



Vincentian Prayer List

Please add to your prayers in particular Robin Newton, Sheila Coutu, and for the repose of the soul of Jacqueline Ledet.

Please visit Father Mark Schwab's Website www.vccrs.ca to submit prayer requests that are distributed to prayer groups across the lower mainland.

A Moment Of Spiritual Reflection

If you are happy at the foot of the Cross where you are at present, and which is the best place in this world you could be. So be happy there ... and fear nothing. [But even better to find joy at the foot of the cross.]

— Vincent de Paul

We live in a world that wants to be happy and does not understand what joy is.

The difference between happiness and joy is that **happiness avoids suffering** and **joy endures suffering in hope**.

In order to hear Christ's words—"I thirst"—we have to be at the foot of the Cross. We have to love Jesus very much.

We would never hear those words from a distance, but only when we are very close to Him in the place where He suffers. It is not enough just to be there but for us to be willing to stay there and contemplate those words.

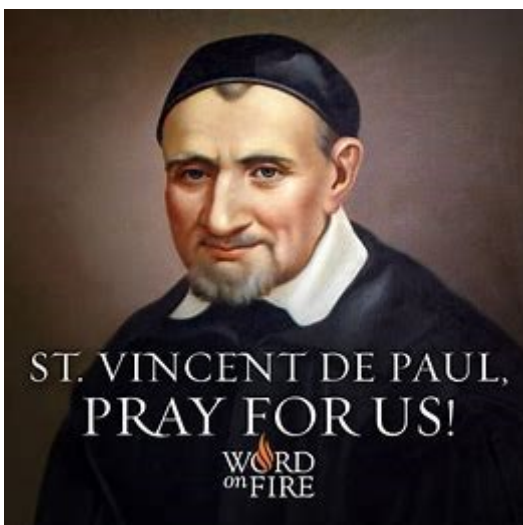
When we are close to those who suffer, when we suffer in and with the Poorest of the Poor – those who are "unwanted, unclaimed, unloved"—these are the one that the plaintive cry of Christ on the Cross: "I thirst" was all about (Jn 19:28).

These poorest of the poor are thirsty for care, thirsty for contact, thirsty for love.

St. Vincent de Paul left his own comfort to comfort those whom no one comforted. To leave comfort was painful, but his pain bore "something beautiful for God."

As we prepare for Holy Week and the Passion of Christ may we contemplate where we are standing? Do we want happiness or joy? If we are not at the foot of the Cross where are we?

—Father Mark Schwab





Message From Our New National Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hello everyone, I am thrilled and humbled to join such a wonderful organization, one that touches so many Canadian lives every day.

My approach for this role is one of evolution, not revolution. A lot of great work has already been done and my intent is to persevere in a spirit of continuity so that together, we can ensure the Society’s long-term viability.

While I am still in the learning phase, my main focus will be on 2 key tasks:

- Increasing the Society’s visibility to ensure that the great work being done is recognized and well-funded, and to attract new people in our midst.
- Renewal and rejuvenation: adjust and refine the Society’s communication process to the standards expected from a modern organization, to engage and inform all interested parties.

I will be focusing on adding value and looking for ways to facilitate the work done by our most important contributors, the volunteers who act tirelessly on behalf of their community every day.

I look forward to meeting you face to face soon. If you have a comment or suggestion, I am always interested in hearing from you. Please don’t hesitate to reach out by email at exdir-dirgen@ssvp.ca.

Saint Francis De Sales –Thanking Past Vincentians

On May 5, 2023 a couple of Vincentians visited past volunteers at their residences and awarded them certificates in appreciation for their valuable services and contributions to The society of Saint Vincent De Paul.

“Their dedication, hard work, and generosity of time have made a significant impact, and we are grateful for your support.”



Hilton Mason served us as a treasurer for many years along with home visits and bread pick up.



Alex Lim was our next treasurer and walked with us in our journey as Vincentians



Every Dollar Counts—Benefits, Credits and Programs

Raising children, working at minimum wage, living with disabilities, buying or renovating a home, or just keeping up with the bills is not always easy. There are many benefits, credits, and programs available to help you.

Please see the link below for more information on different programs, benefits, etc that may be available to you or pass on to those within your community that could use the assistance.

[Every dollar counts - Benefits, credits and programs - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/social-development/programs/benefits-credits-programs)

The Canada Learning Bond

What do you need to know to make your child’s future possibilities **GROW** ?

Please see below for more information on what the program is about, how it works and how to apply.

THE CANADA LEARNING BOND



What you need to know to make your child’s future possibilities GROW

WHAT IS IT?

The Canada Learning Bond (CLB) is a grant of **\$500 up to \$2000** from the Government of Canada to eligible families to help with the cost of a child’s education after high school. It is deposited directly into a child’s **Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)**.

Think of an **RESP** as a ‘special bank account’ where money can grow until a child is ready to attend college, university, apprenticeship program or trade school (full time or part time).

WHO IS THE CLB FOR?

Children **born January 1, 2004 or later** (so any child that is turning 19 in 2023 (or is younger than 19) whose family’s net annual income is **less than \$50,197** can receive the CLB.

(The family net income cutoff is higher for families with more than three children.)



HOW DOES IT WORK?

The CLB is deposited directly into a child’s Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). This money grows and can be withdrawn to help cover any education-related costs when your child is enrolled in a post-secondary program.

Every eligible child receives at least **\$500** in their RESP to start. They also receive an additional **\$100** for every year that they are eligible, based on their family’s income, until the age of 15. This means the CLB amount a child receives could be as much as **\$2,000**.

Even if you apply several years after your child was born (as long as the child was born after January 1, 2004, and are income eligible) you will still receive all payments owed to your child from past years.

WILL IT COST ME?

It doesn’t cost money to get the Canada Learning Bond, not even one penny! You will need to open an RESP to get the CLB. There are no-cost RESPs that have no fees and don’t require you to contribute any of your own money.

The CLB will not impact any other government assistance you receive. This is your child’s money for after high school. The RESP account can stay open for 36 years.

For more information, visit www.Canada.ca/education-savings or call 1-888-276-3624.

FOR BC RESIDENTS ONLY!

The B.C. Government will contribute **\$1,200** to eligible children between the ages of 6 and 9 through the B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant Program.

APPLYING IS EASY!

Contact your bank and make an appointment to open a no fee, no contribution RESP. They will open an RESP and apply for the CLB and also the Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG).

The CLB is free, no contribution needed.

The CESG is a matching program, where if you deposit funds, you will be eligible for a match between 20% and 40% (depending on income and if RESP was opened before age 16 and prior contributions were made)

Ask your bank what you’ll need to open an RESP and claim your child’s Canada Learning Bond. It could include:



- Your Social Insurance Number
- Your child’s Social Insurance Number
- Your child’s Birth Certificate
- 2 pieces of your ID (1 government-issued photo ID)
- If you don’t have a SIN# for your child you can apply online at www.canada.ca or visit a Service Canada office

Go Get Your Child’s Money!

For more information on the RESP please go to [Education savings - Canada.ca](https://www.Canada.ca/education-savings) .



The 2023 Betty O'Flynn Memorial Fund Bursary

Each year, the Vancouver Archdiocesan Central Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is pleased to sponsor a \$1000 bursary for a full-time post-secondary studies individual directed towards a career – which in the opinion of the Memorial Fund Committee members – supports life issues.

Applications are now being accepted! [Download Here!](#)

Applications should be submitted to the Society's address (2743 Main St. Vancouver, BC. V5T 3E9) marked to the attention of the Bursary Fund Committee and must be **received by July 15.**

The successful candidate will be notified by August 15 and the bursary will be paid upon confirmation of enrolment in courses commencing in the Fall of the award year. Renewal applications will be considered based on proof of educational attainment. The bursary will be presented by a member of the Society at a brief ceremony held in the candidate's local area.

To receive a paper application or for further inquiries please [email us](#).

Information Corner — Our Communities

Seeds Of Hope—The 3 Pillars of Health, Education and Wellness

- **Removing Financial Barriers.**

Sometimes, families need financial assistance to get their kids into a sport or physical activity. We're committed to helping all families access a range of activities, from boxing to bowling and skating to skiing, and more. Jumpstart is a program run by Canadian Tire, click the link below for more information.



[Individual Child Grants | Jumpstart \(canadiantire.ca\)](#)

The City of Maple Ridge believes that all residents should have access to community recreation (and sport), regardless of cost and/or financial barriers. The link below provides information on the financial assistance and programs available locally.

[Financial Access | Maple Ridge, BC](#)

- **Scholarships and Bursaries**

First Steps:

1. Talk to your school guidance counsellor; they know a lot about scholarships.
2. Apply for OSAP.
3. Check public scholarship databases.

www.scholarshipscanada.com

<https://scholartree.ca/scholarships>

<https://studentscholarships.org>

4. Check the awards databases of the schools you have applied to.
5. Ask community organizations and organizations you work with or volunteer for.
6. Apply before the deadline. These will vary between different scholarships

Reaching out to banks, businesses, your schools, churches, etc will give you many different avenues towards a higher education. The resources above are only a few.



Information Corner – Our Communities Cont’d

This section of our newsletter will be dedicated to providing different information, programs, and assistance to those in need in our communities. If you know of a program like Sonia’s Cradle or any other in your community please let us know so we can share within our communities and reach as many people as we can.

Since the launch of the Sonia’s Cradle Program, **Ridge Meadows Ministries** has supported over 3,000 babies and toddlers. Due to several factors, families registered in this program struggle to provide proper food, clothing, and basic necessities, such as diapers and formula for their growing families.

Sonia’s Cradle clients come from a variety of backgrounds, including:

- Single mothers or fathers
- Seniors with custody of their grandchildren
- Working families trying to make ends meet
- New immigrants
- Parents and/or children with disabilities



In order to qualify for our Sonia’s Cradle program applicants must possess ALL of the following criteria:

- *Currently reside in Maple Ridge or Pitt Meadows*
- *Struggling with low income or are in need of additional resources*
- *Have the ability to provide current proof of income and photo ID or be referred by another agency*

For More Information on how to apply for this program please go to:

<https://ridgemeadowssa.ca/sonias-cradle/>

SUMMER CAMP

The Salvation Army Summer Camp program will take place **July 17 to July 21, 2023 in beautiful Gibsons, BC.**

If your child could benefit from a week at camp – please contact us for more information.

Summer Camp clients come from a variety of backgrounds, including:

- Children of single mothers or single fathers
- Children of working families trying to make ends meet
- Children of seniors with custody of their grandchildren
- Children of new immigrant families
- AND MANY MORE!
-

<https://ridgemeadowssa.ca/summer-camp/>





Open Door Group Career Pathways to Success

What do you want to do for work? Need training? We can help you get there!

The **Career Pathways to Success** program is a 6-week employment program that supports people with disabilities and mental health issues to gain confidence, tools and resources to pursue their career dreams. Participants will be provided with opportunities to identify viable employment goals through career exploration and the ability to access certificate and skills training necessary to be competitive and successful in today's labour market.

Career Pathways to Success uses a hybrid (blended) method of instruction. This includes:

- Online Learning: Group learning delivered through Zoom Video Conferencing so that participants participate from home.
- In-Person Learning: There are several training certificates that require in-person attendance, such as First Aid.

All participants receive the following in order to ensure their success in the CPS program:

- Laptop, earbuds and tech support
- Workbooks for all workshops provided
- Weekly food supports (\$50 gift card emailed weekly to participants)
- A completion bonus (\$600 stipend upon completion)
- Additional paid training, as determined by the participant's training plan (First Aid, WHMIS, SuperHost, Serving it Right etc.)
- Other financial supports and resource navigation as required

Eligibility:

- Participants identify as having a disability
- Participants are unemployed or precariously employed
- Participants are able to work in Canada legally

Please visit our website below and fill out the application form if you are interested. You will be invited to the next Career Pathways to Success information session to start the process.

For this particular Program you can contact: Denise Scott | Program Coordinator Career Pathways to Success: <https://www.opendoorgroup.org/programs/careerpathways> or click on Logo below.





Multicultural Corner—Understanding Those In Need

Migrant Ministry

The goal of the Migrant Farm Worker Bike Program is to provide reliable bikes and safety accessories to BC farm workers so they can travel to their workplace and out into the community. The program is possible through the generosity of local volunteers, non-profit organizations, bike shops, church groups and various businesses. We are all driven by compassion to show our guests Canadian hospitality as they enhance our lives through their hard work, long hours, and minimal pay.

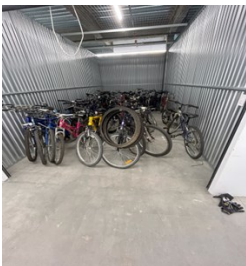
#donateyourbike #BikesForFarmWorkersBC

Visit us at [Bikes for Farm Workers BC | Facebook](#)

Last year we delivered about twenty-five bicycles to Chilliwack. In the front is Steve, Thelma, Yves. Behind Yves is Carolina and Wayne.



We recently added a storage container to help store bikes. This has been an incredible addition.



As of May 18, 2023, I have been able to pick up 105 donated bicycles. The Farm Workers have started to arrive, and Steve has delivered ten this week and preparing five more to go to the farms. So, if you have a good bike you want to replace or make more room, check us out and consider donating.

If you see these men and women at Superstore, say HOLA. Let them feel Welcome.

Here is a really funny video on how sometimes assumptions can be really wrong!

<https://youtu.be/crAv5ttax2I>





BC Regional AGM 2023

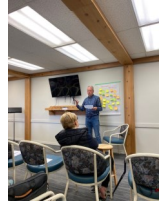
The 2023 BC Regional AGM held in Hope was, once again, a huge success. Bob Buckham gave a truly inspirational presentation on the 7 Teachings of the Catholic Church.



Bob Buckham presenting the 7 Teachings of the Catholic Church.



Philippe Blain, Executive Director, SSVP National Council



L-R Joe Rigby, Vancouver Island Particular Council and 1st VP for the BC Yukon Regional Council, You, Minette Gomez, President BC Yukon, Philippe Blain, Executive Director, National Council SSVP and Linda Dollard, Interim National President, SSVP Canada.



At the retreat this weekend, I read it as an example of:

- * sharing such testimonials with members at meetings. It is a good thing to let members know that our outreach gets results -- makes a difference.
- * sharing with a parish community. It is powerful to let them know **FIRSTHAND** the appreciation of their response to requests
- * sharing with a wider group of people as one means of recruitment. By joining with us, they can see that the work we do really does make a difference!

A Testimonial:

"Our family has been through so much in the last 2 years. We have been struggling and have been in need of helping hands and never could we have imagined such generosity would be coming our way. To all of the parishioners and folks who donated to our family and lent out your helping hands...from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you all so much! There is so much light in our lives right now. We wouldn't be where we are and in such good shape for our future without all of you xo Thank you!"

The Rule—An Overview of the Rule

C.11 Annual Council Review Meeting

UNITY

- How much harmony and friendship (or friction) is there within the council?
- Are decisions reached by consensus (or, if necessary, by vote)?
- Is enough help provided to the president and other officers of the council?

COMMITMENT

- Is there an adequate sense of commitment to attend the meetings and to carry out the allocated tasks?
- Do conference vice-presidents (or other representatives) attend when the conference president cannot?



The Ozanam Reporter

June 2023

Upcoming Events

Annual Vancouver Archdiocesan Central Council AGM 2023

Via: Zoom

Date: June 28, 2023 at 7:00pm

Annual National Formation (ANF)

Carleton University's Richcraft Hall in Ottawa

June 9 and 10, 2023

[Annual National Formation - Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - National Council of Canada \(ssvp.ca\)](http://ssvp.ca)

Important Links

Seeds Of Hope—The 3 Pillars of Health, Education and Wellness

- Their Benefits Way finder is a powerful online tool that simplifies the search for government benefits for people seeking ways to boost their income and/or reduce their expenses.

<https://benefitswayfinder.org/> and <https://www.prospercanada.org/>

Newsletter Submissions

Please send your submissions for the **quarterly** newsletter to lizcsilva.75@gmail.com . Submissions for the next newsletter are **due in September**. Your stories, photos, and requests help to make the newsletter more interesting!

[Subscribe to the:](#)

The **BC & Yukon Regional Council** puts out a great, informational newsletter each month. To have it delivered to your inbox please email them at ssvp.bcyukon@gmail.com.

National Council puts out a very informative and resourceful newsletter and website as well. To have it delivered to your email: <https://www.ssvp.ca/>

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Vancouver Archdiocesan Central Council

2743 Main Street, Vancouver, BC
V5T 3E9
Phone: 604-873-1065
ssvpvancouver@gmail.com

www.ssvp-vancouver.ca

You received this email because you are on the SSVP Vancouver Central Council mailing list. If you would like to unsubscribe please use the link below or email us.

[Unsubscribe](#)