

**For inclusion in the SJN Bulletin and SVdP Website.**

**Date 1-18-2014.**

**Saint Vincent de Paul Conference, Saint John Neumann Parish, Canton, Michigan.**

*The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a worldwide Catholic organization of laypersons, open to all who wish to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbor in the name of Christ. Generally on a person-to-person basis, members of the Society help those in need, regardless of creed, race, or religious affiliation.*

*Mission Statement of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Report Update, - October 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013**

Hello Fellow Parishioners,

We, the members of the Saint Vincent de Paul Conference are part of the Christian Service efforts at SJN have just finished our third quarter of service in 2013. We have had a very active group expanding to 30 members joining as full or associate members. We are an all volunteer group supported by the church with meeting space and endorsement from the parish priest, Fr. Ron Richards. The committee has completed its second full year of service on September 2013 by Lorraine and Don Zaksek, (President and Treasurer), and Gerry Gutkowski. (Vice President), and Daniel Faoro (Secretary). We have been blessed to be lead in prayer by Deacon Pat (Spiritual advisor) at the start and close of our meetings.

We were grateful for your response for assistance we made this December and you provided just over \$4,700 in donations. We serve the poor after providing a thorough background check, a review of personal finances and financial budgeting, and assist them in procuring the social service benefits they are entitled to. Since Oct 1, 2013 we have provided \$ 14,000 in support to 143 people- both families/individuals- to prevent evictions, termination of utility services, meet medical needs, and provide emergency car repair, and food / household needs. In addition to the clothes and other donations to the SVdP store we receive the generous support from parishioners and outreach efforts, "Top Hat Sundays", and other parish fund raisers. We assisted seven families this year through the "Jesse tree" giving program at SJN , and donated to the SVdP Cyclone Relief Program to provide disaster aid to residents of the Philippines. We received support from local business, Meijers, Family Dollar Stores, and Catholic Vantage Financial.

Our members have attended numerous training sessions in the Detroit area to become familiar with skills to serve area residents, learn how to help families apply for social service programs, and state and federal assistance programs for the poor. Our members continue to work on SVdP Metro West area task force committees to develop transportation and housing programs.

Look for the script program registration information handouts on the tables in the entry hall of the church. We are registered for the Kroger Community Rewards Program, Holiday Market eScript and for the Meijer's scrip program.

Our information and web site is managed by Matt Dame, it can be found at our web site, [http://www.stjohnneumann.us/st\\_vincent\\_depaul.html](http://www.stjohnneumann.us/st_vincent_depaul.html). We meet at 7.00PM on the second Monday evening of the month in the SJN Elizabeth Seaton room. We look forward to new members at varying levels and ability, full, associate, and our youth group. Thank you for your continued support. Those interested in being members call the Parish office (734) 455-5910 and leave a message for Lorraine Zaksek with your name and phone number.

Thank you for your support of the poor in the name of Christ,

Saint Vincent de Paul Conference Members.