THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY in remembrance were received between September 1, 2015 and...

...receive a gift to our Utility Assistance program.

Memorial and Honor Gifts

DEAR FELLOW VINCENTIANS AND FRIENDS,

Since I was born without arms, the Catholic school in my tiny hometown did not have to take me. The principal, Sister Christine, could have easily evicted a list of reasons to me away and send me to public school for special education. However, she welcomed me with open arms. It was an act of mercy that turned a life.

During the Year of Mercy (see page 3), Pope Francis reminded us of Christ’s call to be “merciful like the Father.” The mercy Christ calls us to is life-changing because it is freely given—whether by us “to give in or to or, and whether the receiver “deserves” or not.

That is what impresses most about Vincentian volunteers. They bear Christ’s call to mercy and have been transformed by it. Day after day, they actively responded to it by helping the nearest Christ brings into their lives, whether those neighbors are victims of unexpected circumstances beyond their control, or whether their own marginalized have found them in poverty.

In situations where it’s easy to come up with that list of reasons, they don’t have to help. Rather, they simply meet them. They provide meals, shelter, clothing assistance, vital services, and more, all with compassion and dignity.

Thank you for joining us in this mission of mercy. We are truly grateful for your support.

Most humbly and gratefully yours,

John F. Pope, Ph.L. (d.c.)
Executive Director

We’re Their Friends.

Dear Fellow Vincentians and Friends,

“Were Their Friends’: Vincentian Spirituality

The Society’s Disaster Fund helps people whose homes were destroyed by floods, returning to find everything—loss their homes, their possessions, their neighbors. Thankful, Vincentian volunteers are there—and will continue to be there—to help them rebuild.

As second responders after disasters such as floods, Vincentian help victims build new lives after the first responders’ rescue efforts. But perhaps more importantly, Vincentians offer fellow travelers, conversion and the hope of Christ after the trauma of a disaster.

So widespread, Vincentian provide vouchers to the Society’s thrift stores, where people can purchase the beds, furniture, clothing and other household goods to replace what was lost in the disaster. Shopping with dignity for the things they need is the first step as flood victims rebuild their lives.

The Society partners with a variety of community partners each as the American Red Cross of Eastern Missouri to help victims access the resources they need.

“St. Vincent de Paul is a critical partner in bringing help and hope to disaster victim,” said Cindy Erickson, CEO of the American Red Cross of Eastern Missouri. “Whether a home fire, or a flood, St. Vincent de Paul helps them find paths to recovery.”

In addition, Chicago Mattress Company, which supplies mattresses to the Society’s thrift stores, made a very generous donation that donated 4000 mattresses, which will be high in demand among those who lost their beds in the floods.

So many victims who lost their beds in the floods.

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How Can You Help?

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

To make a donation, visit www.svdpstl.org/donate. Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 750109, St. Louis, MO 63178-0795.

HELPING YOUR LOCAL CONFERENCE. Contact your local parish or Vincentian organization to ask if they are aware of any volunteers or donated items.

PRAYERS.

More than anything, flood victims need our prayers.

Permit No. 1291

Nonprofit Org.

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Nonprofit Org.
Vincentians Provide Dignity of a Good Night’s Sleep

Donor Spotlight
Seeing the Face of Christ in Those in Need
Mike and Rita Mooney Inspired by Vincentian Spirit of Mercy

Longtime friends of the Society Mike and Rita Mooney were inspired by the Vincentian spirit of mercy. Mike, work as CEO and President of Cormack, C.M., St. Louis Paul Archdiocesan Council of St. Louis, said: “It was a great affirmation of how the Vincentian spirit is tied to mercy,” Mike remarked.

Unfortunately, this family’s story is not uncommon. Lori’s husband Jeff had to take time off work to care for Vinnie in the middle of the night. He was a long-time patient, but as Lori said, it reawakens the Vincentian spirit in us to see the face of Christ in those in need.”

In addition to raising funds for the Beds for our Neighbors in Need project, Mike and Rita Mooney are also involved in the Our Father’s House mission of mercy.

“People are amazed when you say you’re coming to their homes,” Steve said. “Often, when they’ve gone to other places they feel they are not needed. But in many cases, the faith of the people we encounter is restored.”

“We are able to help them be inspired.”

In 2015, the Beds for our Neighbors in Need project raised more than $113,000, according to Steve Rupp, Manager of Member Support, where the beds will be delivered and set up.

“It’s one of the most heartwarming projects,” Steve said. “It reminds us that the mercy of God is grounded in prayer. By asking that God’s mercy be made clearly evident in our world and that God’s grace and the spiritual gifts be more clearly visible, we and God will reveal how we can be the instrument in the world.

WHAT’S THE CALL TO ACTION?

The Mercy of God is to be grounded in prayer. By asking that God’s mercy be made clearly evident in our world and that God’s grace and the spiritual gifts be more clearly visible, we and God will reveal how we can be the instrument in the world.

WHAT DO THE YEAR OF MERCY MEAN FOR THE CHURCH?

Despite the absence of a special celebration in Washington, D.C., the Church marks the Year of Mercy and what it means for Vincentians.

WHAT DO THE YEAR OF MERCY MEAN FOR THE CHURCH?

The Year of Mercy was declared by the Church through a Year of Mercy in 2016. Pope Francis declared a Year of Mercy every 10 years, starting with the Year of Mercy in 2016. Pope Francis called for a special period of grace to mark the celebration of the jubilee of mercy.

WHAT’S THE CALL TO ACTION?

The Church is called to be the instrument of the Lord in the world. By asking for God’s mercy to be made clearly evident in our world, we will be able to see how we can be the instrument of the Lord in the world.

WHAT DO THE YEAR OF MERCY MEAN FOR THE CHURCH?

The textile for the cloth of the robe of the St. John the Baptist statue in the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, Israel, was donated by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louis, MO, in December 2015.
Longtime friends of the Society, Mike and Rita Mooney, have been volunteering at the Holy Door of Mercy at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

While touring the shrine, they saw many reminders of Vincentian heritages—draws in honor of St. Louis de Marillac and the Merciful Medal.

“It was a great affirmation of how the Vincentian spirit is lived and to Mike, it inspired,” said Carol Fogle, Vincentian volunteer at Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

“People are amazed when you say you’re coming to their church,” Steve said. “Often, when they’re gone to other places for help, they have to go to some other place, somebody can take a meal and a card. That’s what makes the Society different. They’re more than just a number to us.”

For Carol, the opportunity to enter into someone else’s world is a privilege.

“Meeting people on their own turf gives you a new perspective. You can’t separate them from some really great people. We don’t treat them, we’re in their friends.”

The spiritual side of service makes all the difference to Carol.

“You cannot do what we do without some foundation of spirituality,” Carol continued. “It’s a very easy road to burn out. But in our case, faith, the philosophy of the people we serve and our determination to serve in an inspiration. When you go to someone’s home and see that, you can’t help but be inspired.”

Thank you to our generous donors who have made donations of $100 or more towards Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Our 2015 Apostles of Charity (Continued from page 1)

Our committee has raised over $70,000 for those in need.
Vincentians Provide Dignity of a Good Night’s Sleep

When you go into someone’s home and see that, you can’t help but be moved. But in many cases, the faith of the people we serve—people who are looking for help, they’ve had to go to some office somewhere, take a number, wait. That’s what makes the Society different. They’re more than just a number to us.

For Carol, the opportunity to enter into someone else’s home and provide them with need is both a spiritual and practical experience. This spiritual side of service makes all the difference to the persons who receive this care. This year of mercy, let us pray that Christ show us how we can provide this type of care.

It’s the spirit of mercy. God is constantly revealing His mercy in our lives as an instrument in the world. This spirit of mercy strengthens one of the first charitable missions in St. Louis…since 1845.

Dedicated to the Good Samaritan spirit of service, Vincentian Ministries is the first charitable mission in St. Louis since 1845. The Society’s Vincent de Paul House provides meals, shelter, clothing, and a home-like environment for those in need.

Vincentians Provide Dignity of a Good Night’s Sleep

Longtime friends of the Society, Mike and Rima Mooney responded to an article in the National Catholic Reporter about the Vincentian Missionaries of Mercy, as well as an interview with Fr. Joseph O’Connell, that led to a visit with the Vincentians. Mike and Rima Mooney were impressed with the Vincentians’ approach to service and decided to support the Society’s work.

In addition to raising four children and making a successful career as the CEO and President of Dacon, Mike and Rima also serve as active parishioners at St. Clement of Rome, their home parish.

The Society is very hands-on with all their ministries—whether it’s food, prescription drugs, or others. Mike said, “There are other secular organizations that do this too, but our Vincentians make home visits as a team and volunteer together. This is the spirit of service, this is the Society does it in the spirit of St. Vincent, which is to see the face of Christ in those we need.”

We asked Fr. Jim Cormack, C.M., St. Louis Spiritual Advisor for the Vincentians, what it means to be a Vincentian volunteer.

WHAT DOES THE SPIRIT OF MERCY MEAN FOR THE CHURCH?

Fr. Jim Cormack, C.M., St. Louis Spiritual Advisor for the Vincentians in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, explains the meaning of Mercy in the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul.

Is there spirituality in a good night’s sleep? Is it a reality? It’s a reality. Pope Francis calls to be “merciful like the Father.”

Mercy is God’s boundless love that is revealed to us in our most vulnerable moments. It is God’s heart toward us. Pope Francis has said, “In the face of mercy, the face of God appears.”

But how do we activate something so difficult? How do we bring it into existence? We must first understand this: We cannot bring mercy into existence, we can only create an environment that makes it possible.

Brian Enos, PhD, is a research scientist at the University of Kansas, says, “What we are finding is that it is not only important to work with people who are in need, but it is also important to create an environment that makes it possible for them to experience mercy. This environment is created by the people who work with them, not by those who provide services.”

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO BE MERCIFUL?

What do we need to do in our lives to be merciful? What do we need to do to be merciful to our neighbors who are in need? What do we need to do to be merciful to our own families and friends?

We need to create an environment that makes it possible for people to experience mercy. This environment is created by the people who work with them, not by those who provide services. We need to create an environment that makes it possible for people to experience mercy. This environment is created by the people who work with them, not by those who provide services. We need to create an environment that makes it possible for people to experience mercy. This environment is created by the people who work with them, not by those who provide services.

WHAT’S THE CALL TO ACTION?

The Mercy of God is not a ground in prayer. By asking that God’s mercy be made clearly evident in our world and for our neighbor, we can experience the same grace that we experience in prayer. This year of mercy, let us pray that Christ show us how we can provide this type of care.

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HOW ARE VINCENTIANS RESPONDING?

We are always meant to be ambassadors of God’s mercy, but never more so than in this Year of Mercy. Vincentians have given their time and resources to help the poor and marginalized, strengthening the spirit of the Vincentian mission in St. Louis.

For example, this Year of Mercy, let us pray that Christ show us how we can provide this type of care. This is the spirit of service, this is the Society does it in the spirit of St. Vincent, which is to see the face of Christ in those we need.”

Donor Spotlight Seeing the Face of Christ in Those in Need

Mike and Rima Mooney Inspired by Vincentian Spirit of Mercy

A Catholic lay organization, joining women and men together to grow spiritually and to serve the Church and the world in the Vincentian tradition.

See a list of our Society’s Vincentian Leaders.

For more information, please contact Steve Rupp, Manager of Member Support, at 314.881.6024.
HELPING NEIGHBORS START AT HOME
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

HELPING YOUR LOCAL CONFERENCE.

帮助一个邻居...
请考虑为我们的邻里援助计划捐款。

RAIN...\n\nSOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
helping neighbors start at home

HELPING YOUR LOCAL CONFERENCE.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is dedicated to providing support and resources to those in need. We believe that by providing practical assistance, we can help individuals and families transform their lives. Our mission is to assist those who are facing temporary hardships and are looking for a hand up, not a handout.

A recent example of our work is our response to the floods in Eastern Missouri. When the Mississippi River reached record levels, thousands of people were suddenly forced from their homes by the rising waters. The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul mobilized quickly to provide assistance, including food, shelter, and other basic needs.

As a result of our efforts, families were able to purchase household goods to replace what was lost in the disaster. With the help of community partners such as the Red Cross, people were able to begin the process of rebuilding their lives.

In addition, we provided vouchers to the Society's thrift stores, where people in need can purchase the items they need to start their lives anew. We also provided financial assistance to cover rent and utilities, helping those in need to get back on their feet.

The mercy Christ calls us to is life-changing because it is an act of love and compassion that transforms lives. Through our work, we have the opportunity to help those who are in need and to strengthen the fabric of our community.

Thank you for joining us in this mission of mercy. We are truly grateful for your support.

Most humbly and gratefully yours,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Memorial and Honor Gifts

DEAR FELLOW VINCENTIANS AND FRIENDS,

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Vincentian volunteers Steve and Carol Fogle prepare a box of food for a family After Floodwaters Recede, Vincentians Stay

Dear Fellow Vincentians and Friends,

After Floodwaters Recede, Vincentians Stay

We are truly grateful for your support.

Most humbly and gratefully yours,
John F. Poppe, Ph.D. (ret.)
Executive Director

 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

To make a donation, visit www.charitystvincent.org/donate. Checks can be mailed to 932 Run 7950 17th St. St. Louis, MO 63176-7791.

HELPING YOUR LOCAL CONFERENCE. Contact your local parish’s SVDP conference to ask if they are in need of any volunteers or donated items.

PRAISE. More than anything, flood victims need our prayers.

Thank you for joining us in this mission of mercy.

That’s what inspires me about our Vincentian volunteers. They hear Christ’s call to mercy, and have been transformed by it. Day after day, they actively responded to it by helping the neighbors Christ brings into their lives, whether those neighbors are victims of unfortunate circumstances beyond their control, or whether their own marginalized choices have landed them in poverty.

In situations where it’s easy to come up with that laundry list of all the reasons they don’t have to help or why they can’t help, not one of them has ever wavered. They go beyond what is expected, providing beds, utility assistance, food, and more, all with compassion and dignity.

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