

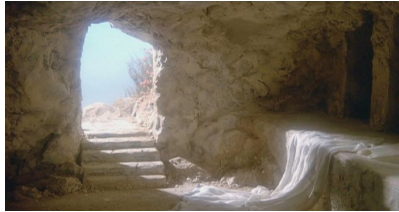
# The Society Page

The E-Newsletter of The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - Council of Pittsburgh

April 8, 2016



## Easter Resolutions. . .



A reflection by [Keith Kondrich](#), Executive Director

My youngest son, Tommy, has been an altar-server at our parish for a number of years now but because of our family schedules and other conflicts, he has never

had the opportunity to serve the Easter Vigil. This year, he **was** available and enthusiastically interested in serving the Easter Vigil with me. If you have ever attended the Easter Vigil, you know that it is a beautiful celebration of our Lord's glorious resurrection, the triumph of light over darkness, the victory of life over death!

After the vigil, during the car ride home, my son and I were talking about Easter and he said to me, "*You know what dad, I think that instead of making New Year's Resolutions, we should make Easter resolutions!*" Intrigued by his comment, I replied, "*Why do you say that? Tell me more!*"

To continue reading, click [here](#).

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## The Power of the Home Visit



A reflection by Pete Jeffrey, Vincentian, St. Pio of Pietrelcina Conference (Blawnox/Harmarville)

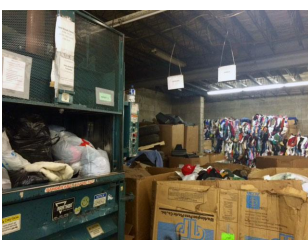
The Home Visit is the essence of our Vincentian Spirituality -- each visit is a precious experience with realities, highs, and lows that are well worth sharing. One particular family comes to mind as a familiar, fond memory which had so many challenges that it was a faith-builder for everyone!

Picture a young mother and father with a two year old, three year old, five year old, and seven year old. The family was homeless, living out of a cheap motel room. And while the father had a ten-dollar-an-hour job, he had no car to get him there. They had truly spiraled to the very bottom of circumstances. To continue reading, click [here](#).

The **Power of the Home Visit** is a monthly feature in **The Society Page** as well as posted to our website at: [www.svdppitt.org](http://www.svdppitt.org). If you would like to submit a reflection, please email Brittany Barnicott at [brittan.yb@svdppitt.org](mailto:brittan.yb@svdppitt.org).

*From the Society's beginning, the central and most basic activity of Conferences has been the visitation of the needy in their homes. This is the clearest symbol of our Vincentian charism, which dictates the highest respect for the dignity of the poor. It symbolizes our Vincentian commitment to reach out to the needy, rather than require them to report to an outside service site. In the home, needy persons feel most free to confide their stories of struggle. In that family setting, Vincentians are asked to listen, offer humble advice, and render assistance. (The Manual, Section 2.1)*

## Behind the Scenes: The Warehouse



Located below the Penn Hills store, the warehouse provides essential support for every aspect of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Council of Pittsburgh's operations. The warehouse picks up the clothes donated in our 95 donation boxes throughout Allegheny County. They pick up furniture donations from donors and deliver furniture to voucher clients. And they recycle excess clothing donations which produces revenue vital to our many programs.

So what's the average day for an operation that has to travel multiple counties, service multiple store locations, and schedule, deliver, and pick up furniture, clothes, and other household items?

One thing is certain; it's never the same day twice.

To continue reading, click [here](#).

## Upcoming Events: Ozanam Anniversary Mass & Celebration

**Saturday, April 23rd**

**8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

**[St. John the Baptist \(Monaca\)](#)**

**No Fee - Continental Breakfast provided**

All Vincentians, as well as family members and friends, are invited to our Annual Ozanam Mass and Reception celebrating the Birthday Anniversary of our founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam. During Mass we will have a special recommitment ceremony for all Vincentians in attendance. The homily will be given by Father Scott Seethaler, Spiritual Advisor for The Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Council of Pittsburgh. Following Mass, we'll enjoy a continental breakfast, refreshments, and fellowship.



**Following the Ozanam Anniversary Mass & Celebration, why not make a day of it and stay for our Spring Ozanam Orientation!**

**Spring Ozanam Orientation**

**Saturday, April 23rd**

**9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**[St. John the Baptist \(Monaca\)](#)**

**No Fee - Lunch provided**

Open to new and veteran Vincentians from the Diocesan Council of Pittsburgh, this inspiring and enlightening program begins with Mass and then provides a consistent orientation for all councils and conferences throughout the United States. The purpose of the program is to introduce new members to "who we are and what we are all about" and to reacquaint existing members with our "spirituality, history, and heritage."

Topics include the History and Contributions of our Patrons & Founders; The Rule; Vincentian Spirituality; Why We Make Home Visits; SVdP's Strategic Plan; Accountability; and Poverty.

Make sure to RSVP for the Ozanam Orientation by contacting [James Taylor](#) at 412.321.1071 (x-204) or email him by clicking [here](#).

## Questions & Answers



**Question: How do I donate my vehicle? Does the vehicle have to be in working condition?**

**Answer:** Your tax deductible car donation is imperative to our ability to provide utility assistance to those without power, clothing or furniture vouchers to those in need of basic necessities, and a dignified burial to those who have died alone -- and also direct assistance for those who are in need of a vehicle.

Making a car donation is pretty easy; call 800.322.8284 or donate online by clicking [here](#).

The vehicle does not have to be in working condition. While we do have clients in need of cars from time to time, if your vehicle does not run, proceeds from its auction support our food pantry, Michael's Place, our utility assistance program, and many other forms of important direct assistance.

When you call to place your donation, they'll ask you a few questions. So here are some tips on what to have on hand before calling: the title for the vehicle, general information about the vehicle (i.e. Is it inspected? What is the make, model, and the Vehicle Identification Number?), and the current mileage. Once we know that information, we'll get the process started.

Questions and Answers are featured in every issue of *The Society Page*. To submit a question, contact, [Brittany Barnicott](#) at 412.321.1071 (x-202) or email her by clicking [here](#).

## St. Vincent de Paul Stores Selling Mattresses, Box Springs, & Frames



Remember: You can buy a newly renovated mattress, box spring, or bed frame at your local St. Vincent de Paul!

***What is a renovated mattress?*** Every year, millions of mattresses end up in landfills, causing major headaches for waste management. Our supplier, Chicago Mattress Company, takes used, high-quality name brand mattresses, removes everything but the springs, and refurbishes them – giving them new cushioning, a new cover, and a second life.

Buying a mattress and box spring from St. Vincent de Paul not only keeps these potentially harmful items out of our nation's landfills, it assists your neighbors in need by providing support for a number of programs.

Renovated mattresses, box springs, and frames are available at our [Castle Shannon, Coraopolis, Monroeville, Penn Hills, and Sharpsburg locations](#). There are three quality levels to choose from: Plus, Quilt, and Memory Foam. Mattresses, box springs, and bed frames are available in all sizes. [Click here for more information.](#)

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