



VINCENTIAN MINISTRY

If you're struggling with your faith and/or going through the rituals in a mindless way, you might try getting involved in service to your neighbor. St Vincent de Paul work has a way of getting us out of our privileged bubble and indifference.

Many years ago, growing up in a Catholic parish, I thought SVdP was a male-dominated organization mostly dedicated to operating thrift stores. It wasn't until I went to my first meeting at St. Jude Parish that I realized the work was way more interesting. First, it was not just for men, women too could be Vincentians. Secondly, it put me in touch with my local community and gave me first-hand knowledge of the high living costs in Redmond, and the challenges people face making ends meet. And finally, it taught me about a variety of organizations and churches who are trying to help.

St. Vincent de Paul is not a social club with lots of parties and events. Rather, we bond in our work, sharing prayer and insights that help us grow spiritually. We help families and individuals with what would be small obstacles to many of us, but large problems for someone who has a limited income and then loses that income temporarily due to an accident, illness or job loss. When you can visit our neighbors in their homes and provide some assistance, it is very satisfying and humbling.

Here's how it works. A Redmond neighbor will call the Seattle SVdP helpline phone number and put in their request. The request will be routed to our St. Jude SVdP Conference. Our dispatch volunteer will assign a case to one of our Vincentians. He/she will find a partner and arrange a home visit. In the visit we try to ascertain how we can best help. Usually, it is rent or a utility payment, but often we discover other ways to help such as furniture, kitchen items, or children's clothing. Vincentians are typically given one or two requests for help each month. The time commitment is flexible around our schedule and the people we serve.

If the Spirit moves you, please contact Diane Murphy via email: svdp@stjude-redmond.org, or come to one our meetings at 7 pm in Lovett Hall on the third Thursday of each month. We are sincerely grateful for all the help given to us by St Jude parishioners in cash donations, as well as household and furniture items. Also, we appreciate your gift card donations on the Christmas Giving Tree that help our neighbors in need. Thank you!



You can donate to St. Vincent de Paul online using the QR code and clicking fund 118-St. Vincent de Paul.

A SPECIAL REQUEST THIS MONTH: HOUSEHOLD ITEMS NEEDED

If you have extras or can purchase these items for our ministry, it will help us focus more of our donated funds on keeping our neighbors housed.

Silverware

Twin sheets

Kitchen towels

We have a basket in the Narthex where you can leave these and other donated items. Thank you!

