

The Society Page

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



December 23, 2016

Death & Christmas

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

A few weeks ago, in the middle of Advent, I was talking with a group of 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday School students about how God calls each of us to be a saint. During the course of our conversation, I asked the children:



"What do you have to do to become a saint?" Their sincere and heartfelt responses included:

"Help Other People."

"Love God with all your heart."

"Pray a lot"

"Be Kind."

"Listen to your parents."

Impressed with their replies, and satisfied that I had enough material to move the discussion forward, I discontinued taking answers. However, one little boy was undaunted and continued to fervently wave his hand. Not wanting to squelch his enthusiasm and afraid that he might, in the words of my grandmother, "*burst his britches*", I decided to let him share his answer.

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

In This Issue

Reflection: Death & Christmas

Sleep Like A Saint!

St. Francis of Assisi Conference Update

Swissvale Grand Opening

Thanksgiving Benefit

Quick Links

[Vincentian Reflections](#)

[Bulletin Announcements](#)

[Store Locations](#)

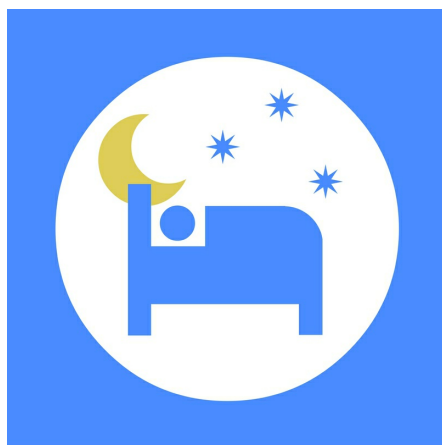
[Donation Box Locations](#)

[Make a Tax Deductible Contribution](#)

[Voice of the Poor](#)

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Sleep Like A Saint!



Looking for a comfortable, uninterrupted, peaceful night of sleep? **Sleep Like A Saint** when you buy a quality affordable mattress from your local Saint Vincent de Paul Store!

Beginning January 16th, Saint Vincent de Paul is running a special sale on mattress & boxspring sets of all sizes with free delivery! Each mattress includes a 5-year unconditional warranty and your purchase helps to provide food, clothing, shelter, and utility assistance to local families in need.

Free delivery of mattress & boxspring sets will be available at our Castle Shannon, Coraopolis, Monroeville, Penn Hills, Sharpsburg, and Swissvale stores! Purchase a bed from St. Vincent de Paul and **Sleep Like A Saint!**

St. Francis of Assisi Conference Update

Dear fellow Vincentians,

As a conference of the Society run on a college campus rather than a parish, we recognize that our ministry experience is different from other conferences. Though we share in the same Vincentian mission, we are unique in that our primary purpose is aiding the poor and homeless on the streets of downtown Pittsburgh. Because of our unique situation within the Society and in the spirit of unity, we wanted to share some of what we do and update you on our ministry.



Our group has three main functions- to grow in holiness, to provide for the basic needs of those experiencing poverty and homelessness downtown, and to spread awareness on campus and in our immediate surrounding area. Every Sunday night we walk downtown to Market Square with hot meals, water, clean clothes, and basic toiletries. Additionally, we offer our open hearts and attentive ears to anyone we meet, and we often find that this makes the most difference.

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

Swissvale Store Now Open!



Our Swissvale Store is now open!

Stop by 7402 Church Street in Swissvale and check out what our new store has to offer. From furniture to renovated beds to clothes and seasonal items, it has everything you've come to expect from a St. Vincent de Paul thrift store!

Thank you to the hard-working staff, management team, and the community of Swissvale who made our grand opening a success! We were joined by Swissvale mayor, Deneen Swartzwelder, Rev. Michael Lynam of the Word of God Parish, musician Wil Kondrich, and many other members of the community who have supported this store throughout its development.

We look forward to strengthening not only our vital programs (including utility assistance, transportation, food, housing, and indigent burial) but also expanding our presence throughout the Pittsburgh area with the addition of the Swissvale store.

Joyce & Bill Toms Annual Thanksgiving Benefit for SVdP



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to [Joyce & Bill Toms](#) for choosing us as the beneficiary of their 11th Annual Joyce & Bill Toms Thanksgiving Benefit at the Hard Rock Cafe on Wednesday, November 23rd!


Their generosity provided an evening of incredible music, fellowship, and promotion of the important mission and work of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Thank you to those who donated auction items and baskets! We would also like to extend our thanks to the multitude of amazing local musicians who shared their talents and the engaged, enthusiastic crowd who shared this evening of music and charity with us!



WISHING YOU A MERRY
CHRISTMAS
From The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

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