



What can I do?

1. You may assist us by donating non-perishable groceries to our food pantry on the first Sunday of each month.
2. You may place a donation in the poor boxes in the vestibules.
3. If you have good, used furniture or new furniture you wish to donate, the St. Vincent de Paul Society will pick it up from your home if you call 215-288-8160.
4. You may join us at our meeting on the first Sunday of the month in the parish hall after the 9:00am mass.

Any and all assistance is greatly appreciated!

The words of Jesus resound, “for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for Me”. (Matthew 25:35,40)

Church of Saint Mary

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Society of St. Vincent de Paul



*For more information
Contact the parish house.*

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Society of St Vincent de Paul

What is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

The **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is an international, nonprofit, Catholic organization of lay people whose purpose is to seek, by person-to-person involvement, to help the needy and suffering.

A large part of our SVDP ministry at St. Mary's is the distribution of non-perishable groceries and household supplies through our monthly Open Pantry collections, but we also do much more.

Over the past year, St. Mary's SVDP society provided many local families with baby formula and diapers. With the money we collected from the poor boxes and parishioner donations, we provided financial assistance with rent, utility bills, car repairs, medications, grocery certificates, clothing and furniture.

We also delivered Angel Tree gifts at Christmas, visited the homebound and provided transportation.



When does the group meet?

St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society meets on the first Sunday of each month in the parish hall after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. We have a short meeting, then SVDP members pack bags of groceries donated by parishioners and deliver those bags to our clients. Confidentiality is of the utmost importance. by the members who serve also as confidantes and links to St. Mary.



We are always looking for new members, especially as our services continue to expand and the needs of our families continue to grow.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is a ministry that rewards both families in need and the volunteers who are privileged to care for them.

How did the Society of St. Vincent de Paul begin?

Frederick Ozanam, a student of the University of Paris, wanted to address the needs of the poor during the industrial revolution. He also wanted to improve the



lives of young people by urging them to perform works of charity rather

than just talking about how they ought to be done. In 1883, Ozanam founded a charitable organization to serve these purposes. The group took as its patron the great French priest St. Vincent De Paul, who had alerted the world of his day to many social problems. The group began by visiting the poor in their homes and assisting them both spiritually and materially. The Society spread throughout Europe and to the USA in 1845. Today there are over 4,300 active conferences in this country with about 65,000 active members. Annually the Society distributes over \$100 million in direct aid to the poor in the USA.