



St. Vincent de Paul Society  
St. John's Regional Conference, Inc.  
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## Maybe You Would Like To Be a Vincentian?

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization begun in 1833 and now international in scope. Its members are called Vincentians and they join together in local conferences to foster spirituality and friendship among themselves and service to the poor.

Many people recall hearing of the St. Vincent de Paul Society as they were growing up, and knew it to be a thrift shop, usually, where they could donate their used household items. The money from the sales was then used by the Society to benefit the local people in need.

Here in Frederick County, Vincentian teams of at least two people staff an office next to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church weekdays from 10am until 3pm. Any Frederick County person in need can come to that office and probably receive a promise of financial aid for certain situations, and they can always expect to get referrals to any other organization that may be of help to them.

It's important to know that while serving the poor is the activity and goal, our mission statement makes clear that the number one purpose of the Society is to foster holiness in each member.

The mission statement: A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness, and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

The funding for our local St. Vincent de Paul conference comes almost entirely from parishioners in local parishes: St. Ignatius, Urbana; St. Joseph at Carrollton Manor; St. John the Evangelist, Frederick; St. Katherine Drexel, Frederick; and St. Peter's, Libertytown. Generous individuals who "hear the cry of the poor", also give directly to our conference.

Because the office and phone are provided by St. John the Evangelist church, and because all Vincentians are volunteers, more than 99 cents of every dollar go directly to the needs of the poor. Vincentians meet once monthly to consider the best use of donated dollars towards the most efficient improvements in the lives of those seeking assistance.

Vincentians are parishioners from all the parishes in the county and usually are asked to serve in the office one day every three weeks.

Interested? Please call or email and a Vincentian will make sure you receive an introductory email and make an appointment to spend some time in the office to observe the ministry in action.

Maybe you would like to be a Vincentian!

