

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 21, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Paul Treacy

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Michael Barsness

Deacon: Larry Lawinger

PARISH OFFICE

9100 93rd Avenue North

Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

Phone: (763) 425-2210

Email: churchinfo@saintvdp.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Wed: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Thur-Fri: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday Evening—5:00 pm

Sunday—7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Daily Masses

Monday through Friday—8:00 am

Holy Day Masses

As announced

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Friday—7:30 am

Saturday—3:30-4:15 pm

Or call the parish office at (763) 425-2210 to schedule an appointment.

EDUCATION CENTER

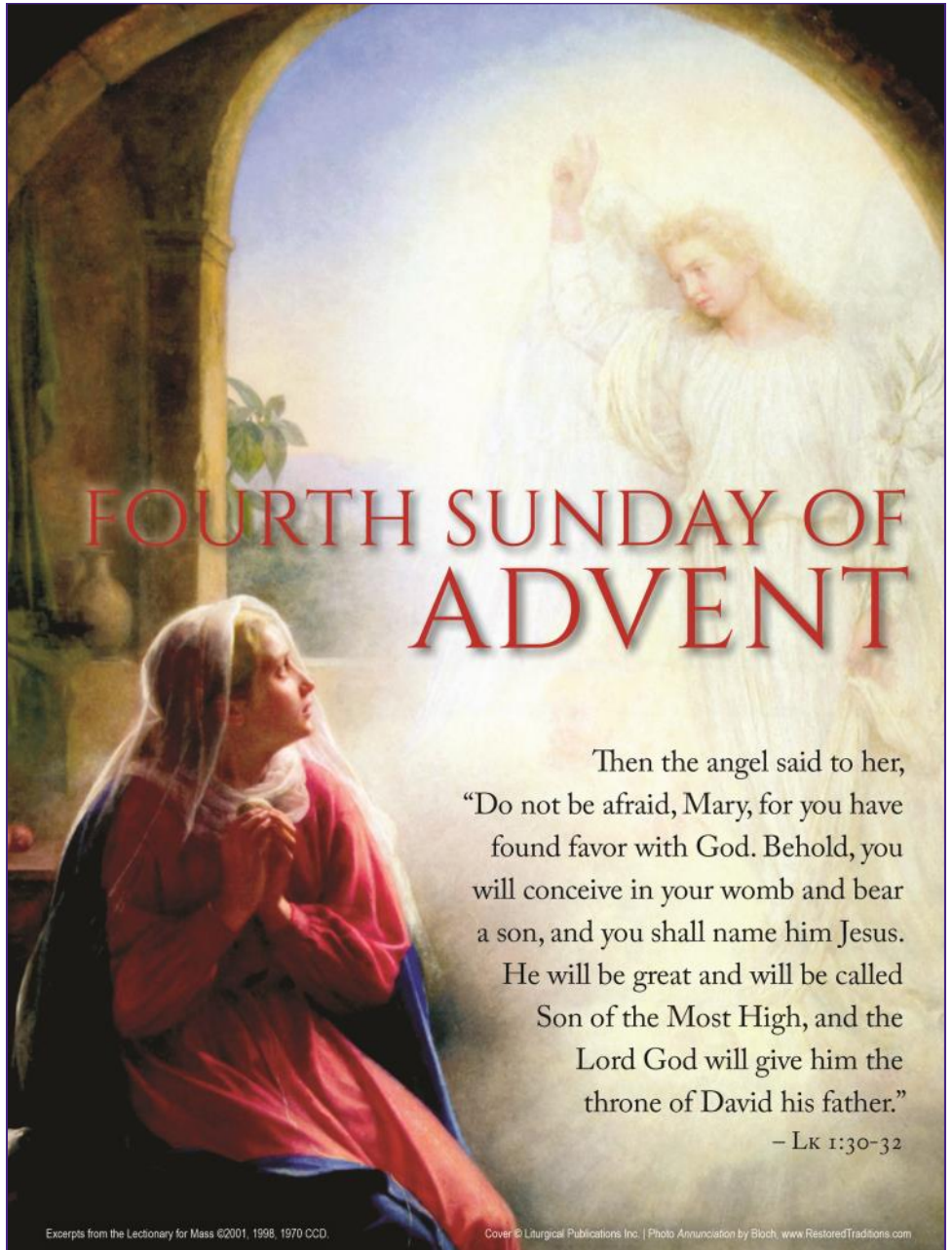
9050 93rd Avenue North

Brooklyn Park, MN 55445-1406

School Office: (763) 425-3970

Email: schoolinfo@saintvdp.org

Principal: Kathleen O'Hara



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT, APPROVED BY THE PASTORAL COUNCIL IN MAY 2009:

Know
and celebrate our
Catholic Faith,

Love
God and our neigh-
bor,

Serve
as disciples of
Jesus Christ.

www.saintvdp.org



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PAROCHIAL VICAR
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DEACON
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PREPARING TO WELCOME JESUS AND HIS GUESTS

This week we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent and then Christ is born at Christmas. Even with all the busyness, it is a very blessed time for families and parishes alike.

Think about all the grace that is being poured out around the world when churches fill up and Christians everywhere rejoice in the presence of Jesus among us. Here at St. Vincent de Paul, we hope that we are bursting at every Mass.

Speaking of bursting, the 4:00 pm Mass has for the last few years been overflowing beyond what the church can comfortably seat, filling both the chapel and the Gathering Space. For this reason, on Christmas Eve, we are transforming Regan Hall into a beautiful worship space and offering another Mass at 4:00 pm. That way, there should be a place for everyone either in Regan Hall or in the Church.

This week, we are happy to welcome so many parishioners and guests. St. Benedict instructed his monasteries that "All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ." Christmas and the Christmas season are special opportunities to welcome all those who come to St. Vincent's, as we would welcome Jesus.



I encourage everyone to think about the many little ways we can welcome others at Christmas and every week. Consider holding the door and greeting guests as they walk in, offering a kind smile, or being patient in the church and then parking lot. Additionally, small acts of kindness such as creating space at the end of the pews by moving toward the middle, or being aware of and inviting in someone who is looking for a seat - all go a long way to opening hearts to the real Christmas Spirit.

May this Christmas season renew all of us in the awareness that God is with us and works through us to be his instruments of peace.

From the entire staff and parish leadership, and all who make our celebrations possible, best wishes to you this final week of Advent and Merry Christmas!

May God bless you and your loved ones during this beautiful season.

— Fr. Paul

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

The Parish Office will be closed on Dec. 23rd–25th.

Q
A

Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all.

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
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PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

As we journey through the last week of Advent, let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ by finding time in our lives to spend in His presence in the Eucharist!

Adorers are needed for:

- Sunday: 3 am, 7 am, 2 pm, 3 pm, 5 pm, 11 pm
- Tuesday: 9 pm
- Wednesday: 12 am, 8 am, 2 pm
- Thursday: 8 am, 11 am, noon, 1 pm, 5 pm
- Friday: 3 pm, 4 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm
- Saturday: 3 pm, 10 pm

We are looking for a hourly coordinator for 11 pm. This requires approximately 10 minutes of phoning a week.

Please call JoAnne Newman at 763-420-4089 to sign up or to be a sub.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR DEC. 22-28, 2014



Monday	8:00 am	† Edward Matzke
Tuesday	8:00 am	† Rodney Evans
Wednesday	4:00 pm	† Owen Printy
(Regan Hall)	4:00 pm	† Martha Smith
	6:00 pm	† Printy Deceased Family
	10:00 pm	† Margaret Printy
Thursday	7:30 am	Parishioners
	9:00 am	Louise Pasek
	11:00 am	† Gary Wurzer
Friday	8:00 am	† Robert Chupurdia
Saturday	5:00 pm	† Ida Braun
Sunday	7:30 am	Parishioners
	9:00 am	† Eleanor Newman
	11:00 am	† Mary Marino



LITURGICAL ROLES

FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24 & THURSDAY, DEC. 25:



- 4:00 pm Fr. Barsness
- 4:00 pm (Regan Hall) Fr. Treacy
- 6:00 pm Fr. Treacy
- 10:00 pm Fr. Barsness
- 7:30 am Fr. Treacy
- 9:00 am Fr. Treacy
- 11:00 am Fr. Barsness

PRESIDERS

- 4:00 pm Freedom
- 4:00 pm (Regan Hall) Julia Waletzko
- 6:00 pm Kern Family
- 10:00 pm Singcerely His
- 7:30 am Resound
- 9:00 am Devotion
- 11:00 am Children's Choir (all invited!)

MUSICIANS

FOR SATURDAY, DEC. 27 & SUNDAY, DEC. 28:



- 5:00 pm Fr. Barsness
- 7:30 am Fr. Treacy
- 9:00 am Fr. Treacy
- 11:00 am Fr. Barsness

PRESIDERS

- 5:00 pm Resound
- 7:30 am Laurie Murphy
- 9:00 am Kern Family
- 11:00 am Capistrant Family

MUSICIANS

- 5:00 pm Ursula Godin
- 7:30 am Linda Berscheit
- 9:00 am Dorothy Malone
- 11:00 am Carol Gottschalk

WELCOME CENTER

- 5:00 pm Jim & Betty Bartos
- 7:30 am Donna Anderson & Donna Crimmins
- 9:00 am Evie Taylor & Corinne Lauer
- 11:00 am Bodensteiner Family

GIFT SHOP

Please note:

Liturgical Roles for Servers, Lectors, and Eucharistic Ministers were not yet determined at the time this bulletin went to press.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 21, 2014:

- Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
- Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
- Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
- Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
- Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
- Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
- Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
- Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Next Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40



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SVDP BOOK CLUB

SVDP Book club is reading
Rome Sweet Home,
 a conversion story

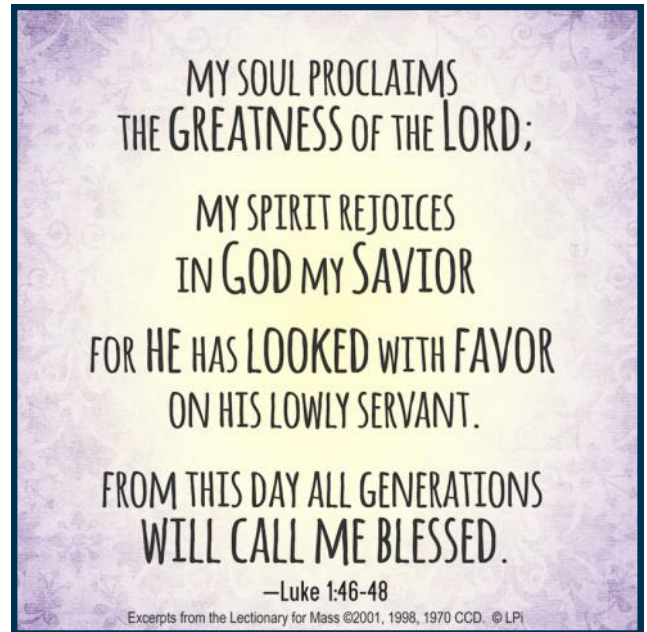
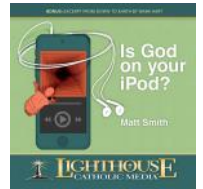
by Scott and Kimberly Hahn. More information
 at www.saintvdp.org/groups/book-club.

**INSPIRING AND INFORMATIVE
 CATHOLIC CD'S**
 Still only \$3 each!

A great stocking stuffer!

One of the titles is: "Is God on Your iPod?"

Is mainstream music bad for you? Can hit songs remind you of the things of God? Matt Smith discusses how we as Christians can judge all different types of music to determine whether or not it is going to lead us closer to The Good, The True and The Beautiful...which is ultimately closer towards God.

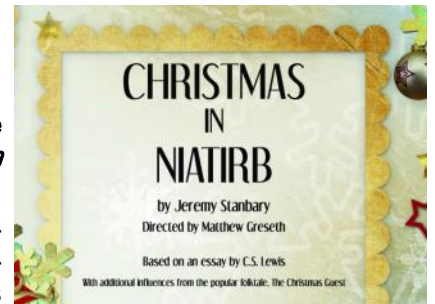


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OPEN WINDOW THEATRE PRODUCTION

Open Window Theatre
 presents *Christmas in
 Niatirb*, Dec. 5–30.

An astute and humorous look at the traditions of "Exmas" versus Christmas through the lens of the fictional inhabitants of the island of Niatirb (Britain spelled backwards). This original full-length play based on a little known essay by C.S. Lewis follows a young teenage girl in her surprising journey to move beyond the madness of the Exmas Rush and discover what Christmas is really all about. At stake is the very future of her family. **Buy tickets at openwindowtheatre.org.** Open Window Theatre is a Catholic theatre located near the Basilica of St. Mary at 1313 Chestnut Ave.



SCHOOL NEWS

*Christmas Blessings from the
 St. Vincent de Paul School
 Students and Staff*

2015-2016 ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS

We are currently accepting enrollment applications for kindergarteners for the 2015-2016 school year. There are openings in several other grades as well.

Our school offers a nationally accredited K-8 program. Call the school office at 763-425-3970 for more information or to schedule a school tour.

SAVE THE DATES:

FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE:

Saturday, March 7, 2015, Regan Hall. Watch for details for this all parish event.

AUCTION FOR EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for the next Auction for Education to benefit our Faith Formation Program and St. Vincent de Paul School on **Saturday, Apr. 18th**. The theme will be "The Kentucky Derby". More details in upcoming bulletins.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SHARES THEIR CHRISTMAS JOY!

The Sunday School Children had a lot of fun singing Christmas carols at Coffee and Company a few weeks ago.



A special "Thank you!" to Jennifer Kuzma, Amy Fleigle, Tanya Kvam, Olivia Fleigle, Isabella Fleigle, and the catechists for all of their hard work putting together our music program.

Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, and parishioners who came to listen to us sing. Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas Season.



*For unto us
a child is born*



Puzzle

Find the matching shadow.



Sharing the Gospel

Think of the people you trust. These are people you can count on, no matter what happens. Both Mary and Elizabeth were amazed to learn that they were pregnant. God had surprised each of them with a special miracle – a baby. God trusted them both to take care of their babies. Mary and Elizabeth trusted God to help them. You can trust God, too.



Read the Gospel and Color



QUESTION OF THE WEEK



- **Adult/Teen:** Name one area of your life that you think is impossible. During this week, ask God to assist you with that area of your life.
- **Child:** God has a wonderful plan for you. What can you do each day to listen to God?

Please take some time today to discuss these questions or reflect on them in private prayer.

—From *Lectionary Link* by Harcourt Publishers



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PICK UP YOUR LAST-MINUTE ITEMS AT THE GIFT SHOP!

Clearance sale!

50% off on many items.

The gift shop is now carrying the very popular Fontanini Nativity set. They are hand-painted figures that are made in Italy.

Kids love handling them, and parents love that they don't break easily.

*Stop in and shop.
 We now accept credit cards.*



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 14



Women of all ages are invited **Women IN the New Evangelization** to the Catholic Women's Conference sponsored by the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis in partnership with WINE: Women In the New Evangelization.

February 14, 2015: 8 am - 2 pm (Doors open at 7 am for coffee, camaraderie & caramel rolls!) Lunch is provided.

On this beautiful Feast of Saint Valentine, the focus of the conference will be the heart: A Heart Drawn by Love: Sent on Fire. The event features keynote speakers Patti Schreiber and Nancy Jo Sullivan, and Mass celebrated by Bishop Andrew Cozzens.

Cost: \$30 per person before January 19, 2015 (Early bird); \$40 per person after January 19. The event will be held nearby at Epiphany in Coon Rapids.

For more information or to register, please visit www.womeninthenewevangelization.com or call 651-291-4411.

Children's Christmas Choir



CALLING ALL CHILDREN!

Children in grades 2-6 are invited to join together to sing at the 11 am Mass on Christmas Day.

We will practice at 10 am and sing for Mass at 11 am. You don't need to be in a choir to participate in this Mass. We will sing our favorite Christmas Carols and have a fabulous time singing at Mass!

Children should wear their "Sunday Best" Christmas clothes.

Please contact Jacquie Okoh ASAP at: jacquieokoh@saintvdp.org

PLEASE USE CAUTION WITH SNACKS

If you are packing snacks for your children for Mass, please remember to avoid nuts, especially peanuts. (Some children have such severe allergies, that even if it is airborne, the child can get seriously ill.) Also, please try to avoid juice boxes or pouches which can spill and ruin the seats. Thank you for your consideration!



YOUTH MINISTRY



WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US AT YOUTH GROUP!

Grades 7-8 come to EDGE Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 pm in the East Meeting Room	Grades 9-12 come to LIFENight Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 pm in the East Meeting Room
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MEN'S & WOMEN'S RETREATS FOR SR. HIGH STUDENTS:

Men's and women's only retreats provide us a unique opportunity to talk about chastity, leadership, accountability, discipleship, and friendship in a targeted way for "just the girls" and "just the guys." During the weekend we will hear talks, discuss, pray, relax, play football, spend time outdoors, dance, play, talk, and grow closer to others and God. For the women - with just the girls. For the guys - with just the guys. **Men's & Women's retreat will be held on Friday January 23rd - Saturday, January 24th. Registration coming soon.**



BUSINESS MANAGER
Norm Olafson
 (763) 425-2210, ext. 411
Email: normolafson@saintvdp.org

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE DEC. 28TH BULLETIN HAS PASSED.



THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JAN. 4TH BULLETIN IS THIS MONDAY, DEC. 22ND AT NOON.



**DECEMBER 7, 2014
(WEEK 23)**

	Current	Year-to-Date
Sunday General Collection	\$25,849.92	\$851,613.58
Automatic Withdrawal & Online Giving	\$19,088.40	
Christmas Donations	\$455.00	
Children/Youth	\$54.28	\$1,141.40
Total Support	\$45,287.60	\$852,754.98
Major Repair & Replacement Fund-Collection	\$120.00	
Automatic Withdrawal & Online Giving	\$432.00	
Total Support for Major Repair Fund	\$552.00	\$20,918.25
2nd collection for Charity fund	\$6,453.98	

Thank you for your generous support of the ministries of St. Vincent de Paul!

KC Rosary:

There is a rosary prayed every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the cry room, led by the Knights of Columbus. Plan to attend whenever you can.

NEW ONLINE CALENDAR!

- Wondering what room a Bible Study is in?
- Or when the basketball game is?
- Or when Youth Group is over?
- Or just are curious why there are cars in the parking lot?

Check out our new online calendar!

On our homepage, there is a "calendar" link or go to: calendar.saintvdp.org.

Take a look!

Please join in our celebration of the Sacraments this Christmas:

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Individual)

Saturday December 20 2 priests 6:00-8:00 pm
 Sunday December 21 2 priests 1:00-3:00 pm



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

4:00 pm * 6:00 pm * 10:00 pm

NOTE: There will be two Masses at 4 pm on Christmas Eve - one in the Church and one in Regan Hall.

Thursday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
 7:30 am * 9:00 am * 11:00 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)

Wednesday, December 31, 2014 – 5:00 pm
 Thursday, January 1, 2015 – 10:00 am

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 am Sunday Pre-school/Education Ctr
 11:00 am Sunday Pre-school/Education Ctr
 12:30 pm Baptisms/Sanctuary
 1:00 pm Confessions/Chapel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00 pm Resound Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary Back

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

3:30 pm Confessions/Chapel



REMINDER: PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES

Please do not leave purses or valuables in your car while you are attending Mass. Also do not leave your purses unattended while receiving Holy Communion. Sadly, not all people come to church to worship.



CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP

Here are a few of the "offerings" from the children's envelopes received last Sunday:

- ✠ Jack—listened to my dad
- ✠ Ali—picking up my books
- ✠ Tyler—I sang at the Christmas Bazaar
- ✠ Cally—helped sister make bracelets
- ✠ Wyatt—nice to kids at school
- ✠ Mya—I was good for my grandma
- ✠ Jimmy—let my sister sleep in my tent with me

WARM UP WITH THOUGHTS OF SUMMER!

Registration is now open for all parish kids needing Summer Care. The program is open to parish children entering grades 1-6 in the fall of 2015. The deadline to enroll for Royal Kids Summer Care is March 13.



Go to www.saintvdp.org and look for the link to Royal Kids Care under Announcements.

Questions? Contact: margaretkoss@saintvdp.org

FASTER THAN THE PASTOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED



St. Vincent de Paul's Faster than the Pastor 5K and Little Lambs Mad Dash are looking for several new committee members.

Interested in serving our community in a unique, fun and dynamic way? In our 5th year, this committee is looking to bring additional vibrancy and energy to this year's event.

Please contact Race Director Pam Baker at: runforlife@comcast.net, or 612-940-3149.

A TALL THANK YOU!

The two 14-foot tall Christmas trees by the San Damiano Crucifix were (and have been for many years) donated by the Janet and Calvin Gray family.

Janet recently passed away – please pray for her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed. For all of the huge, beautiful trees and for your generosity, St. Vincent's parish thanks you!



– The Art and Environment Group

ARMS OF HOPE MISCARRIAGE MINISTRY INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE KIOSK



Nothing can prepare parents, family, and friends for a baby dying prior to birth. During this difficult time, we encourage you to contact our pastoral staff. We are able to assist families as they journey through the many emotions that they will face.

For families that have experienced miscarriages in the past, we encourage you to honor the memory of your baby by inscribing the child's name on the monument. Learn more about the ministry by picking up a brochure in the kiosk in the Gathering Area.

CONSIDER THIS:

Donate appreciated stock: You can give appreciated stock to



your church and/or charity and benefit greatly. If you've held it for more than one year you may take a charitable tax deduction for the market value of the stock, and neither you nor the church/charity has to pay capital-gains taxes when the stock is sold. The combination can result in a bigger deduction (and more tax savings) for you and a bigger gift for the charity than if you sell the stock, pay the taxes, and donate the net proceeds.



Stewardship

AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

a way of life

At all the Masses recently, we recognized our gifts as coming from God and committed to various areas of Stewardship. If you did not turn in your forms, please do so either in the Parish office, in the collection basket or by mailing them in. We want everyone to share their time, talent and treasure that will bless our parish.

DON'T FORGET,
YOU CAN SIGN UP ONLINE AT www.saintvdp.org!

Thank you for your consideration and thank you for making Stewardship a way of life at St. Vincent de Paul.

GRIEF TO GRACE PROGRAM - JANUARY 11-16

"Grief to Grace Healing-the Wounds of Abuse" is a spiritual program for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual, or spiritual abuse. It is appropriate for anyone who has endured sexual abuse, rape, incest, or other forms of traumatic violation in childhood or adolescence. It is also appropriate for anyone who has been abused by clergy. Grief to Grace invites participants to journey through this retreat program in the name of love. Dr. Theresa Burke, founder of Rachel's Vineyard retreats for healing after abortion, composed the program and will serve as the facilitator for this retreat.

Visit www.griefftoGrace.org for more information about this upcoming retreat in our area. To request an application, contact: info@griefftoGrace.org or call 610-203-2002.

Please reserve your spot now as space is limited.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Must be a practicing Catholic and age 18 or older – these are the only requirements to join. Any man interested in learning more, please call: Bob Clark at 763-424-5509, Robert Moreland at 763-557-0874, or Tom Heltemes at 763-425-2314.



www.saintvdp.org/parish/groups/knights



All adults, age 18 and older, should be registered.

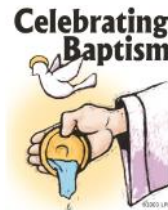
MEMBERSHIP

We welcome you to our parish family! If you are interested in learning more about our church, or would like to join, please stop in at the parish office to register.

You may also register at the Welcome Center before or after Mass or over the internet at www.saintvdp.org.

BAPTISMS:

1st and 3rd Sundays at 12:30 pm. Pre-Baptism Class is required. Call the Parish office to register. It is recommended that you attend the class before the birth of your child.



MATRIMONY:

Arrangements should be made one year in advance.



Call the parish office for more information at 763-425-2210.

www.saintvdp.org/youth-ministry

www.saintvdp.org/parish/events

Outreach



DIR. OF PASTORAL & SOCIAL OUTREACH

Okey Anyanwu

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Email: okey@saintvdp.org



PASTORAL MINISTER

Margaret Schauer

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Email: margaretschauer@saintvdp.org

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Danny Kroll, Darlene Gross, Darlene Loeffler, Mary Setzler, Veronica Smude, Bob Burks, Cole McDonough, Sylvia Ditter, Alfred Smith, Jerien Okoh-Tisch, Paul Costabilo, Steve Kane, Ed Kauffman, and Bette Wills.



PRAYER REQUEST LINE CONTACT PEOPLE

DAILY — 8 AM TO 9 PM: Jackie McDonough at (763) 425-7297

EVENINGS, WEEKENDS: Anna Duffy at (763) 323-8018

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HITS THE ROAD...

Our parish Outreach ministry will take parishioners on the road beginning January through May 2015. This new program highlights the Eucharistic message of going into and beyond our immediate communities to become the "Jesus" we receive daily and weekly at Mass.

When we hit the road this new year, we will be visiting the following organizations and communities being supported by Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD):

- Tuesday, January 27th: Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en Lucha
- Saturday, February 21st: Catholic Charities Higher Ground
- Tuesday, March 24th: Elpis Enterprises
- Saturday, April 25th: Hmong American Farmers Association
- Tuesday, May 26th: East Side Neighborhood Development Co.

Please, consider joining us for some or all of these local immersion trips, which are meant to affirm our presence not just as a church IN the community, but a church FOR and WITH the community in the spirit of our patron saint - St. Vincent de Paul.

For more information, please contact Okey Anyanwu at the parish office: (763) 425-2210, Ext. 417 or e-mail: okey@saintvdp.org