



## NATIONAL FORMATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Annual National Formation (ANF) assembly has been cancelled for 2021 due to COVID-19. Hopefully, we can once again meet in person in 2022. One of the tasks of the Formation Committee is to coordinate the workshops that are normally presented at the ANF (formerly AGA). It was decided that, by presenting webinars, we could continue to provide the membership with important learning opportunities. We have also decided that this will be on-going even after in-person meetings can be resumed. The topics for the webinars fall under the four pillars that the Society has identified as core components. They are Leadership, Vincentian Life, Spirituality, and Special Works. Webinar topics will generally fall within one of these categories. We currently have a call out for representations and we look forward to receiving many expressions of interest. We are also committed to working collaboratively with our other National Committees.

The Formation Committee is revising and renewing the existing training modules and one member of our committee has taken on the task of reviewing each one to upgrade language and current practice. We have also developed a module for Conference Executives and are currently working on preparing a *Conference in a Box* that is designed to establish a new Conference or to renew an existing Conference. We are also looking at leadership modules for Presidents at all levels of the Society and prospective executives.

There is a wealth of training and resource material that is available to the members at all levels and, to make it more accessible, we are categorizing all of the existing material on the SSVP website under the heading RESOURCES AND FORMATION. There is some excellent work being done across all regions and our goal is to increase the number of users who benefit from these resources. We are in the process of organizing the material under the four pillars as a high-level approach with subcategories that are easy for a user to define.

The role of the Formation Committee is to review what exists, to identify gaps, and to address the gaps by coordinating the development of resources and tools to fill the gaps. This must be an inclusive process and we must engage all members in this process. The Committee is designed to support and facilitate formation across the country.

Yours in Christ,

*Deborah Joyce, Chair  
National Formation Committee*