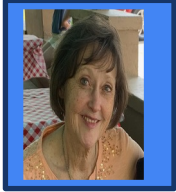


Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Quarterly Newsletter

July 2025, Issue No. 6



President's Note

from Sara Carriere, SVdP President

Dear Friends,

On this hot July day, I am looking out at the beautiful sky from the comfort of my home and feeling very blessed. Among my blessings is the great privilege of serving in the SVdP Conference at St. Thomas the Apostle. Our Society is founded on spiritual formation, service to our neighbors and fellowship.

I want to share the joyful events since our last newsletter. We served a Lenten Dinner for our parish which was great fun, and your generosity was gratefully received. Fourteen of our Vincentian members gathered together at St. Thomas for a day of prayer and reflection on the cusp of Holy Week. It was a truly fruitful retreat, beginning with Mass, after which we shared a simple breakfast and fellowship. We ended our Spiritual Retreat with an Act of Consecration to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary. On May 4 we celebrated the 192nd birthday of the Society of SVdP in Paris by sharing a birthday cake with parishioners after the 9:30 mass.

If you feel blessed, as I do, please consider joining this SVdP Conference overflowing with Spirituality, Fellowship and Service. God's generosity cannot be outdone!

Service to our Neighbors

Home Visit - Our Story

Two of our Vincentians visited the "H" family - Mom, Dad and seven children. They're refugees from Afghanistan and have lived here for three years but speak no English. SVdP assisted them with their rent in May, and we visited them with a Blessing Bag (paper products, cleaning supplies, etc.). During the visit we learned that they need 2 box springs for the children's beds. If anyone has access to box springs for a twin bed, please call us at 761-8606 ext. 8. The family is also facing some harassment by the neighborhood kids who have broken their front window a few times and vandalized their backyard. Thankfully, the apartment management is helping them move to a unit in the front of the complex and away from the troublemakers. Despite their troubles they are grateful to be here, and the visit ended with the family expressing their gratitude and praying with our Vincentians.

Your donations and prayers were instrumental in helping this family and we thank you.



Quote of the Quarter

I will always welcome joyfully any opportunity that comes my way to be of service to you.

St. Vincent de Paul



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.



Spiritual Formation

VINCENTIAN RETREAT

Vincentian members gathered at St. Thomas for a day of prayer and reflection during Lent.

We started our day with Mass and breakfast. The heart of our Retreat was reading and sharing ideas on what is prayer, different styles of prayer and discerning the voice of God versus the voice of Satan. This insight into prayer will be helpful when we visit our Neighbors in Need and pray with them. At the end of the day our final prayer time was held in the school's beautiful chapel. All in all, it was a powerful day that spiritually nourished us in the service we do as Vincentians.



Be a G.E.M. (Gives Every Month)

Every day families in our area and our Parish need help. Every day families turn to Vincentian volunteers for aid - aid that you can help deliver by giving monthly. When you become a GEM (Gives Every Month) you extend a hand of hope directly into the homes of those in need.

A GEM is committed to helping each and every day by making an online donation once a month. If you'd like to become an SVDP GEM please see the link below:

sta2.org/church/.giving

If you'd like to discuss becoming a GEM with a Vincentian, please contact:

Carol Dick at tdcd40@comcast.net

By the Numbers

	4 th QTR 2024	1 st QTR 2025	2 nd QTR 2025
ASSISTED			
Households	122	98	99
Adults	142	118	115
Children	147	86	97
Home Visits	32	28	37
\$ Provided	\$23,917	\$22,605	\$31,594

**We could really use your help:
PLEASE DONATE TODAY**

St. Thomas the Apostle
Church website:

www.sta2.org/church/giving

or by mail:

530 Elizabeth St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104.



Fellowship

Events

April 4 -Our conference held a Lenten Dinner for our parish and neighbors.

May 4 - We celebrated the 192nd birthday of the Society with birthday cake after the 9:30 AM Mass.

September 28 - St. Vincent de Paul Feast Day - To honor our Patron, Members will attend Mass together and afterwards share brunch and fellowship.

**We'd like to have you as a member too!!
Please consider this opportunity to serve.**

Are you being called to serve Christ as a volunteer for St. Vincent DePaul Society? Contact us at

barbleenorman@gmail.com or 734 761-8606 extension #8."

