

**CHARITY & JUSTICE
COMMUNITY BUILDING MINISTRIES**

St. Vincent de Paul Church
9100 93RD Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445
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Web Site: www.saintvdp.org

Auction for Education – This is an annual spring event to help raise funds for our school and religious education programs at St. Vincent de Paul.

Befriender Ministry - BeFrienders are volunteer lay ministers who are trained to provide a listening presence to people in difficult and transitional situations such as illness or loss of a loved one. They are trained to listen with compassion without giving advice or making judgments.

CCW - The Council of Catholic Women is an organization that fosters spiritual growth and friendship. Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month and consist of a short business meeting followed by an activity or program. CCW is the umbrella over the Christmas Bazaar, Fall Rummage Sale, Spring Tea and various outreach programs.

Cana Celebration - On the Saturday closest to St. Valentine's Day we host a Cana Celebration in appreciation of the Sacrament of Marriage. The event includes a short day retreat and lunch, evening prayer service and dinner/dance.

C.R.O.S.S. - Christians Reaching Out in Social Service is a non-profit organization that provides financial and material assistance and Meals on Wheels. St. Vincent's conducts two major food drives for C.R.O.S.S. each year. Volunteers are needed at the facility.

Discover Program – Is for single mothers and their children who are making the move from welfare to work. There is a support group for mothers and a meal and childcare. We do this program together with many area churches.

Funeral Lunches – This ministry administers to the needs of the departed parishioner's family and friends by providing them with food and volunteer staff for a luncheon.

Garden Angels – It takes many hands to keep our flowers and gardens beautiful during the spring/summer months.

Gift Shop - Open before and after weekend and holy day masses to provide religious and gift items for sale. Volunteers typically work once every 4-6 weeks. All profits go to operation of the church.

Giving Tree - The Giving Tree is dedicated to fulfilling the holiday wishes of children and adults who would otherwise go without gifts. Parishioners purchase gifts that are distributed to needy families and Berkshire residents.

Grief Ministry - Volunteers assist in sponsoring parish-wide educational seminars regarding death and grief. They also assist at an annual Memorial Prayer Service to honor our deceased loved ones that are held in November.

Habitat for Humanity - We serve as a partner with Habitat each year, providing construction labor, funds and other support. Habitat is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to eliminating sub-standard housing and homelessness worldwide.

Harvest Festival – This is one of the parish’s major social and fundraising events held in the late summer for the entire family to include food, games, and prizes for everyone.

Homebound Ministry - Volunteers do friendly visits to homebound individuals and frequently bring the homebound communion.

Knights of Columbus - Membership is open to all practicing Catholic men 18 years or older. The KC’s are committed to unity, charity, and fraternity with fellow brother Knights. Our main objectives are providing support to St. Vincent de Paul School and Church, and the Osseo/Maple Grove community.

Living Rosary – Members say one decade of the rosary daily for peace in the world and peace within our families.

Nursery - Our Sunday nursery’s goal is to provide a safe childcare environment for children 6 months to 5 years of age while their parents attend the 9 or 11 a.m. Mass. Our nursery is run on a cooperative basis, and parents who use the nursery are expected to assist 1-2 times/hours over the course of the calendar year.

Nursing Home Ministry - Volunteers preside at Communion-Word Services every Friday at five area nursing home/senior residences. Volunteers also visit residents on a one-on-one basis and help with activities.

Parents Morning Out - This group provides an opportunity for parents to meet fellow parish members and find socialization for themselves as well as their children. Childcare is provided while the parents have time together. Meetings feature speakers, projects and special programs that are the 2nd Tuesday of each month starting at 9:30 a.m.

Prayer Request Line - Volunteers pray for special and specific intentions of people in need of prayer. Prayer requests are passed on via e-mail or telephone network. If you want a ministry that you can do anywhere, anytime, this is for you.

Prepare Ministry – Prepare couples are volunteer lay ministers who are trained to mentor couples engaged to be married. The process helps develop the communication techniques needed for successful marriages.

Senior Lunch - On the third Tuesday of the month a luncheon is held in Regan Hall at 12:30 p.m. for all area seniors. Reservations are required.

Sharing and Caring Hands - On the second Wednesday of each month parishioners prepare and serve the evening meal to the homeless who depend on Sharing and Caring Hands Ministry to meet their nutritional needs.

Transportation Ministry - Volunteers provide rides for parishioners who are unable to drive to Mass, or to appointments or errands during the week.