



GENERAL SECRETARIAT

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

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February 25, 2020

Dear Fathers:

At the request of the Association of the Ladies of Charity in the Diocese of Pittsburgh (ALCDP), I write to you regarding coming changes to how the organization will operate in the future.

As you are aware, the Ladies of Charity date back over 400 years to St. Vincent de Paul. Our local associations of Catholic women are part of the Federation of the Ladies of Charity of the United States of America (LCUSA) as well as the International Association of Charities (AIC) that continues, expands and improves the charitable and spiritual works accomplished by:

- Assuring that works of charity are carried on according to the directives of Saint Vincent de Paul, and in the spirit of Saint Louise de Marillac and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.
- Forging a closely-knit bond among all associations to assure that there is unity of purpose and approach in addressing the problems of poverty and injustice, thus improving the quality of life of all people.

In order to continue its good work, the ALCDP has worked to become a 501(c)(3) charity. This means that they will begin operating much like their Vincentian counterparts, the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The ALCDP has obtained their own EIN number, PA Sales Tax Exemption, Articles of Incorporation, as well as Diocesan Bylaws. They have also received approval to be listed in the Official Catholic Directory (Kennedy Directory) as a Catholic organization.

The ALCDP Board is recommending that once a parish grouping has been established as a parish and receive a new name, they should set up a new banking account using the ALCDP EIN number, PA Sales Tax Exemption, and Articles of Incorporation rather than those of one of the current parishes. The signing authority for the newly established bank account will reside solely with the elected officers representing the Ladies of Charity in that parish grouping. In addition, they will need to create their own bylaws, subject to appropriate approval. Further, if parishes within a grouping agree to combine their treasuries PRIOR to receiving their new parish name, a request should be submitted to the Diocesan Board and additional procedures followed.

It's important to note this transition does not affect the day-to-day operations of your local Ladies of Charity. Members should continue to perform all the good that have been doing to benefit our vulnerable populations. As the pastor/administrator, you are encouraged to continue offering spiritual support to the new association.

Additional information can be found at <https://locpittsburgh.org/index.php> or by calling 412-456-6924.

Thanking you for your ministry and with personal best wishes and prayer, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Lawrence A. DiNardo, VG, JCL
Vicar General/General Secretary

LAD:as