

# Society of St. Vincent de Paul

## Quarterly Newsletter



Vincetians at our Ozanam Sunday Party



Based in the offices of St. Thomas Church, the Ann Arbor SVdP conference collaborates closely with local social workers to pinpoint individuals and families requiring assistance. Once identified, SVdP members assess the most effective aid, be it financial assistance, home visits, resource referrals, or other forms of support. Our members live out their vocation by providing companionship, encouragement, and prayers during challenging times for those in need.



### President's Note

from Sara Carriere, SVdP President

Dear Friends,

I just returned from Cincinnati where I attended the SVdP Midwest Regional Conference. I met Vincetians from Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan reminding me we are part of a world-wide family who loves Jesus and desires to follow in His footsteps. The clearest symbol of our Vincentian Charism is the visitation of our neighbors in their homes. We are asked to see our neighbors as Jesus sees them, listen to their stories with the heart of Jesus and assist as we are able. Since the last Newsletter our Conference has celebrated Mass together on Ozanam Sunday where we heard an inspiring homily by our Spiritual Director Deacon Tom Loewe and received a special blessing from Fr. Gerald.

Summer has arrived with a change of pace: vacations, family visits etc. but we continue to meet twice a month to grow spiritually, take financial care of monies entrusted to us, seek better ways to serve our neighbors and most essentially to PRAY for our neighbors and donors. Our Neighbors In Need are still receiving eviction notices, sleeping in cars or simply trying not to get sick so they won't lose a paycheck. They need our help now as well as at Christmas and Easter. I am full of gratitude for the Vincentian Family that prays and gives alms for the work of Christ. Please pray for us!

Sara, Vincentian



*Vincentians at our Ozanam Mass in April*

## Why I'm a Vincentian

The 3 goals of the Society are the Spiritual Growth of its members, Friendship with each other, and Service to those in our community needing help.

The idea of not having enough money to pay your bills or buy food to eat has always bothered me. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was established to address problems like this. In working with our neighbors, we are able to ease the stress and fear caused by a lack of money and give them hope of a different future. I have prayed, laughed, and cried with the neighbors in need. The face of Jesus is found in the faces of those we serve.

By Barb Norman, Vincentian since 1989

**DONATE TODAY** at the St. Thomas the Apostle Church website:  
[www.sta2.org/church/giving](http://www.sta2.org/church/giving)  
 or by mail: 530 Elizabeth St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104

## Become a Vincentian

Helping families, elderly and the vulnerable living in poverty is hands-on-work. The needs are endless and growing! We need your hands and hearts to sustain us in our calling to serve Christ in the poor. Vincentian Volunteers can serve in many ways. They respond to requests for financial assistance and make home visits. Others help pack our "blessing bags" or keep computer records. Still others can help with second language skills such as Spanish. Do you desire to serve Christ in the poor in a hands-on way? Do you wish to grow in spiritual life and come closer to God? Do you wish to serve in a caring community? If so, join us in our SVdP ministry! To learn about becoming a Vincentian Volunteer contact Bernadine Cimprich at [bcimprich42@gmail.com](mailto:bcimprich42@gmail.com)

"Truly I tell you whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me"

### BY THE NUMBERS

In the past quarter, April, May & June 2024 we have assisted 275 people with rent, utility and car repair help. We spent \$25,548; made 26 Blessing Bag visits and handled 81 individual requests.