

August 2019

Welcome to the 175th Anniversary of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States!

Founded in Paris only 12 years earlier in 1833, the Society was first established in the United States in downtown St. Louis, Missouri in 1845. From this organizational meeting of local Catholic businessmen and clergy, the Society is now actively serving the poor in 4,400 U.S. communities nationwide through more than 98,000 Vincentian members.

We celebrate this remarkable journey in spirituality, service and friendship from now (September 2019) through calendar year 2020. In this anniversary packet, you will see announcements, flyers and invitations to a still-growing set of national Anniversary activities and products. Your Conference and Council may develop some celebratory activities of your own as well! Watch the weekly E-Gazette for updates!

Together we can use our story and anniversary to tell others that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is much more than one of the oldest charitable organizations in our country. We are as active and as relevant as ever in serving our neighbors in need – where they live and one at a time. We continue to grow our membership in numbers and in diversity. We also continue to innovate our services through systemic change, advocacy, collaborations and other strategies to help people and families pull themselves permanently out of poverty. We are 175 years young!

