

St. Vincent de Paul Roseville *QUARTERLY*

*Preventing Hunger and
Homelessness Since 1983*

WINTER '24

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DINING ROOM REOPENING!

St. Vincent de Paul Lunch Program

St. John's Episcopal serves at the St. Vincent Kitchen once every month. The program reaches out to the homeless and hungry in Roseville. We provide a hot meal of burritos, beans, and salad on the first Wednesday of each month. Our volunteers work in two teams, a cook team and a serving team.

Recently we were fortunate to be able to sit down with a couple of the guests at St. Vincent's, two men, Archer and John. They are very proud men living in their cars and on the streets for several years. Both men consider themselves fortunate to have cars to live in. They stated, "We don't leave a footprint where we go." When asked what the program meant to each of them, Archer replied, "It is a relief." John said it is "A lifeline." Archer said he heard about St. Vincent's through Kaiser Hospital when admitted there for health issues. John heard about the program through another homeless person. Both men were very grateful for the meals they received. Often times, the meal provided is the only meal they have each day.

On a day when St. John's was serving, a young man in his twenties came in with his family. His name was Alejandro. He asked if we were Christians. Then asked, "Will you pray for me?" He bowed his head. I touched his arm and let God speak. The young man had tears in his eyes and thanked us again. We cannot help but be touched by the many stories the guests of St. Vincent bring with them. They are all very thankful for St. Vincent's and the many volunteers who prepare and serve the food.

The St. Vincent Kitchen is run by John Mayne a man who when asked why he does this said, "It's not about me it's about them." We spoke also with the volunteers who were serving lunch that day and each said they have been serving St. Vincent's lunch program for a long time and will continue to serve as long as there is a need. When I asked what it meant to them, one woman replied. "My life is blessed. This is a way that I can give back."

A few Sundays ago, I (Tracy Falk, Board member) had the pleasure of visiting the reopened dining room.

What a treat to see it bustling with energy-volunteer cooks in the kitchen and clients sitting down and enjoying a hot meal prepared with love.

J.D., a client of 10 years said, "I appreciate the social experience eating at the Dining Room. People here are so kind and the food is great!". As clients left the room each of them turned to the cooks and thanked them, a simple gesture but it meant so much!

Since reopening the Dining Room has served 50-60 people each day, according to longtime manager, John Mayne. The need is there. Thank you all who support SVDP and the Dining Room!



CHRISTMAS STORE!



For two weeks in December, we once again opened our Christmas Store. Assisted by volunteer “elves”, over a hundred parents and grandparents, mostly regular clients, came in to shop for their children’s Christmas gifts. This year, the Christmas store’s selection and quantity of new, donated items was greater than ever. For the little boys and girls, there were dolls and animals, books and toys. For the big kids, parents got to choose from games, robots, art supplies, and athletic equipment. There were even some gift cards for the older hard-to-buy-for teens.



To help out the parents and grandparents, there was also a nice variety of wrapping paper, bags, tissue and bows. Christmas stockings and stocking stuffers rounded out the shopping experience. In all, over 200 local children got to wake up to a visit from Santa on Christmas morning.

CHRISTMAS STORE!



Jenny, an exuberant mom had a great time shopping for her three daughters. After filling her cart to the brim, she turned to her volunteer “elf” and said, “I’m going to cry.” Then explained, “these are tears of appreciation!”

Another memorable shopper was Cory. He had come in to shop for his teenage daughter, eight-year-old nephew and ten-year-old grandson, all of whom live in his household all or some of the time.

Cory later remarked, “I could never repay St. Vincent de Paul for all of the blessings they have bestowed on my family these past 18 months. I am beyond grateful.”

St. Vincent de Paul of Roseville would like to thank all of those who donated so generously to this year’s Christmas Store, to the volunteer “elves” who supported the shoppers, and to Sabrina and Jeff Murphy who organized the store and all of the stock.



President's Message

Don Fraser



Happy New Year to all of you! After wrapping up 2023, I look back with gratitude for your support in helping us in our mission to prevent hunger and homelessness. The past year put a strain on us, especially in our Food Locker. The number of households utilizing our Food Locker grew by 31% in 2023. Whereas we began the year helping around 60 households each day we were open, by the end of the year we often had well over 100 households coming in for food. In total, over 13,000 households utilized our Food Locker in 2023. It is due to all of you that we have been able to keep up.

During the pandemic we implemented a meal to go program in our Dining Room. I am happy to announce that we have recently reopened for in-person meals. Many thanks to St. John's Episcopal Church for their monthly work in the Dining Room and for allowing us to use an article they recently wrote for our newsletter.

The fall and holiday season is a busy time at St. Vincent's. I hope you enjoy reading about all of our activities this year, from participation in the City of Roseville's Turkey Trot, to our Turkey giveaway at Thanksgiving, to our Christmas Store, among other events.

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IDEAS

Are you interested in being a guest
writer for a newsletter article?

Contact Rebecca at:

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PHOTOS

If you took pictures at an event or
would like to submit pictures for your
organization, please contact Jason
at:

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PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

St. Vincent de Paul welcomes new opportunities to partner with the business community. Do you own or work with a business and would like to become more involved? Contact Don Fraser at dfraser@surewest.net

WORDS OF WISDOM AND

Encouragement

Deacon Mike



As I write this, rain is falling, it is cold and overcast. Dreary winter still has its hold on us. Yet, I know spring is right around the corner and I have hope for warmer days, gentle breezes and bright sunshine.

Easter approaches with its great message of hope for all mankind. Hope, such a simple four-letter word, yet it holds such power. Do we truly comprehend the power we have in our hands, in our hearts? For you see, we have the power of hope and we have the power to share that hope. Every time we give of our time, talent or treasure to organizations like St. Vincent, we are actually giving so much more, acting as His hands and feet, we are in reality, giving the gift of hope.

As a family of seven, we had our lean times, but we always had a roof over our head, clothes to wear and food on the table. As a parent, I can't even begin to imagine the anguish of not being able to provide these basic human needs. At St. Vincent's, we see the worry and the sorrow. But because of you, because of your generosity; we are able to respond. Food, clothing, shelter; basic needs fulfilled, but it is the gift of hope that shines the brightest. A gift made possible by you. So, as we enter into this season of Spring, this season of Easter, this season of hope; let us remember, hope springs eternal. Hope is always available to us. It's present in every situation because God, the source of our hope, is always present with us and sometimes through us.

Thank you profoundly for all you do "for the least of our brothers and sisters" in His name. God bless you and a Happy and Blessed Easter to all.





We want to give a big shout out to Wal-Mart for their generous donation of 80 "floor model" Christmas trees. Thanks to them, our clients were able to get a tree if they needed one while visiting our Christmas Store. And not only that, but Wal-Mart employees also spent a whole day volunteering at our store after working in the food locker. We are so grateful for their support.



TURKEY DRIVE!

Thanks to everyone who donated turkeys this past holiday season!

- Thunder Valley Casino - 100 turkeys**
- Penumbra - 236 turkeys**
- Renato & Bette Nicolai - 36 turkeys**
- Placer Food Bank - 50 turkeys**



Thanksgiving at St. Vincent



Turkey Trot

St. Vincent de Paul once again provided volunteers for the City of Roseville's annual Turkey Trot Race. Under the management of Jeff Neereson, our volunteers helped with participants' packet pick-up and racecourse guidance duties. Over 2,000 participants enjoyed this Thanksgiving Day event. A special thanks to the National Charity League of South Placer County and Granite Bay and Boys Team Charity for providing most of our volunteers.



300 Bags in 24 Minutes

In early November, the youth group from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints came to our warehouse and organized meals for the turkey giveaway. In less than 24 minutes, they had everything ready, breaking their own record! We are very grateful for their support and the community's support in this critical effort. Thank you for your generosity and kindness in meeting the needs of these families!

Christmas at St. Vincent

St. Joseph Marello Adopt a Family

The St. Joseph Marello Adopt-A-Family event was a huge success. Ninety families total (25 from SVDP) received donated food, gifts, and coats, enjoyed a warm lunch prepared by parish members, and shopped at a book fair. Many thanks to Father Phil, Tracy Falk, the members of the SVDP Ministry team and the parishioners of St. Joseph Marello for their support.



BAGS Home Delivery Stockings

Thank you to Tricia Post and friends from Pleasant Grove Community Church for putting together Christmas stockings for 85 recipients as part of our BAGS program!



Umpqua Bank

Huge thank you to Umpqua Bank for their generous grant of \$5,000, and to our board member Anastasia Efsathiu for making the arrangements to make this happen!



Christmas Concert

On December 9, 2023, St. Peter and Paul Church held a Christmas Concert and, simultaneously, a food and toy drive for St. Vincent de Paul! Thank you so much to St. Peter & Paul for your help and generosity.



Gingerbread Houses!

Hello St Vincent de Paul Society,

We visit your food pantry once a week and a couple weeks ago, we were so happy to receive a Cookie/Gingerbread house just in time for the holidays! We finally built it today and wanted to share the joy you brought to our kids. This is one of those things we consider to be a little luxury and wanted to say thank you! Thank you and Merry Christmas!



God bless,
The Baran Family

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Luncheon

Thursday, February 8, 2024

11am - 1pm

Catered by Carmelita's

Get those RSVP's in ASAP!!

Big Day of Giving!

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Please consider making a donation to our annual campaign

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Dinner

September 28, 2024

St. Clare Parish

1950 Junction Blvd, Roseville, CA 95747

VOLUNTEER GROUP SPOTLIGHT

Hewlett Packard Enterprise has assisted in our warehouse every Friday for the past several months.

Thank you so much for all your help!



Food Locker Volunteer Groups



Philadelphia Insurance Company



Wells Fargo



Walmart



The **Platinum Seal of Transparency** indicates that our organization shares clear and important information with the public about our goals, strategies, capabilities, achievements and progress indicators that highlight the difference our organization makes in the world.

We're excited to share that our organization has earned a 2023 Platinum Seal of Transparency with Candid.

Now you can support our work with added trust and confidence. View our profile at:

[St Vincent De Paul Society - Roseville Area Conference, Inc. - GuideStar Profile.](#)



Faith-Based Partnerships



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church



St. Joseph Marello Catholic Church



SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church



St. Clare Catholic Church

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