

St. Vincent de Paul Quarterly



"Preventing Hunger and Homelessness Since 1983"

IN MEMORY OF JESSIE CHAMBERS



'26 WINTER - SPRING

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Transparency
2024

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President's Message

Don Fraser

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of one of the founders of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Roseville, Jesse Chambers. Born on July 14, 1926, Jesse passed away peacefully among family on January 14, 2026. She truly lived the Gospel message of providing help and assistance to those in need in our community. Even before the formation of our society in 1983, Jesse would help those in need by gathering groceries and distributing them from the trunk of her car. She was present at the creation when a handful of people began the Roseville conference, and she helped establish our food locker. We dedicate this issue of the newsletter in memory of Jesse.



We have included an excerpt from Deacon Mike Turner's homily at Jesse's funeral mass.

In 2025, we remodeled the warehouse to accommodate a new walk-in refrigerator, add new lighting, and improve ventilation. This work was necessary in order to meet the ever-rising demand for supplemental groceries from our food locker. In early 2026, we are installing all new racking for storage needs and painting the warehouse. We have a second phase of work that we need to complete to add a second stairway to the upstairs area. As part of Big Day of Giving on May 7, we will be requesting funding to assist with this and some upgrades needed to our dining room.

I hope you have a wonderful spring.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

St. Vincent de Paul welcomes new opportunities to partner with the businesses in our community. Do you own or work with a business and would like to become more involved?

Contact Don Fraser at dfraser@surewest.net

In Memory of Jessie Chambers

A Founder with a Heart of Gold

On behalf of Father Jhay, and the entire faith community of St. Rose, we offer our sincere sympathy and condolences to Jessie's children; Michael, Robert and James; and to all her family and friends gathered here today. We are so sorry for your loss. It is in faith in the Risen Lord, we gather this morning to commemorate, to honor, to pray for and to remember Jessie.



In our Gospel, we hear this beautiful invitation from our Lord:
"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Pope Benedict once said, "Each of us has a mission; each of us is called to change the world, to work for a culture of life, a culture forged by love and respect for the dignity of each human person. Jessie understood her mission.

For when I was hungry, you gave Me food; thirsty, and you gave Me drink.

Before there was a St. Vincent's, Jessie would go to the grocers and procure the unsellable food and distribute it to those in need out of the trunk of her car.

And at the very beginning of St. Vincent's back in 1983, she was there at the first meetings and served on the Board for over 35 years. The food locker we have today is because of the foundation she laid.

I was a stranger, and you welcomed me.

And Jessie was known to hang around the soup kitchen, not for a free meal, but to be a welcoming face, to listen, to affirm their dignity as a person, and to simply be present.

I was ill, and you cared for me.

And when the medical clinic was still open, Jessie would be there to translate in case there was a language barrier, communicating the symptoms and needs of the patient and the advice and diagnosis of Dr. Tom Stanko.

In talking with Robert the other day, I mentioned that although she bore three sons, it looks like she adopted a fourth, and that one's name was Saint Vincent.

Time and time again, she was there serving the poor, the homeless, the marginalized, the least among us. And in doing so, she was serving our Lord. Pope John XIII once wrote: "Do not walk through time without leaving worthy evidence of your passage." I think it's more than fair to say Jessie has left worthy evidence of her passage; in her family, in the friends she made along the way, and in the legacy she built, setting the foundation of St. Vincent de Paul. In Jessie, I see an echo of the Beatitudes: *blessed those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, blessed those who are merciful, blessed those pure in heart.*



Jessie Chambers & George Beutner

Two long-time advocates for SVdP, united as George honors Jessie with the Dr. Tom Stanko Service Award

2/12/23

OVER
THE

Holidays

Turkey drive

SVdP had an amazing holiday season!

In preparation for the distribution, on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, volunteers from the Roseville 9th Ward Church of

Latter Day Saints assembled 300 bags of Thanksgiving food sides.

Thanks to the help of volunteers and donors we were able to distribute 300 turkeys to families in need across placer county.

We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers from **NCL**, **Boys Team Charity**, and **Lakeside Church** who donated their time loading cars on the day of distribution.

Thank you to **Deborah Oliveira** and the entire team at **First American Title**, for providing turkeys and funds to keep food on the table for families this holiday season.

Finally, we would like to thank **Patty Estopinal** and the team at **Baird Wealth Management** for donating 10 complete turkey dinners to families this Thanksgiving.



SVdP Christmas Shop

St. Vincent de Paul's 2025 Christmas Shop was a big success. The in house shopping experience ran for 2 weeks, allowing us to serve a total of 68 families, with 145 children total.

We would like to thank our **volunteers**, **donors**, **community partners**, and **Toys for Tots** for making this experience possible!



See page 10 for more photos

OVER
THE

Holidays

Christmas Adopt-a-Family at St. Joseph Mareello

On December 13, St. Joseph Mareello hosted their annual Adopt-a-Family Christmas event. The program helped **95 families** in total, including SVdP

families, Head Start Preschool families, and other families in need in the community. Additionally, they held a successful book fair and coat giveaway.

Below is a thank you letter sent by one of the receiving families.



*Tracy Falk
SVdP Board Vice President*

For more photos see page [10](#)

Hello,

We wanted to take a moment to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your incredible kindness and generosity this Christmas. Each year, when my husband doesn't have work during this season, it can make things a little tougher—especially with such a big family to care for—but your thoughtfulness helps lift that weight and makes the holidays feel truly magical.

Our girls are at such a special age—still believing in the magic of Christmas, and even when they start to question, they still pretend to believe, which somehow makes the magic shine even brighter. We are cherishing these moments and also teaching them the true meaning of Christmas: the story of Jesus Christ being born, the love, hope, and joy that come with that beautiful truth. Reading to them and sharing these stories with our family is a reminder of what this season is really about.

Your support, generosity, and care are more than gifts—they are a reminder of the love and kindness in the world and how it can brighten even the hardest seasons. Our family is so grateful for each of you and the joy you've helped bring into our home this year. You've made this Christmas truly special, and we will always remember your generosity and the difference you made in our lives.

Our daughter's jaw dropped when she saw the Barnes and Noble Gift Card, and couldn't wait to get there. She also loved her cozy blanket. The girls LOVED their gymnastic mat, we set it up right away, since it was such a stormy day, they had a blast practicing their flips and tricks inside. Our older girls started talking about what they were going to get at ULTA, and we as parents were excited about our VISA gift cards too, a little treat for us, was so nice. We recently moved so it was nice to get a few new things for our place. I personally can't get over how cute that Santa blanket is... it's very much loved and being used daily. Anyhow, thank you again. We are so grateful.

With heartfelt gratitude and warmest wishes,

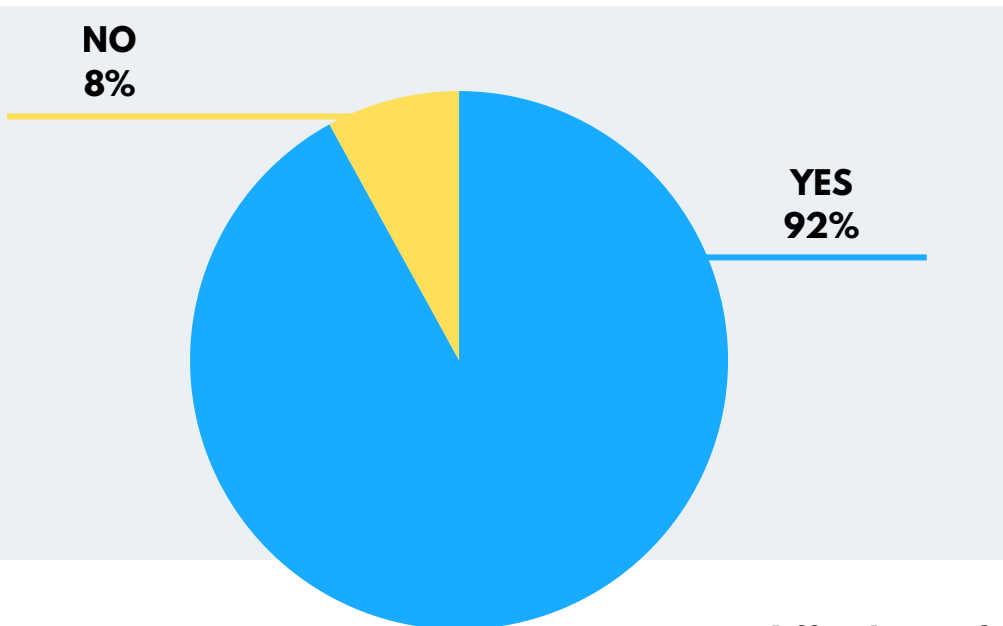
Receiving family

Annual Survey

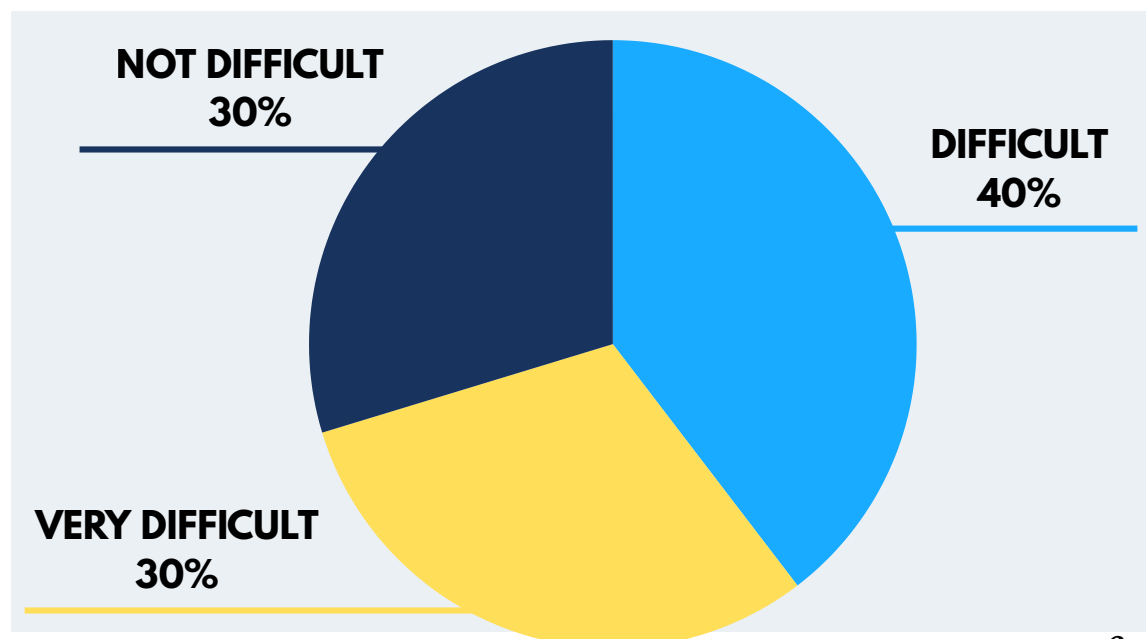
2025

Every January, we survey our clients to evaluate how our services impact their lives. Some highlights from the survey are shown. They indicate how important our services are in helping prevent hunger and homelessness in Placer County.

With the groceries I receive at the food locker, my family can prepare balanced nutritious meals.



How difficult is it for you to come up with money to pay rent each month?



BIG DAY OF GIVING

is

MAY 7

Join us as we prepare for



Phase II of Upgrade to Uplift includes additional upgrades to our Warehouse as well as our Dining Room space.



@svdprsvl

Follow us at:



St. Vincent de Paul Roseville

For more information about Big Day of Giving, coming soon!

SAVE *the* DATE

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

Timber Creek Ballroom, Sun City - Roseville, CA

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER **ROBERT PAYLOR**

Robert Paylor is a former collegiate rugby player whose life changed dramatically after a catastrophic spinal cord injury sustained during a match while playing for the University of California, Berkeley. The injury left him paralyzed from the neck down, instantly altering his future and challenging him to relearn nearly every aspect of daily life.

Known for his determination and resilience, Robert has approached his recovery with the same discipline and perseverance that once defined him as an elite athlete. His journey stands as a testament to courage, faith, and the strength of the human spirit in the face of life-altering challenges.

Robert's journey isn't just about walking again — it's about empowering others to rewrite their stories and redefine what's possible. Robert shares the invaluable mental tools he developed during his fight to overcome quadriplegia. From controlling one's mindset to practicing perspective, his lessons resonate with anyone facing adversity, no matter the form it takes.



SCAN HERE



To learn more about
Robert Paylor

Tickets Available Soon!

Welcome New Volunteers!

Warehouse

Geoffrey C
Cathy C
Liseth M
Kathy D
Marilyn B
Amie E
John M
Carolyn Y

Volunteer Spotlight



*Deborah Oliveira
(right) and the entire team
at First American Title
donated turkeys and funds
for families this holiday
season.*



Delta Dental - 12/5



Jessup University's Baseball team - 11/14

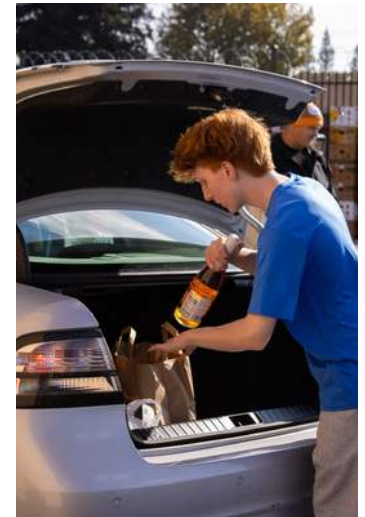


*The Sacramento Health Education Council
donated personal and feminine hygiene items.*

- 11/14

Turkey Preparation & Distribution

11/12/25 • 11/22/25



St. Joseph Marello Adopt-a-Family

12/13/25



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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 Amy at:

amy.stampflee@placersvdp.com

Faith-Based Partnerships



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St. Joseph Mareello
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