

DOING GOOD!!

An E-Publication of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Cleveland



DOING GOOD!!

is sent monthly.

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Correspond with us via email at doing-good@svdpcl.org.

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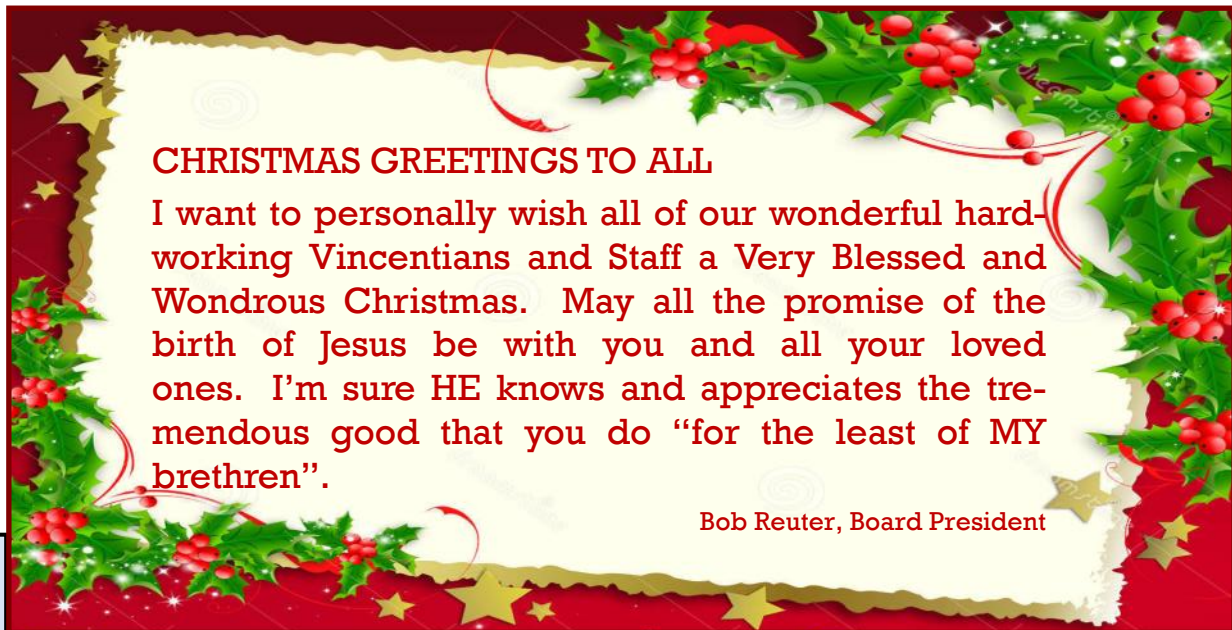
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Give Hope

Donate a car
Give hope to those in need

Donate old vehicles to SVDP by calling 1-800-322-8284 or by visiting svdpcusa.com. All donations stay local.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL

I want to personally wish all of our wonderful hard-working Vincentians and Staff a Very Blessed and Wondrous Christmas. May all the promise of the birth of Jesus be with you and all your loved ones. I'm sure HE knows and appreciates the tremendous good that you do "for the least of MY brethren".

Bob Reuter, Board President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, December 12, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

OZANAM ORIENTATION

St. Mary, Hudson
Tentative: Saturday,
February 11, 9am

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, March 13, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

FOOD CENTERS VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT

Week of April 24-28 / Time TBA

KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

Great Lakes Brewing Co.
Saturday, May 6, 4pm-8pm

DIOCESAN SVDP COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Assumption Parish, Broadview Hts.
Sunday, May 21, 9am mass

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, June 12, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

5K RUN FROM HUNGER

Saturday, July 1 Site/Time TBA

GOLF OUTING

Sleepy Hollow Golf Course
Brecksville
Friday, July 21, 8am-4pm

SVDP NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

August 28-September 2. Tampa, FL

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, September 11, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

Saturday, September 30/ Sites TBA

RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

September/October

BLANKET SUNDAY

Saturday/Sunday, October 7 & 8

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
Monday, December 11, Noon
Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

Woodland Food Center Gives Away 1,000 Turkeys, Bags of Potatoes

by Natalie Schrimpf



Our Woodland Food Center was recently featured in a weekly Cleveland e-magazine. The article highlights the December 14 distribution of 1,000 turkeys and 1,000 bags of potatoes to residents in and surrounding Cleveland's impoverished Central neighborhood. Now in its 13th year, the event is made possible thanks to the generosity of Fortney & Weygandt, Inc. [Click here to read more.](#)

RESULTS OF

SVDP NATIONAL ELECTION

Thanks to all our Conferences that completed the ballot for election of the next National SVDP President. The results were 2 to 1 in favor of Ralph Middlecamp. A group of staff members counted your Conference ballots and reported the results to Bob Reuter. He then filled out the Official Diocesan ballot reporting your vote for Middlecamp and mailed it in a special envelope to St. Louis headquarters. All Conferences across the country follow the same protocol. The total from all Conferences and Councils will be announced in Frederic's Gazette sometime in January.



WOODLAND PANTRY MANAGER POSITION OPENS

Will Skora, Operations Manager at our Woodland Pantry and Conference Supply Center has accepted a position with the Cleveland Public Library in its website department and will be leaving December 2nd. John Litten has prepared a job description for the position which can be viewed at: [\(Click Here\)](#). Anyone interested in the job should contact John at jlitten@svdpcl.org as soon as possible.

Conference Supply Center

Please keep making use of our Supply Center, which is here for you to better serve the needs of your clients. Remember that orders can be filled out online: [Conference Supply Center Order Form](#)



- ◆ Beds, mattresses, blankets and winter wear
- ◆ Laptop computers
- ◆ Hoodies, socks, caps



Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven"

MATTHEW 5.16



Community Corner Offers Food, Household Items

by Natalie Schrimpf

Did you know that SVDP's Community Corner Food Center not only provides nourishment to poor individuals and families in Cleveland's Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood, but that it also offers clothing and household items through its resale shop? This Food Center was one of three that we acquired from the Center for Families and Children in April this year.



Clients receiving 3-day supply of food

For years, residents of this neighborhood have relied on the resale shop as a source for basic necessities – clothing, dishes, lamps, toys and more – that would otherwise be unaffordable at conventional stores. Obtained solely through donations, the items are sold at nominal prices to allow neighborhood residents the dignity associated with making a purchase, as opposed to receiving a hand out. Income from the resale shop helps to pay monthly rent.

Always in need of additional items, Community Corner resale shop is located at 8302 Detroit Avenue and open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information: (216) 631-6508.



Partial view of resale shop

Case Management Software Update

By Anelize Nader

The Diocesan Council will launch the new software in January, along with nine initial Conferences. There will be a period of training and adjustment, and we are all very excited about the benefits of this software which included: centralized intake information, with easy and clear information sharing (same current levels of confidentiality, with the added bonus of better client scrutiny); reporting made easy! Stay tuned for more updates.

Friends of the Poor Walk 2016

Our Conferences' big fundraiser this year brought in over \$15,000. Congratulations to these Conferences which netted over \$1,000 each:

- ◆ St. Gabriel
- ◆ Holy Family
- ◆ St. Victor
- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul/Cleveland
- ◆ Diocesan Council
- ◆ Our Lady of Hope (decided to host a Walk at the last minute, and still did very well!)



THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND SVDP

By Mike Birskevich

On November 27th, we observed the Feast of the Miraculous Medal, a significant feast for Vincentians. *The Medal* was created at the request of the Blessed Virgin in 1830 when she appeared to St. Catherine Labouré while in the motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, founded by Saints Vincent and Louise. The first medals were made in 1832 and 1833 the same years Frederic Ozanam and friends established the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Frederic was deeply devoted to our Blessed Mother and it's hard to believe him not among the very first recipients of the new Marian Medal.

In those early years, the medal was called "Medal of the Immaculate Conception" and Frederic was insistent that the Society of St Vincent de Paul take *Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception* as its patroness. However as more stories of miracles were reported; almost immediately the medal came to be called "Miraculous". Our founding and growth around the world can be called nothing but a Miraculous answer to Frederic's prayers.

The first members chose *December 8th* to renew their request to *Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception*, to guide them in their charitable deeds.

LOW VISION ENLARGEMENT MACHINE

Do you have a poor client with uncorrectable low vision who cannot read a phone book or a letter? We have an older used CCTV (closed circuit television) that enlarges printed items up to 20 times bigger than the original. Enlargements are only black and white. New CCTV's cost from \$1500 to \$2400 but are in both black/white and color. If you know someone who might enjoy having it, call Bob at 440-243-0510.