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MARCH 2022 • Edition 1

Welcome to your new member newsletter!

Hello and welcome to your new member newsletter – The Vincentian.

The Vincentian replaces the former Good Works, and our hope is that this new format will help keep you up to date with what is going on in the Society, showcase the great work members are doing, while also keeping you connected to our mission, vision, and values.

We are very pleased to announce that Paul Burton has been elected as the new State Council President. Please join us in congratulating him as he begins his four-year term. You can hear more from him and his plans for supporting you and your Society work below.

COVID-19 has made the past two years incredibly challenging for most, but none more so than the people we serve. Conference Presidents will discuss returning to home visitation with you, and you can decide if you are ready for this. There are COVID-safe practices that will need to be adhered to and you do need to be fully vaccinated to return to home visitation. Please refer to our updated [COVID-Safe Guidelines](#) for more information.

This year also marks the 100-year anniversary of Vinnies shops, a celebration of the hard work and service that dedicated members and shop volunteers have provided to those in need. In 2022, we look forward with fresh hope, love, and the true Vincentian spirit of compassion, kindness, and service. We hope you enjoy this first edition of The Vincentian.

At this time, we also want to acknowledge those communities in the Northern Rivers region currently impacted by devastating floods. The Society will soon commence a Flood Appeal to raise vital funds to assist residents and businesses affected by this emergency. You can expect information to come to you from your Central Council office in the coming days. Our prayers are very much with everyone who is impacted.



SPOTLIGHT ON:

New NSW State Council President Paul Burton

I am honoured to have been elected as the new State Council President and look forward to serving with humility, respect, and a true sense of Vincentian spirit.

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WHAT'S NEW



A new assistance management system makes supporting clients safe and easy.

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Take our new online privacy training to help you avoid breaches.

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The bi-annual social justice forum is a great way to get involved and make a difference.

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VINCENTIANS IN ACTION



Building communities through bread deliveries

A weekly drop off to local Amélie Housing residents by members of Mary MacKillop Conference is building a rapport that is about much more than bread and cakes. Members are using the opportunity to reduce residents' social isolation and see who might need additional support.

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Over 600 young members celebrate online

Over 600 of our youngest Vincentians from across Broken Bay, Parramatta and Sydney Dioceses came together to celebrate Christmas and reflect on the year that was. Their enthusiasm was obvious, as they heard more about how they can continue to contribute to the Society.



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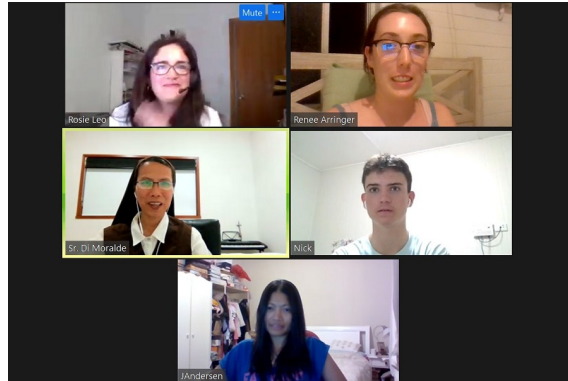
Sydney launch of World Youth Day

Sydney's St Mary's Cathedral came alive as young Vincentians celebrated Christ, and the launch of World Youth Day 2023.

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Lismore Central Council gets its first Young Adult Conference

Members and staff in Lismore Central Council have collaborated to establish the first Young Adult Conference. Members got straight to work, engaging with elderly locals, many of whom experience social isolation and loneliness.



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Operation Backpack sees Wagga kids ready to return to school

Conference Members were on hand recently, to make sure that struggling families in Wagga Wagga would be able to send their kids back to school well-equipped.

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