

FALL, 2021

VINNY'S CORNER



St. Vincent DePaul - *Quarterly Newsletter*

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A message from our Pastor...

Dear Friends of St. Vincent DePaul Parish -

One might think the pandemic would make every day, every week, every month seem long. This, however, is not the case. 2021 has just sped by and we are now on the verge of winter. Where did the time go? Our services have continued without a hitch; people are being fed, families

have groceries and help with rent and utilities and our clothing window has transitioned from summer apparel to sweaters, coats and blankets.

Our church attendance is growing oh so slowly, but as the pandemic wanes we are hoping to improve attendance and participation in parish programs. Liturgy of the Word for children continues weekly and Mark Etling is in the middle of a program about Understanding the Old Testament.

With the Thanksgiving Holiday upon us, we look forward to the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Even through our sadness and struggles at the continuing world health crisis we remain as people of hope. My hope is always bolstered by the love and support of all of you...the people of St. Vincent's Church. Bless you now and forever.



Volunteer Spotlight

Joe Cernich - For ten straight years, Joe has been the loyal Chairman of the St. Vincent's Golf Tournament. He has led by example and been a quiet force of nature behind the scenes. Those of you who know Joe know that he is a natural leader, but he always leads with humility, which is what makes him all the more loveable in our humble opinion. Joe has formed relationships with vendors, secured incredible deals for us, and continued to coerce family members into very generous Golf sponsorships. Joe's leadership has paved the way for us to carry on our tradition. As this year was his last year as the Chairman, we are hopeful that next year he will still participate and give us a little bit of friendly competition out on the golf course, as he still practices every Thursday. Thank you for all you do for us, Joe!



"Life to me is very much about relationships. I have very much enjoyed in my own little way raising money to help support the mission at St. Vincent's."

-Joe Cernich



THANKSGIVING FOR SENIORS:

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Father Dan Thiess, C.M. for many reasons. Not only is Father Dan our Food Pantry Manager, but he has developed relationships with parishes and schools throughout the St. Louis area that have participated in multiple food drives, turkey drives, financial contributions, and handmade gifts for Seniors. Father Dan assembles a team every year to make sure that several hundred Seniors in need have a huge bag filled with Thanksgiving staples (and much more!) delivered to them for Thanksgiving. This year he assisted the Seniors at St. Raymond's Center, Allen Market Lane, and LifeWise. Thanks to Father Dan, there were hundreds of Seniors that had a VERY HAPPY and blessed Thanksgiving!
Thank you Father Dan - we appreciate all that you do!



Christmas Program updates:

Our 2021 Christmas Program is well underway. We have an additional 100 families that we took on this year. We have seen a huge increase in needs across the board - food, clothing, utility assistance, help for Seniors, and even with the children in our After School Tutoring Program. We realize everyone is struggling this year which is why we are working as efficiently as we can to maximize the assistance we can provide to those who come to us in need who are greatly struggling.

This year we have 290 Seniors and 434 Families. If you would like to participate in our Christmas program, you can Volunteer to pack boxes, donate requested food (see website for details) or purchase \$25 gift cards to Wal-Mart and Target, as we are not doing presents this year, just gift cards. You can also make a donation online.

For more information, please visit our website at: www.stvstl.org



Highlighted Staff

On behalf of St. Vincent DePaul Parish, our Volunteer Coordinator, Pat Poehling, accepted an award for our Parish. St. Vincent's was recognized by Sts. Peter & Paul Community Services as being one of the 3 main parishes that helped to get Sts. Peter & Paul up and running. We have had a wonderful partnership over the years. As most of you know, they are our monthly Meals partner. On the nights that St. Vincent's isn't serving a hot dinner, our guests can surely get one at Sts. Peter & Paul. We are very grateful to have such positive relationships with the Parishes in our local community - as we are all there for one another. Thank you to Pat for accepting this award for us and for all that YOU do to keep these relationships. We appreciate you, Pat!

Pat Poehling



Vincent's Children

Parishioners Molly & Joe Skiljan supported their daughter, Saoirse Skiljan in building a "Little Library" outside of St. Vincent's entrance on 10th St. Saoirse and her Dad worked very hard to install the library, designing it, and have been keeping it well stocked with books for members of our community to enjoy. So far it has already been emptied and refilled four times! We are so grateful for the kids like Saoirse who already believe in the importance of giving back to their community and are committed to leaving the world a better place.

Saoirse has also been recognized by the Girl Scouts of America for her outstanding work. Keep it up, Saoirse. We are so proud of you and value your hard work and dedication very much!

If you have books you would like to donate to the "Little Library," feel free to fill it up or drop off your books at the Parish Office.

