



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul @ St. Matthias...

Mission:

To join together in a bond of friendship, and to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering, in the tradition of our founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul.

Services Provided:

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Matthias Catholic Church provides food and financial aid toward payment for utilities, rent/mortgages, transportation, and medical related expenses for our “neighbors” in an extended Magnolia area. This may include funds for gasoline to get to a doctor’s appointment or job interview, a new air conditioner in the summer or heater in the winter, or eye exams and glasses. They are a “hand up” not a “hand out” so the staff will meet with families in their homes or at our facility to discuss their situation/need and things like lower cost options for electrical service, budgeting techniques, and smoking cessation plans. Eligibility for assistance is based on established federal poverty guidelines. The Conference is staffed 100% with dedicated volunteers, nearly all from St. Matthias. Normal funding is provided 100% through private donations, 99% of which is from the generous parishioners of St. Matthias. In addition, the organization recently applied for and received a grant of \$10,000 from the Tri-County Health Coalition to assist with medical, dental, and hygiene expenses.

96% of all donations go directly to the needy. The remaining 4% is for operating expenses for the truck maintenance and operation, office supplies, and phone service. The staff of the society is rewarded by the joy of those they are able to help.

Here are some statistics for our St. Vincent de Paul for the 12 month period from October 2016 through September 2017:

- No. of people helped with food: 10,833,
- No. of people helped with services (utilities, rent, medical, travel, etc.): 1832,
- No. of Home Visits: 76,
- Total disbursements to those we serve: \$83,226.59.

Applicants may apply for assistance via a phone call to set up an appointment or a visit to the Pantry during normal pantry hours of 10a-1:30p on Fridays. The Society does provide limited delivery to those not able to come in to pick up for themselves.

SVDP at St. Matthias:

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Matthias Catholic Church is staffed by more than 20 local volunteers. They serve an average of 70 families each week. The team collects and stores food during the week. On Fridays the team gathers at the pantry and sorts the food into packages for the beneficiaries. Shown here left to right are Yolanda Garcia, Irene Valverde and Ann Bradford among the stacks of food, arranging boxes for the beneficiaries. Ann is the longest tenured volunteer at SVDP here at St. Matthias; she has been doing volunteer work at SVDP for over 30 years.



Thanks to many generous parishioners, the monthly St. Vincent DePaul collection at St. Matthias is our primary source of funding accounting for 99% of our revenue.

The Catholic Community of St. Matthias the Apostle is a better place by virtue of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and we applaud Ann and all the "Vincentians" for their service to the community.

National:

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Matthias Catholic Church is the local chapter of the international society which was founded in 1833 with the purpose of serving those in need and the ultimate goal of ending poverty through systemic change. The Society includes 4,400 communities in the United States with 97,000 trained volunteers. SVdP in the US provided more than \$1.2 billion in tangible and "in-kind" services, served more than 20.9 million people in need, performed more than 1.7 million service visits, and delivered more than 17.5 million service hours to those in need in 2016. It is a 501 (c) (3) organization which grants tax-free status to charitable organizations.