



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Like that of its founder, Frédéric Ozanam, the vision of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is to **"embrace the world in a network of charity."**

Our Mission

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy.

Members, who are known as Vincentians are united in an international society of charity, which is nourished, by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings and adherence to a basic Rule.

Organized locally, Vincentians are an extension of God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. The Society collaborates with other people of good will in relieving need and addressing its causes, making no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ.

Who We Are and What We Do



Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (or "Vincentians") are **men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need.** All of us are blessed with an awareness that our blessings (time, talent or treasure) are to be shared with our brothers and sisters in need.

We know that we are not alone. **We are part of an international society of friends** united by a spirit of poverty, humility, and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings, and adherence to a basic Rule.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul offers tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person basis. It is this personalized involvement that makes the work of the Society unique. This aid may take the form of intervention, consultation, or often through direct dollar or in-kind service. An essential precept of the Society's work is to provide help while conscientiously maintaining the confidentiality and dignity of those who are served. The Society recognizes that it must assume, also, a role of advocacy for those who are defenseless or voiceless. Some 12 million persons are helped annually by Vincentians in the United States.

The SVdP Conference of the Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Annville PA was established in May, 1960. Our primary goal at present is assisting in feeding the hungry in the City of Lebanon through a network of other church groups coordinated through Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM). Our feedings are usually the last Sunday of each month. We use another church in the LCCM network as our feeding location. In addition, we also take the free will offering of parishioners and dispense those offering to the needy in our area in the form of back rent and utilities payments, food certificates, gas and motel costs for needy travelers. We also assist needy families from other parishes upon request from the pastor, monetary gifts to charitable organizations established through Catholic Charities or other selected organizations. We also offer monetary assistance to our twinning parish in Columbia South America. Finally, we coordinate and conduct food drives during the Thanksgiving Holiday and Souper Bowl Sunday.

The list of services of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States is endless. No work of charity is foreign to the Society. To quote our patron, St. Vincent de Paul: "Charity is the inventive to infinity."

Call Leo Batz at 717.273.3083 or 717.813.3221 if you would like to help feed the hungry of Lebanon County or to come to the next meeting here at Saint Paul the Apostle Church.

Where We Help

