
† SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL †

VANCOUVER CONFERENCE

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1

ST. JAMES, ST. JOSEPH, OUR LADY OF LOURDES, HOLY REDEEMER

MAY 2008

175th Anniversary of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul 1833-2008

A Brief History of the Society as written in our website: St. Vincent de Paul was the inspiration if not the founder of the society that bears his name. He was born in the late 16th century in France, became a priest for perhaps the wrong reasons, but then allowed God to transform him into a champion for the poor and oppressed.



Saint Vincent de Paul

The society bearing Vincent's name was founded in Paris by Frederic Ozanam in 1833. Frederic was a 20 year old university student troubled by attitudes prevalent in post-revolution France. He believed that the idealistic vision popular among his fellow students of utopian secular communities would not be successful because it lacked the Christian principles of love and mercy. Challenged to practice his beliefs, Frederic gathered a few other students with beliefs similar to his and together they pooled their money and began delivering groceries to the shut-ins in the poverty-stricken streets of Paris.

This concept, as simple as it was, proved to be powerful and produced a movement which grew rapidly. Within a year there were more than 100 members. Eleven short years later, the society had spread to the United States and by 1853, the year Frederic died at age 40, the society could boast 2000 conferences, 500 of which were outside of France. On August 22, 1997, Frederic Ozanam was beatified by Pope John Paul II at the cathedral in Paris.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to serve the poor in over 132 countries in all areas of the world.



Frederic Ozanam

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

On September 27, 2008 the Society of St. Vincent de Paul celebrates 175 years of service. Celebration presumes commitment and we at the Vancouver Conference are truly committed to our unique mission, serving the poor. However, we could never accomplish this mission without the support of the four local parishes, Holy Redeemer, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. James and St. Joseph, who comprise this conference. We receive both monetary and food donations on a regular basis from all of these parishes which is what keeps us going. However when we are in need of a specific item(s) all we have to do is ask. Many times we have specific needs for hygiene items, toilet paper, plastic bags, etc. and the parishioners of these parishes step forward immediately. Then there is the outpouring of food given at several parishes at the Thanksgiving Mass. Most of our volunteers are also parishioners of these parishes so we are truly blessed in many ways. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all four parishes and their parishioners. We could not accomplish our mission without your support.

Shirley Buckmier

Inside This Issue:

Anniversary of the Society
The President's Corner
Back to School Program
How Does Your Garden Grow?
Volunteer Appreciation Social
Donating Toys
United States SVPD Society
Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
Wish List
Source of Food



Back to School Pro-

Last year we were able to add another week of giving away clothing and school supplies which resulted in assisting 720 children. Even though school is just coming to an end, this is the time of year we start collecting clothing for school aged children, school supplies, and cash/gift cards for next years Back to School Program. We would love to be able to offer free haircuts to some of the children that come in if anyone would like to donate their expertise. Thank you for your donations to this most needed program.

Donating Toys

Before donating children's toys, it's a good idea to check the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website, www.cpsc.gov, for recalls. We ask that you donate responsibly, especially now that we are into garage-sale season. It is no fun for a child to receive a toy that is broken or missing pieces. Thank you.



HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Here at SVDP, we appreciate any donations of fresh vegetables, fruit, eggs, and anything else that we can supplement our food bags. Produce is an expensive food and our families could really use the added nutritional value of fresh produce. Anyone with a garden knows there are times when we grow way more than expected. This is a great way to let the food get to people who need it more than the deer and rabbits!

Volunteer Appreciation Social



Lots of wonderful food and desserts were enjoyed by our volunteers this year at our December 2007 Volunteer Appreciation Social. It was a great opportunity to meet new people who have the same desire in helping others, and to catch up with others with whom we volunteer. Our office would not be able to help those in need if not for the time and energy of all the amazing volunteers. We are so grateful! *Thank you!!*

The following information was obtained on the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc. website www.svdpusa.org

Q: When was The Society of St. Vincent de Paul first established in the United States?

A: While historians are not certain about some details, there is no doubt that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was established in St. Louis, Missouri at the Basilica of St. Louis, King of France, popularly called "The Old Cathedral," in 1845.

Father John Timon, CM, an American Vincentian priest from Pennsylvania, and later Bishop of Buffalo, New York, was the one who brought copies of the Rule of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul back from Dublin, Ireland, to St. Louis. Timon talked to various people about the Society and its wonderful work with the poor.

Bishop Peter Richard Kenrick, successor of the first Bishop of St. Louis, Joseph Rosati, CM, asked Father Ambrose Heim to establish the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and be its Spiritual Advisor. Father Heim was known by all for his extraordinary zeal and ministry with the poor. He became known as "The Priest of the Poor."

The first meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States was held on November 20, 1845, only twelve years after its foundation in Paris. Nineteen of the most prominent Catholic layment of St. Louis attended. Dr. Moses Linton was elected President, Bryan Mullanphy, Vice President, Dennis Galvin, Second Vice President, James Maguire Jr., Secretary, Patrick Ryder, Treasurer, and Fr. Ambrose Heim, Spiritual Advisor. The Conference was aggregated (formally recognized) by the Society's International Council in Paris on February 2, 1846.



**UPCOMING VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES:**

Sorting Back to School
Program clothing in August

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.svdpvancouverusa.com and
the national website at svdpusa.org



WISH LIST

- New and gently used clothing and school supplies for our Back to School Program
- Donations for free children's haircuts
- Non-perishable foods (Peanut Butter)
- Powdered laundry soap (we then divide this up to donate to more people)
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Paper and Plastic bags

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL — VANCOUVER, WA
Source of Food

October 2006 – September 2007

We all are personally feeling the pinch as the price of food is going up. Here at SVDP we have been feeling that same pressure. We have been very blessed to have a variety of food sources bringing in food for our pantry. We rely on these different food sources to feed the hungry that come through our doors. Even after all of our food donations we still need to purchase 12% of our food to have enough to give to those who really need it. Our budget is really stretched now. Any donations help. Thank you!

<u>Source of Food</u>	<u>Pounds Received</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Pounds Received</u>
Oregon Food Bank	214,822	33%
Purchases/SVDP Funds	74,323	12%
Safeway	60,210	10%
Costco	44,601	7%
Northwest Harvest South	43,660	7%
Walk & Knock Food Drive	37,936	6%
Letter Carriers Food Drive	36,485	6%
Fresh Alliance	31,737	5%
Parishioners & Individuals	27,444	4%
Clark County Food Bank	17,242	3%
State Funds/EFAP & EFSP	14,538	2%
Sunrise Bagels	10,000	2%
Local Food Drives	6,473	1%
Businesses	5,108	1%
Schools	1,414	1%
TOTAL POUNDS RECEIVED	625,993	
TOTAL POUNDS DISTRIBUTED	614,300	

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
Vancouver, WA
PERMIT NO. 12

360-694-5388
Vancouver, WA 98661
2456 NE Stapleton Road
Aid & Referral Office


Society of St. Vincent de Paul †

e-mail: svdp@svdpvancouverusa.com
website: www.svdpvancouverusa.com

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
2456 NE Stapleton Road
Vancouver, WA 98661
360-694-5388

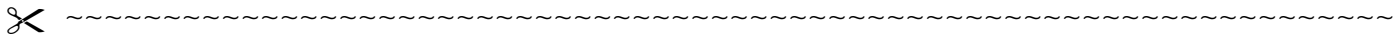
DONATION HOURS
MONDAY-FRIDAY 9AM - 3PM

Vehicle Donation Program:



You can donate your car, truck, motorcycle, recreational vehicle, and even your boat with trailer! We are partnered with Volunteers of America who will pick up your vehicle and sell it. St. Vincent de Paul receives some of the proceeds and you get the tax deduction. Call St. Vincent de Paul at 694-5388 for more information.

DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND CLOTHING MAY BE DROPPED OFF DURING OFFICE HOURS OR IN THE CHURCH BINS LOCATED AT ST. JAMES, ST. JOSEPH, OUR LADY OF LOURDES, AND HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC CHURCHES.



Yes, I want to help!

- Cash Donation
- Donation of Non-Perishable Food
- Donation of Clothing/Household Items
- Become a Member/Volunteer of the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Name _____

Address _____

Thank you for your donation! Phone # _____