forms of poverty.

VISION STATEMENT

LCUSA-AIC provides Vincentian leadership of transformation assisting persons who are vulnerable to move from marginalization and despair to participation and hope.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual members are supportive of the mission and purpose of LCUSA and participate in the ministry of the Ladies of Charity by prayer and/or service and pay dues prescribed by the board of directors.



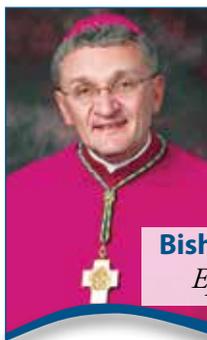
SERVICETTE NEWS DEADLINE

The deadline to submit articles and photos for the next issue of the *SERVICETTE*:

September 1

Articles and photos can be sent by e-mail to: kathleen.sieracki@gmail.com
Articles and photos should be sent separately and not within the text document.

Please contact us for info.



Bishop David A. Zubik
Episcopal Chairman

Lessons from Three Popes

I was blessed to lead a pilgrimage to Rome for the canonizations of Saint John XXIII and Saint John Paul II. My eyes and ears are still filled with the sights and sounds of that joyous time. It was a celebration of our universal faith, as well as formal recognition by the Church of these two great pontiffs of the 20th century. As Pope Francis said in his homily, “They lived through the tragic events of that century, but they were not overwhelmed by them. For them, God was more powerful.” That’s a message that lingers with me. We encounter the difficulties, the tragedies of everyday life, yet we are determined not to be overwhelmed.

I think of a young Saint John XXIII as a chaplain in World War I serving horribly wounded men. Rather than surrender to the horror, he dedicated himself to peace, even though his priesthood would be lived in the shadow of war. As pope, he would issue his groundbreaking encyclical, “Pacem in Terris,” calling for a world without war, a world where violence is seen as a tragedy, not the solution.

I think of Saint John Paul II as a young priest living the faith in a Poland where freedom of conscience and freedom of belief were officially and legally dead. I think of him returning to his homeland as the new Holy Father, and the hundreds of thousands of young people chanting outside his window, “We want God! We want God!”

I think also of Pope Francis telling us in his homily for their canonization, “May both of them teach us not to be scandalized by the wounds of Christ and to enter ever more deeply into the mys-

tery of divine mercy, which always hopes and always forgives, because it always loves.”

There is a quotation from St. Paul read at just about every wedding, “Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” (1 Corinthians 13: 8) This is what Pope Francis has been teaching us every day of his pontificate. And this is what we are called to accomplish. We live in a world that challenges us each and every day. As Pope Francis so clearly noted about the pontificates of Saints John XXIII and John Paul II, the key is that we never let those challenges overwhelm us. We must always witness to the great life that we have found in living out the Gospel, and the happiness—yes, happiness—that results. We want people everywhere to open their hearts to the transforming power of true love—Divine Love.

In any corner of our Church you will find people helping people, all people, in times of need. You will find hope turning away despair, love turning away hate, compassion turning away indifference. We not only provide for the physical well-being of our neighbors, but we also give them something real, something tangible that they can pass along: the beauty of a life that rejoices in Christ’s work and will never be overwhelmed. ♦

Leave a Legacy

**The work you do
makes a difference.**

Please consider remembering the Ladies of Charity in your estate planning.

Contact the LCUSA Service Center for legacy planning information.



President's Message

Gayle Johnson
LCUSA President

St. Vincent knew that the world of the poor, the periphery of society, is not the world of the center. He sent his followers to the margins to encounter the poor who dwell there. This implies more than a geographical change. It means listening to the concerns of the people, understanding their point of view. It is approaching the poor with respect and humility, without thinking we have the answers to all their problems.

John Prager

I recently had lunch with a non-Catholic friend. She commented that our pope had truly shown himself to be a friend of the people and that we must be delighted to have a leader who walks among the people and brings joy and understanding to the lives of all. In her

estimation he had definitely deserved the title of "Man of the Year."

You may have had a similar experience among friends. Pope Francis seems to be the topic of many discussions and appears to be much admired. Thinking back on this conversation a thought possessed me. Was this experience similar to the situation over 2000 years ago when another man walked among the people with a new message? Christ healed the sick and lame and forgave sinners while telling each individual God loved them and cared about them. Is this not the model that Pope Francis uses as he ministers to the imprisoned, the immigrants, the downtrodden and the marginalized as he visits with them treating each one with respect and love? Francis declares himself a sinner as is each of us, but still worthy of God's infinite love. That love of the poor, of all people, radiates from Francis much as Christ's love of the poor radiated around him in his time on earth. Is not Francis emulating Christ as he tells us not to sit at our desks waiting for the poor and marginalized to seek us out? We are to go out into the byroads and streets and meet the poor where they live. This was also the mes-

sage of our blessed founder St. Vincent de Paul. Both St. Vincent de Paul and Francis direct us to carry Christ's message of love with us. We are to treat each individual with love and dignity. This message of evangelization has been the thrust of Pope Francis' first year. It is a reminder of our mission as Vincentians.

What am I asking of you as a Lady of Charity? Embrace this spirit of renewed evangelization. Do not be content to do what you have done before. Walk with the poor and marginalized. Spread Christ's message of love as we go about our ministries. Build relationships. If you are no longer able to do the physical labors, remember that we are called to heal spiritual needs as well as physical and material needs. Become a prayer partner for a loved one, a friend, or a stranger who needs your prayers at a difficult time. Let them know you are praying for them each day. Prayers are the most powerful medicine. Never be complacent. "Knowing that the power of evangelization comes from God" is what gives us courage, (Pope Francis, May 17, 2013) and as Father Richard Gielow, CM, recently said at a mission in Kansas City, "We can all do more." ♦

Members' Participation Equals Success

LCUSA encourages all members to participate in the annual national assembly, and welcomes everyone who is able to attend. Every association and member can contribute to the assembly's success through the purchase of program ads, underwriting contributions and donations to the silent auction. Full-page program ads cost \$125; a half-page \$90; a quarter page \$65. There are also options for one and two line advertisements, \$25 and \$40, respectively. Underwriting contributions in any amount are welcome. Further information and specifications are available on the LCUSA website (aic.ladiesofcharity.us) or by contacting Mary Domer, 414-881-4858, mdomer@locmilwaukee.com



Contributing to the silent auction also helps defray the cost of the assembly. Requested donations include small travel-friendly items such as books, art, gift cards to national retailers, religious items and jewelry. Please send your donation and its description to Cathy Onopa, 1109 Waterstone Drive, Grafton, WI 53024. The description

should include your contact information, the name of the item, approximate size, value and suggested opening bid. If you will be bringing the donation to the assembly, send just the description. Donations and descriptions should be sent by Aug. 1. A description form with full details is available on the

LCUSA website. For questions, you may contact Cathy Onopa, 262-204-8146, conopa@icloud.com or Adele Eklund, 414-228-7675, ACEklund@wi.rr.com

Association presidents have also received a detailed mailing about each of these ways to support the assembly. LCUSA looks forward to everyone's participation. ♦

NEW LCUSA LEADERS NOMINATED

Events at the 2014 national assembly will include election of board members and officers. The closing liturgy will be the setting for the installation of officers for a two year term beginning Jan. 1, 2015.



Mary Ann Dantuono

Mary Ann Dantuono of New York will be installed as president. Mary Ann has worked on poverty issues throughout her career, especially as they affect women, as well as on building strong organizations to engage in that work. For the past 18 years, she has been the Associate Director of the Vincentian Center for Church and Society at St. John's University, N.Y.

Mary Ann also serves as an expert on women's issues for the Holy See Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations.

A 2009 charter member of the St. John's Ladies of Charity Association, Mary Ann actively supports the School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center, a GED/English as a Second Language program for adult women. She began her service on the LCUSA board the same year as a northeast regional director. She serves as chair of the Advocacy Committee, is a member of the Human Resource and National Assembly Committees and has served on the Nomination Committee. Named as a consultant to the Vincentian Family Collaborators to organize a North American Convening on Systemic Change in 2010, she continues as a member of the Collaborators' steering committee.

A native New Yorker, Mrs. Dantuono earned her B.A. at Fordham University and a law degree at St. John's. She and her husband, Michael, are the proud parents of three married children and three grandsons.

As the Ladies of Charity USA stands at the "threshold of the future" approaching in 2017 the 400th anniversary of their founding by St. Vincent de Paul, Mary Ann embraces the future brightened by Vincentian women of courage, competence and creativity, working together to alleviate conditions of poverty.

The candidate for LCUSA president-elect, **Suzanne Johnson**, joined the Los Angeles Ladies of Charity Association in 1998. Over the past 16 years, she has served in many capacities including the office of president. She learned about the Ladies through her mother, Doris Hoag, a Lady of Charity and former LCUSA President and AIC Representative.



Suzanne Johnson

Believing education is the path from poverty, she volunteers as a tutor at Our Lady of Talpa School in East Los Angeles. A few years ago, she was proud to attend the graduation of a boy she began tutoring in second grade. He is the first in his family to attend high school.

Suzanne was elected to the national board in September 2010, and has served as western regional vice president and as a member of the Finance and Development Committee and as treasurer for the past two years. She earned a B.S.B.A. in Accounting and has worked in management positions as chief financial officer. Most recently, she was business manager for her parish, Holy Angels, in Arcadia, Calif.

In 2010, she graduated from University of La Verne College of Law, passed the California bar exam and was sworn in as an attorney. Suzanne has her own law practice and hopes to serve the poor as an immigration attorney. She spends three hours a week working with the Los Angeles County Immigration Legal Assistance Project.

Suzanne recently became the proud grandmother of twins bringing the total of grandchildren she shares with Roger, her husband of seventeen years, to eleven.

As president-elect, Suzanne hopes "to encourage all local associations in their service to the poor, providing them with direction, as needed, while reminding them that all they do should reflect the Gospel values and the visions of our patron saints."

Debbie Chadwick is the candidate for secretary of the LCUSA Board of Directors. She has previously served on the board as a southern regional director, chair of the finance committee, treasurer and secretary. Debbie has been a member of the Ladies of Charity in Nashville, Tenn., for over twenty five years, holding many leadership positions. In 2010, she and Ann Singelyn were co-chairs of the national assembly held in Nashville to commemorate the 100th anniversary of that association.



Debbie Chadwick

She is president of the Rochelle Center, a nonprofit agency supporting 134 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through community based and meaningful day programming, work training and community supported living. A member of St. Patrick's parish, she served as the first parish and school development director at St Edward Church and school. She and Charles, her husband of thirty-eight years, have four sons, two daughters-in-law, and five grandchildren.

Describing her commitment, Debbie has written: "Ladies of Charity is the path that each of us has chosen to make a

difference in the world. We follow the remarkable footsteps of those who came before us while keeping the path moving and open for those who will in turn follow us. I am honored to work with such a dedicated group of women who continue our mission in the spirit of Vincent and Louise; together we will continue to make a difference as we serve others.”



Donna Montague

The candidate for LCUSA treasurer is **Donna Montague** from Kansas. Donna has worked many years in the banking business. She graduated from Wichita State University and is licensed to sell life, health and disability Insurance products. Donna has been married to Gary since 1965 and together they have six daughters, six sons-in-law and thirteen grandchildren. She has been involved in the Girl Scouts, her parish council, and was an officer in her local Toastmaster’s Club.

Donna joined the Ladies of Charity in 2011 where she served as recording secretary and on the finance committee. In 2013 she became a member of the LCUSA board, and was elected vice-president of the North Central Region. Donna hopes to “facilitate communication, inspire action and give assistance where needed so that the Ladies of Charity can follow and achieve the ideals set out by St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.”

For the above offices, with the exception of president, nominations may be made from the floor during the business meeting, provided the consent of the person is obtained. (LCUSA Bylaws Article XI, Section 11:02)

Each of the five geographical regions of LCUSA may have three directors on the national board. One of the directors serves as regional vice-president. During the regional meetings at the assembly, delegates will elect the directors for their respective regions, and then elect a regional vice-president. In addition to the list of candidates that follows, other nominations for directors may be made from the floor during the regional meetings, provided the consent of the person is obtained. (Article XI, Sect 11:01)

Middle Atlantic Region: **Francine Hovanec**, Diocese of Pittsburgh; **Peggy Keene**, Diocese of Pittsburgh; **Rita Robinson**, Archdiocese of Washington.

North Central Region: **Joan Stanard**, St. Vincent de Paul/Guardian Angel, St. Louis; **Mary Nell Williams**, Indianapolis; **Connie Gries**, Evansville, Ind.

Northeast Region: **Marilyn Martone**, St. John’s University N.Y.; **Kathy Kavanaugh**, Diocese of Albany ; **Kathleen Sieracki**, Diocese of Buffalo.

Southern Region: **Winona Nelson**, St. Jude, Montgomery, Ala; **Lucky Van De Gejuchte**, Diocese of Nashville; **Mary Cay Murray**, Lake Travis, Texas.

Western Region: **Mary Beth Legg**, Archdiocese of Los



Francine Hovanec



Peggy Keene



Rita Robinson



Joan Stanard



Mary Nell Williams



Connie Gries



Marilyn Martone



Kathy Kavanaugh



Kathleen Sieracki



Winona Nelson



Lucky Van De Gejuchte



Mary Cay Murray



Mary Beth Legg



Theresa Ward



Chris Young

Angeles; **Theresa Ward**, Archdiocese of San Francisco; **Chris Young**, Bountiful, Utah.

Thanks are due to all the women who have volunteered to serve in leadership positions. Let us keep them in our prayers. ♦



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES (AIC) UPDATE

Margaret Hanson
Liaison to AIC

In March the AIC Executive Board convened in Brussels for a four day meeting. Planning is underway for the March 2015 assembly of delegates in Guatemala. The assembly will include the election of the next executive board, including a new president, since Laurence de la Brosse will be ending her third two year term, and is not eligible for re-election. My term as LCUSA representative to AIC will also end. Planners hope that a large contingent from LCUSA will attend the assembly.



program through Monterrey University in Mexico. The course, currently available only in Spanish, teaches historical information about AIC and explains the concepts and skills needed to work as a volunteer.

Information from the January 2014 Vincentian Family meeting was reviewed. The major topics were systemic change; dialogue with Islam; the initiative in Haiti; and the Paris symposium on the ethical management of goods. About 600 people from Latin America are enrolled in an on-line diploma

and better communication through the use of technology. Sr. Francoise Pettit, Superior General of the Daughters of Charity, spoke on the significance of the 400th anniversary, urging that members re-live the trace of God in the first Ladies of Charity and revive their missionary zeal. ✧

Women of Action—Ladies of Charity (*a report from a “Lady” in waiting*)

Let me introduce myself. My name is Irene Frechette and I am the President of the Fall River, Mass. Diocesan Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP). I have been a member of the Society for over 40 years and have recently been asked to represent the Society on your board of directors.



Irene Frechette

In the spring of each year, your board comes together to build and fortify a solid base upon which your organization can grow and mature in this ever changing world. I was so surprised to find that these devoted women of faith leave their homes, families and jobs and travel to meetings using their own resources! In this fast paced world, no organization can survive on the charity of the few.

Within SVDP, each conference pays annual dues to support the National Office upon which we so heavily rely. While

national officers volunteer their time, the annual dues help pay for their travel and accommodations while they are carrying out the responsibilities of their offices. Just as your associations must have financial resources in order to carry out their work, so must the elected leaders have resources that will allow them to meet and provide collaboration, guidance, governance, and spiritual direction for the members.

Leadership positions should not be attainable for only those who can afford to pay their own way. Every member should have the opportunity to rise through the ranks and be able to contribute her God given talents to benefit the organization that she loves. I offer the suggestion that it become the duty of each association within the Ladies of Charity to submit annual dues of an amount that will support their representatives to the board of directors. ✧

Membership Incentive Award

Lucky Van De Gejuchte, Membership Committee Chair

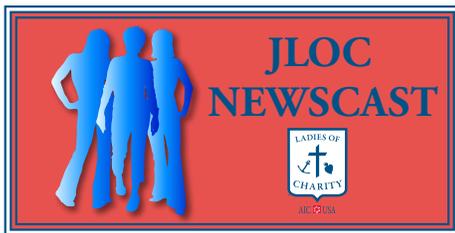
The LCUSA Membership committee is pleased to announce a Membership Drive Award, intended as an incentive for associations to make special efforts to increase membership. The award will be monetary and will be based on the greatest percentage increase in the number of members. The 2013 Annual Report will serve as the baseline for calculating the percentage of increase.

There will be two categories: associations with fewer than 200 members, and associations with 200 or more members.

The awards will be based on new members only, who join between April 1, 2014 and April 1, 2015. Non-active members who return may not be counted as new.

The award may be used by the winning associations in any way they deem appropriate. Examples are purchases to support the association’s mission; funding a member to attend the national assembly or an advocacy-related event; and support of member formation and education on spirituality, advocacy, etc.

Benefit your association by participating in the Membership Drive! ✧



Junior LOC Graduates Magna Cum Laude



JLOC Host Brunch with the Easter Bunny

The JLOC of St Mary's Parish in Lancaster, Diocese of Buffalo, hosted its 5th annual "Brunch with the Easter Bunny" in April. A record 106 children participated, accompanied by their parents and grandparents. The visitors were greeted at the door by the Easter Bunny (JLOC Emily Weber). Events included several children's games with a prize table, a coloring contest with Easter baskets going to the winners, three outdoor Easter egg hunts for which 850 eggs stuffed with candy had been hidden, and the bunny hop led by Emily. Children also had the opportunity to have their photo taken with the Easter Bunny. The JLOC had been working on the brunch since February, setting up committees for food, decorating, registration, games, egg hunts and the coloring contest. Thanks to generous donations from Saint Vincent de Paul and LOC groups at St Mary's, the girls were able to purchase a brand new bunny suit this year.

The JLOC host the Bunny Brunch each year in order to draw young families and their children into the elementary school building with the hope they will consider a Catholic education for their children at St. Mary's. ♦

Photos below: JLOC are pleased with the success of the Easter Bunny Brunch following several months of planning.

JLOC Grant Awards

The Junior Ladies of Charity (JLOC) of the Pittsburgh Diocese and St. John's University, the only applicants, were awarded the first JLOC Grants given by LCUSA. The grants of \$150 will assist JLOC develop projects that serve those less fortunate. LCUSA is happy to partner with the junior groups as they encounter the poor and build community.

The Pittsburgh JLOCs will use the funds for supplies to make holiday items that will be distributed to seniors who live in nursing and personal care homes. These young ladies not only serve the elderly and frail but by their presence reduce the feeling of isolation during the holiday season.

The St. John's students will use the grant for travel to a St. Vincent de Paul Center in Philadelphia where they will be introduced to Vincent and Louise's legacy of service to the poor. At the center, a service opportunity will be available for the students as they encounter those being served by other members of the Vincentian Family. If scheduling permits, a visit to the Miraculous Medal Shrine will culminate their day.

The Ladies of Charity of the Archdiocese of Washington (ADW) applauds Christen L. Berger. She began her education at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Academy at the age of three. In 2006, she became one of the first members of the Junior Ladies of Charity at St. Margaret's parish. On May 14, Christen graduated magna cum laude from Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, where she majored in elementary education with a minor in psychology. After graduation, Christen plans to relocate to Virginia for job opportunities. Within the next few years, her ultimate goal is to open her own early learning center because she loves children and firmly believes that the foundation for education must start at an early age. The ADW Ladies of Charity congratulates Christen on achieving this important milestone in her life, knowing she will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of all those she encounters.





From left, Mary Shenker, Joan Finnegan, Nancy Bennett, Sr. Doris Moore and Gayle Priddy.

of the Barrens Church in Perryville, Mo. They were greeted by Janet Killian, who led a tour of the church and the grotto of our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, the site of a former quarry which supplied the limestone used to build the church. Spiritual Moderator Sister Doris Moore, DC, is a Perryville native and gave a grand tour of the town. It was a trip the Ladies won't forget and may plan again.

The history of the church began in 1818 with the arrival in Perryville of Father Joseph Rosati, CM, and a small

band of Vincentian priests. They came from Kentucky at the request of the people of Perry County who offered land, labor and funds for the construction of a seminary in return for the pastoral services of the priests. The original church was a log structure built near the current site. A larger church was soon needed to meet the needs of the Catholic population, descendants of the original settlers in the colony of Maryland under Lord Baltimore.

Continued — see p. 9 bottom right

In September, the Arkansas Ladies of Charity made a journey to St. Mary's

Assembly

Cont'd from p. 1

densome. As Ladies of Charity we are called to take up Christ's call to care for others. But as Pope Francis reminds us, to serve is not to be reduced to servitude. The assembly will continue with workshops that support the theme. (See page 10 for more details.)

Kim Bobo will be Saturday's keynote speaker. She is the executive director and founder of Interfaith Worker Justice, the nation's largest network of people of faith engaging in local

and national actions to improve wages, benefits and conditions for workers, especially those in the low-wage economy. She is the author of *Wage Theft in America: Why Millions of Working Americans Are Not Getting Paid-And What We Can Do About It*, the first and only book to document the wage theft crisis in the nation and propose practical solutions for addressing it. Her presentation will be followed by an opportunity to learn about Servant of God Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic Worker Movement and a candidate for canonization. Saturday evening a Mass will be celebrated at the beautiful St. Joseph Chapel with a banquet following.

Registration information, tour details, silent auction and program ad information can be found in this issue and on the LCUSA website, aic.ladiesofcharity.us. The Marys of Milwaukee and their hostesses look forward to welcoming everyone with beautiful summer/fall weather, and recommend layered clothing.

Please also visit www.locmilwaukee.com to learn more about the Milwaukee Ladies of Charity. ✦

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Both the persons named below and the donors will be remembered at a special Mass said by LCUSA's national spiritual advisor, Fr. Richard Gielow, CM. Please send your intentions with your donation to the national office.

† MEMORIALS †

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Bequeathed by</i>
Josephine Angelino	Betty Wasielewski
Ronald Banach	Alice Banach
Sam Bellittiere	Anna Bellittiere
Joan Betzenhauser	Kathleen Sieracki
Joseph Casarsa	Ann Casarsa
Rev. Neil J. Draves-Arpaia	Ellen Desotell
Phil Willsey	LOC Lake Travis

† IN HONOR OF †

Leota Fuehne (<i>for her health</i>)	Joan Stanard
--	--------------

Website

Cont'd from p. 1

available by selecting "Resources" and then "Members' Corner." This confidential information is protected by a password. The password is always available by contacting Maureen McMillan at the national office, lcstlouis@aol.com; 314-881-6017.

The ability of the website to keep membership inspired by the work of each association is dependent on current information. Please share your stories! Send photos and articles to kathleen.sieracki@gmail.com. The information you share may be used in the Servicette, on the website, or in both places. Kathy Kavanaugh is chair of the communications committee and led the web redesign. Other committee members are Margaret Hanson, Mary Beth Legg, Maureen McMillan, Elena Miranda and Kathleen Sieracki. Monica Watson is webmaster. ✦

ADVOCACY CONNECTIONS

2014 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering

The title of the 2014 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering (CSMG), “Becoming a Church that is Poor and for the Poor,” held Feb. 2-5 in Washington, D.C., was taken from the inaugural homily of Pope Francis. CSMG is organized annually by the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Ladies of Charity USA (LCUSA) is one of 16 Catholic organizations which partner with USCCB to sponsor the meeting. Five members of the LCUSA Board of Directors attended: President Gayle Johnson; President-elect Mary Ann Dantuono; Sr. Julie Cutter, DC, spiritual moderator; Kathryn Kavanaugh, director for the Northeastern Region; and Kathleen Sieracki, regional vice president for the northeast.

Nearly 500 people from across the country were present. Planners make special efforts to have the Gathering reflect the entire Church in the United States. Twenty-two people participated through the Diversity Outreach Initiative. The faith and enthusiasm of 70 students from 26 Catholic colleges and universities were very impressive in the second year of the Young Leaders Initiative and illustrated the Church’s focus on outreach to young adults.

At the opening plenary session, John L. Allen Jr., associate editor of *The Boston Globe*, former senior correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter and senior Vatican analyst for CNN, spoke of the “tsunami in Catholic life” caused by Pope Francis. Michael J. Naughton, professor of Catholic studies at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota, gave the Monday morning keynote, speaking on “Catholic Social Thought and Just Wages.” Dr. Naughton specializes in the application of Catholic Social Thought to business theory and practice.

A variety of workshops on complex domestic and international policy issues were offered to prepare participants for lobbying visits to their respective congressional representatives and senators. Domestic priorities for the lobbying visits

included support for policies that encourage family formation and stability, create decent jobs with just wages, ensure access to safe and affordable housing and fight the scourge of hunger. Lawmakers were urged to support the Second Chance Reauthorization Act for criminal justice reform, comprehensive immigration reform and the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. The basic international message was to “give peace a chance” by doing nothing to undermine current negotiations with Iran and between Israel and Palestine.

The Catholic Social Ministry gathering is an intense and inspiring experience, offering opportunities for learning, fellowship and worship. Mark your calendars for CSMG 2015, Feb.8-11 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. ♦



Mary Ann Dantuono and students from St. John's University met at the CSMG.



Dates to Remember

- **September 11–13**
LCUSA National Assembly, Milwaukee
- **October 23–26**
Vincenian Spirituality Retreat, Evansville, Ind.
- **Feb. 8–11, 2015**
Catholic Social Ministry Gathering, Washington, DC
- **March, 2015**
AIC Assembly of Delegates, Guatemala
- **April 8–12, 2015**
Spring Board Meeting, Evansville, Ind.

Active members of local associations affiliated with LCUSA receive free subscriptions to the *Servicette*. For others, the subscription is \$5 per year and now is the time to renew for 2014. Send your check to the LCUSA National Service Center, 100 N. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63103-2007



Ladies of Charity are among the delegation from New York State meeting in Senator Kirsten Gillebrand's office.

Saint Mary's

Cont'd from p. 8

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is the large chapel on the south side of the nave. The church is modeled after Monte Citorio, the motherhouse chapel in Rome for the Congregation of the Mission. The first members of this Vincenian community started for America from Italy in 1816 and reproduced a little of their homeland in this building. Saint Mary's was used as a parish church for the people of Perryville from 1830 until 1965, when a larger church was built closer to the parish school. St. Mary's has become a national center of Marian devotion. It is open all day and visitors are welcome at any time. ♦

Mapping Our Way to Macon

Lucy Ann Saunders, Past President

After vacationing in St. Mary's Ga., my husband and I visited Macon where the Daughters of Charity make their home in the parish of St. Peter Claver. During our visit Sr. Elyse Staab graciously gave us the grand tour of her city and the Daughters' ministries.

"Daybreak" is a place where those without a home are greeted each morning with a hot breakfast and gather during the day in a café style lounge. Showers and laundry facilities are also available. A medical clinic is provided in conjunction with the University of Georgia. Program Director Sr. Elizabeth Greim and her staff engage their guests with the utmost hospitality. Daybreak is a collab-

orative effort of 10 Macon churches and DePaul USA, a national non-profit with a vision that everyone has a place to call home. Northeast regional board member Marilyn Martone was recently appointed LCUSA's representative on the DePaul USA Board of Directors. An interesting twist to Daybreak's fundraising activities was an outdoor sleep-over held in a nearby park, utilizing sleeping bags and tents. Individuals, including the mayor and hospital CEO, paid \$1,000 each to participate, and raised a total of \$42,000.

We also visited Sr. Roberta Treppa at FAM (Family Advancement Ministries – helping families move ahead). Volunteers sew large bags for layettes, and in another nearby building, help sort both maternity and children's clothing. Car seats are

provided as newborns leave the hospital. Direct service to mothers and children is also available, including follow-up home visits. Tutoring and a certified program that leads to citizenship are also on-site. Their mission statement reads, "FAM is a Catholic, diocesan, social service organization that, in partnership with the community at-large, nurtures a reverence for life by responding to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of families with the goal of moving families toward independence and self-sufficiency." Sr. Grace Calvisi directs a ministry offered to Hispanic families in the parish.

Special thanks to Sr. Elyse, who tutors at FAM, as well as wearing many other hats that involve the Vincentian Family South.

2014 ASSEMBLY SPEAKERS & WORKSHOPS

Sr. Germaine Price, DC, will speak on Vincentian spirituality and how it is connected to the assembly theme. Sr. Germaine was a missionary in Burundi, Puerto Rico and Romania, and for the past eight years has been a representative of the Daughters of Charity at the United Nations.

Barbara Keyes, RN, will lead a workshop titled Family Caregiver: A Path of Love, Not of Choice.

Many families are the primary caregivers for a child, disabled member or frail aging parent or spouse. Barbara has worked professionally with Alzheimer's patients and their families and also has supported family caregivers as a parish nurse. She presently engages families who are seeking support at St. Anne's Center for Intergenerational Care in Milwaukee. She has also journeyed the caregiver path as she cared for her spouse who died in 2012. Barbara will help listeners understand the strengths and weaknesses of families who experience this journey, what resources are needed to sustain their efforts and how Ladies of Charity associations can support family caregivers.

Lynda Markut, education and support coordinator for Southeastern Wisconsin Alzheimer's Association, will lead a workshop titled Caring Too Much? Laughing Too Little? Laugh for the Health of It!

When caregivers lose their sense of humor, they need help. In this presentation, there will be a review of the impact of both stress and humor on the body. Humor is a good antidote to caregiving stress. This lays the groundwork for accepting

a lifestyle that includes more humor. Humorous stories and exercises will be offered to help participants reframe situations to add more humor to caring. Toys, laughter and humorous quips will be utilized to help attendees experience the benefits of adding more humor to their lives.

Franciscan Peacemakers **Deacon Steven Przedpelski** and **Carmen Mojica** will present Systemic Change at the Local Level: Meeting the Face of Christ.

Those in attendance will learn about the presenters' outreach to women, men and children who engage in prostitution on the streets of Milwaukee. They do this by being a consistent presence in neighborhoods where prostitution is occurring. They offer a simple bag lunch, personal care items and an invitation to leave the streets behind and enter a place of healing. Economic opportunity is offered through Gifts for the Journey: A Social Enterprise Lifting Women out of Poverty. There will be an opportunity to purchase soaps made by these enterprising women.

Gerri Sheets-Howard, executive director of the House of Peace; **Julie Darneider**, director of the Marquette University Legal Clinic (located at the House of Peace); **Herb Hayden**, director of the Adult Learning Center; and **Vida Langenkamp**, board chair of the Adult Learning Center will present a panel discussion. Following the guidelines of the International Association of Charities (AIC), the international organization for LOC, when we meet the needs of individuals we need to organize and coordinate our charities. The House of Peace

Continued — see p. 12 bottom



2014 ASSEMBLY TOURS

Thursday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.

Milwaukee's Magnificent Churches

On this tour, you will see the diversity of Milwaukee demonstrated by the many beautiful churches throughout the city. There are 20 churches in the downtown area alone, most built in the late 1800s by skilled craftsmen. You'll see and learn the difference between a chapel, a church, a cathedral and a basilica. The tour will visit the remarkable Basilica of St. Josaphat (<http://www.the-basilica.org>), built by Polish immigrants in 1901 and patterned after St. Peter's in Rome. The next stop will highlight the beautiful Tiffany stained glass windows at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (<http://www.stpaulsmilwaukee.org>) and the tour will end at St. Joan of Arc Chapel (<http://www.marquette.edu/chapel>) built in the 15th century in France and now on the campus of Marquette University, where the group will attend the noon Mass.

\$35 per person

Thursday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Beer Barons of Milwaukee

This tour provides a look into the brewing history of Milwaukee and the beer barons who made Milwaukee famous: Blatz, Pabst, Schlitz and Miller. You will see the influence the brewing industry had on Milwaukee with the many contributions of the beer barons. The group will visit the magnificent Pabst Mansion (<http://www.pabstmansion.com>) built in 1892 as well as see what happened to the former Pabst Brewery (<http://www.brewhousesuites.com>). And yes, of course, there will be beer. Cheers! Following the tour, you will have the option to either return to the hotel or be dropped off at the Harley-Davidson Museum (<http://www.hdmuseum.com>), a short walk from the hotel. (Note, there is an additional admission fee for this museum.)

\$39 per person

Thursday, Sept. 11, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Milwaukee Overview

This tour provides a general overview of the city of Milwaukee. You'll learn about the history and current progress of the city as the coach travels through the different neighborhoods of East Town, Historic Third Ward, Brady Street and the North Shore. You'll see the influence European immigrants had on the city through its architecture and businesses. The tour route will follow the shores of Lake Michigan, passing the beautiful mansions on Lake Drive and make a stop at the Milwaukee Art Museum (<http://www.mam.org>), designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava, to see the magnificent brise soleil and the extraordinary Quadracci Pavilion, a must see in Milwaukee. (Note, this tour does not go into the permanent galleries of the art museum.)

\$28 per person

Thursday, Sept. 11, 2 p.m. – 5:30p.m.

Milwaukee Art Museum & Discovery World

Spend the afternoon at two of Milwaukee's gems on the lakeshore. The tour will begin at the Discovery World Museum (<http://www.discoveryworld.org>) where you'll have many areas to explore, from the Techno Jungle to Les Paul's House of Sound to a replica of a Great Lakes Schooner and the Reiman Aquarium. You'll also want to experience the HIVE – a 3-D total immersion journey. A short distance away is the Milwaukee Art Museum (<http://www.mam.org>) where the group will have a docent-led tour highlighting the museum's permanent collections. You will have time to shop in the wonderful gift shop and enjoy the Quadracci Pavilion with its beautiful views of Lake Michigan. The group will also get a chance to see the magnificent Burke Brise Soleil "flap," a truly remarkable feat of engineering.

\$50 per person

Deadline for reservations for the Thursday tours is Aug. 1. See the tour registration form on page 15 for more details.

Friday, Sept. 12, Milwaukee Brewers vs Cincinnati Reds Baseball Game at Miller Park

(Evening Options provided by KBC Tour Company)

Enjoy a major league baseball game pitting National League Central Division rivals at a state of the art ballpark featuring natural grass turf, a fan-shaped convertible roof (no rain-outs), and the Incredible Sausage Race.

6:15 p.m. departure, 7:10 game, return after conclusion of the game. Transportation, game ticket and \$10 food & beverage voucher are included.

\$65.00 per person

Dinner Theater at Stackner Cabaret

"The Doyle & Debbie Show" is the story of an aging country singer and his new singing partner as they try to build a career. The original musical has gotten rave reviews around the country.

6 p.m. departure, 6:30 dinner, 8:00 performance. Transportation, three course prix fixe dinner and theater ticket are included.

\$100.00 per person

*Please contact KBC Tour Company directly at 800-704-9049 or 414-550-5458 to make a reservation for either one of these events. You may email Kay Collins at kay@kbctourcompany.com with any questions.

Reservations for Friday evening events should be made by Aug. 11. Requests after that date will be accepted on an availability basis only.

INTRODUCING THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE 2014 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Mary Johnson (left)
and Mary Domer

Mary Domer and Mary Johnson, co-presidents of LOC Milwaukee, are co-chairs of the 2014 assembly. They grew up two doors apart and assumed their first collaborative leadership roles when they organized the neighborhood children to put on plays.

Mary Domer retired after 25 years as a reading specialist in public elementary schools in Milwaukee and suburban districts. Mary Johnson currently works as a Community-Based Nurse Care Manager, assisting people with multiple health

conditions access needed outpatient care, with a goal of preventing frequent hospitalizations.

LOC Milwaukee operates a clothing center with the sole mission of providing school clothing when needed for children from K-4 through high school. Social workers, principals and school secretaries refer appropriate children. The center opens one day each week and one Saturday each month. While meeting this need, the Ladies have also created linkages with parents and staff of many schools to generate donations. The association has about 60 active members, and 50 others who are not as involved.

Now in their fifth year working together, the two Marys have found that a co-presidency can succeed if the partners work well together and are able to delegate. They are following the example of Cathy Onopa and Adele Ecklund who preceded them as co-presidents. They are also following in the footsteps of family and friends. Mary Johnson's mother, Ann Klett Hurley, was an LOC Milwaukee president. Joan Wohlrabe, Mary Domer's mother, is a Lady of Charity and her mother-in-law, Dorothy Domer, also served as president. Dorothy's friend Mary Reuter founded the association about 60 years ago.

LCUSA thanks the Marys of Milwaukee, a self-described "fun dynamic duo," and all the Ladies of Charity of Milwaukee for hosting the 2014 assembly.



ASSEMBLY SPEAKERS AND WORKSHOPS

Cont'd from p. 10

and the Adult Learning Center exemplify how specific services can change the lives of those in need. A spiritual dimension sets the House of Peace apart from other social service agencies. The Marquette Clinic pairs volunteer attorneys with volunteer law school students to provide legal information and referrals. The Adult Learning Center pro-

vides motivated adults with basic education, life-long learning opportunities and resources to transform their lives and contribute to their communities in the spirit of the teachings of Jesus and the principles of social justice.

An **Advocacy Workshop** will simulate the first step in advocacy, moving from a problem to an issue and from

discussion to advocacy. A panel of family caregivers will identify ways they offer loving care but also how the system creates burdens rather than benefits. Using the "pastoral circle" model of social analysis, those present will develop a plan that an association could follow to create an educational awareness day leading to advocacy for family caregivers.

**2014 Ladies of Charity USA National Assembly
Just Care! Vincentian Women in Action
Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Milwaukee, WI
September 11-13, 2014**

Registration Form

Complete and mail this form by **August 1, 2014** or register online at aic.ladiesofcharity.us/assembly/

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Arrival date/time: _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone:

Check all that apply:

Board Member Assoc. Pres./VP

Sr. Moderator Sister of Charity

Lady of Charity Daughter of Charity

Spiritual Advisor Past National Pres.

Jr. Lady of Charity Guest Other

Check here if you **do not** want your address and phone number included in the published roster.

Special dietary needs:

I am unable to attend; please accept my donation of _____ to help defray costs of the Assembly.

Registration Options:

Complete Assembly **\$200** _____

Includes all speakers and workshops on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12 and 13, Meet and Greet on Thursday, Sept. 12, Continental Breakfasts on Friday and Saturday, Lunch on Friday, Dinner Banquet on Saturday, and transportation to and from Saturday Mass.

OR

Partial Assembly Options

Friday Only Option **\$100** _____

Includes all speakers and workshops, Continental Breakfast, and Lunch on Friday, Sept. 12.

Saturday Only Option **\$130** _____

Includes all speakers and workshops, Continental Breakfast, Dinner Banquet, and transportation to and from Mass on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Saturday Banquet Guest(s) **\$80** _____ *per person*

Guest(s) Name _____

Late Fee after August 1st **\$25** _____

Total Due _____

**Mail this completed form with check made payable to LCUSA at:
Maureen McMillan, LCUSA Service Center, 100 N. Jefferson, St. Louis, MO 63103
\$25 service charge for all cancellations; no refunds after August 1st
Questions? Contact Jo Burgoyne at 414-916-4476 or maryjoburgoyne@gmail.com**

For further information about the Milwaukee Assembly, go to www.locmilwaukee.com

**2014 Ladies of Charity USA National Assembly
Just Care! Vincentian Women in Action
Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Milwaukee, WI
September 11-13, 2014**

Hotel Information

Hilton Milwaukee City Center, 509 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203

Ph # 414-271-7250 or Toll Free at 1-800-445-8667

Room Rate: A room with 2 Double Beds or 1 King Bed is \$139 per night (Taxes and fees are extra). This rate includes Internet access. There is an additional charge for parking (see below).

Reservations:

- Make your reservations online using this POG link:

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/M/MKEMHHF-LCUS-20140910/index.jhtml>

- Or, you may wish to call the Local Reservation Center at 414-935-5940 and identify yourself as a member of the Ladies of Charity for your special rate. Reservations must be made by August 11, 2014 to qualify for the group rate.
- Reservations received after August 11, 2014, or those exceeding the room block, will be confirmed on a space and rate available basis only.
- Cancellations can be made up to 48 hours prior to arrival for refund. If there is a need to change a departure date after the reservation is made, there will be a \$50.00 Early Departure Fee charged.

Check-in Time: 3:00 PM. However every effort will be made to accommodate early arrivals.

Check Out Time: 12:00 noon. Requests to retain rooms longer should be directed to the front desk. Please note a late departure charge may be applicable.

Location: The Hilton Milwaukee City Center is located in downtown Milwaukee. See address above. We recommend that you check out the Hilton City Center website for additional information/driving directions.

Transportation from the Milwaukee Airport: The hotel does not have its own shuttle service.

- Taxi service is \$20.00- \$25.00, one way.
- There is a shuttle available, Go Riteway, which is \$13.00 one way. Please call the hotel at 414-935-5940, in advance, to arrange for this option.

Parking:

- Parking charge for guests is \$7.00 per night, which includes in/out privileges for 24 hours.
- Day visitors are \$5.00 for the first 30 minutes and up to \$20.00 per day.
- In addition, there is a lot across the street which varies the parking price, depending on events, as well as a \$6 per day parking lot around the corner from the hotel.

2014 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TOUR OFFERINGS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

All tour prices include motor-coach transportation, tour guide, applicable admission fees and/or donations and gratuities.

Reservations for tours are due by August 1, 2011.

(Late registrations will be accepted on an availability basis.)

Tours are non-refundable but may be transferred.

Tours must have a minimum of 15 people; the maximum is 52.

If the minimum is not reached, a full refund will be provided.

All tours will depart from the Hilton Milwaukee City Center - 6th Street Entrance. The bus will board 15 minutes before departure time. See tour information sheet for times.

Make checks payable to : Ladies of Charity - Milwaukee

Mail to : Nancy Sturino, Assembly Tour Chair
531 East Carlisle Avenue
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

For questions or concerns, please contact an Assembly Tour Chair:

Pat Matusiak : matusiak@sbcglobal.net

414-228-8383

Nancy Sturino : nmls21@icloud.com

414-962-1651



(Tear below)

Please type or print clearly:

NAMES: 1) _____ 2) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE : _____ ZIP : _____

PHONE : _____ MOBILE : _____

EMAIL : _____

<u>TOUR(S) ATTENDING ;</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
TOUR 1 - Thurs. AM. Sept.11 Milwaukee's Magnificent Churches	\$35	x	_____	=	_____
TOUR 2 - Thurs. AM. Sept.11 Beer Barons of Milwaukee	\$39	x	_____	=	_____
TOUR 3 - Thurs. PM. Sept.11 Milwaukee Overview	\$28	x	_____	=	_____
TOUR 4 - Thurs. PM. Sept.11 Milwaukee Art Museum & Discovery World	\$50	x	_____	=	_____
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED :					\$ _____

Ladies of Charity USA
100 North Jefferson Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63103
Address Service Requested



AIC USA

<http://aic.ladiesofcharity.us>

“To serve rather than to be served”

Madame Genevieve Fayet Goussault, Inspiration behind Ladies of Charity in Paris

Carol Schumer, D.C.

“What a virtuous little group! I beg Our Lord to bind your hearts together into one ... and to strengthen you in your work.”¹ Vincent was referring to Louise de Marillac, Genevieve Goussault and Marie Poulailion. Indeed these women found support in one another and their works of charity flourished as a result.

Who was Madame Goussault? Born in 1597, Genevieve Fayet married Antoine Goussault, the president of the Court of Exchequer, at age of 16. Her husband died in 1634, leaving her with five children.² Beautiful, talented and wealthy, she could have continued her involvement in social circles. However, she chose to dedicate her life to Jesus in service of persons living in poverty especially those who were sick.

Early on in her charity, she often visited Hotel Dieu, the hospital for indigent people in Paris and was continually struck by how poorly it was run. Thus, inspired by God, she dreamed of an association of ladies for the relief of these patients. She proposed this idea to Vincent de Paul who was not willing to entertain the possibility. Not daunted, Madame Goussault went to Jean-François deGondi, Archbishop of Paris, brother-in-law of Madame deGondi, seeking his intercession. Through his mediation, in early 1634 a group of six, the future core of the Paris Ladies of Charity, gathered at the Goussault home. Madame Goussault became their first superior. (However, she preferred to be called “servant.”)

Her name occurs frequently in Vincent’s correspondence, especially to Louise. These reveal that Madame Goussault often traveled the French countryside, assisting with the animation of the Confraternities of Charity. Her will³ and a long letter, sent to Vincent from Angers in 1633⁴, reveal the person-

ality of Madame Goussault. Intelligent, articulate, witty, simple, generous, she enjoyed praying and playing games with other passengers on these trips. Interestingly, in a 1638 message to Louise, Vincent writes: “Please, be very cheerful with [Madame Goussault] even though you have to lessen ... that somewhat serious disposition.”⁵

Madame Goussault assisted Louise and Vincent in many endeavors: recruiting and preparing young women to become Daughters of Charity, finding a house for Louise and the Sisters, caring for abandoned babies/foundlings, advising Vincent and Louise prior to important decisions. Vincent even requested that she mediate a dispute between an abbess and a priest who were in opposition to the nuns and the abbess’ mother.⁶ And, because of her request, Daughters of Charity were sent to the hospital at Angers. In his writing about Madame Goussault, Vincent regularly adds the title: the President’s wife. This shows his great respect and admiration of this servant of poor persons.

After several bouts of serious illness, Madame Goussault died on September 20, 1639. She is remembered for her abundant charity and care especially for poor, sick patients at Hotel Dieu.

REFLECTION:

Have I given myself in service to others, especially to persons who are poor? Why? Why not?

Could Vincent write of our association: “What a virtuous group!”? Why? Why not?

REFERENCES:

- ¹ Coste, Pierre, Vincent de Paul Correspondence, volume 1, #110, 1632, page 163
- ² *ibid.* #108, 1632, page 161
- ³ Coste, volume 13b, #188a, 1639, pages 390–96
- ⁴ *ibid.* volume 1 #135, 1633, pages 191–96
- ⁵ *ibid.* #344, 1638, page 492
- ⁶ *ibid.* #240, 1636, page 339

