

ST. PAUL PEOPLE

A PUBLICATION FOR THE CHERISHED MEMBERS OF THE ST. PAUL PARISH COMMUNITY

What Does the St. Vincent de Paul Society Actually Do?

Many of us have heard of St. Vincent de Paul Society... Let's find out what these members, on a local, national and international level, represent and accomplish.

In the U.S., the St. Vincent de Paul Society began in 1845 (just 13 years after it was originated in France) and each year helps more than 12 million people. According to its web site, the Society is made up of "Men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need." Participants are aware that our blessings (time, talent or treasure) are to be shared with our brothers and sisters in need. Members are united by a spirit of poverty, humility, and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection.

It is this personalized involvement that makes the work of the Society unique. This aid may take the form of intervention, consultation, or often through direct dollar or in-kind service. It is very important to all in the Society that their work provide help while maintaining the confidentiality and dignity of those who are served. Members also recognize that they become advocates for those who are defenseless or voiceless.

The Society at our local parish is led by Max Neuman. Max explains that at St. Paul parish, "The St. Vincent de Paul Society focuses on assisting individuals and families by supporting the Network of Community Ministries. Just in the month of November, St. Paul the Apostle Parish collected nearly 300 pounds of food and other needed items for Network." The St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Paul also provides and staffs a bingo program for residents of a local nursing home.

Are you interested in helping people who are in need? Call our help line 214-675-6612 and leave a message for Max or Lou and we will get in touch with you. Even if you can't participate with your time, your donations can help someone in our parish or our local community to pay for utilities, feed their family or get clothing to help them get a job. Just look for the St. Paul collection envelope every third Sunday of the month. Thank you for supporting the St. Vincent de Paul Society!

St. Paul Prayer Blanket Ministry

The St. Paul Women's Guild has been quietly conducting their prayer blanket ministry since 2009. Over 100 blankets have been distributed as of January to parishioners who

are seriously ill, some with cancer or joint replacement surgery for example, as a source of comfort and inspiration.

The blankets are made from a five-foot square of fleece fabric. The St Paul the Apostle Catholic Community dove emblem is embroidered onto the fleece and four-inch strips are cut around the edges. As volunteers knot the strips they say a prayer for the peace and healing of the person who will receive the blanket. A member of the Women's Guild then personally delivers the blanket with a card explaining the significance of the blanket.

In addition to blankets made for those facing health issues, the Women's Guild remembers people serving in the armed forces. Twelve military blankets, which are smaller and made with a camouflage print, have been sent to members of the armed forces through the St. Michael's Society.

The small group of women that make these blankets can provide four to five blankets per month. Because this ministry is dependent on volunteers, donations of fleece material (or funds to purchase the material) are welcome. Please contact Helen Allison at 214-244-5437 if you would like to donate.



New look for saintpaulchurch.org Web Site

If you haven't visited for a while, head over to <http://saintpaulchurch.org> to see the revamped web site. And it doesn't just look different. With this new site, representatives from each organization are able to maintain the information themselves. If your organization needs instructions or help, please contact Mike Koenecke at mike@koenecke.us or admin@saintpaulchurch.org. With everyone's cooperation, we'll have up-to-date information about all the events happening each week at St. Paul the Apostle Parish at our fingertips.

Remember, if your organization wants to schedule an activity, you are to contact Deacon Paul by email @ reittinger@att.net. Requests for reservations are not to be made by phone but by email, he will check to see if the facility is available and then will confirm your reservation by email.

St. Paul's Eighth Sing-Along Concert and Posada



Once again in December St. Paul's Parish enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Concert and Sing-Along followed by the Posada in the Gym. Bernie Gotway, the man behind the music of the concert, said, "It is my hope that these events

bring together the parish and guests in true Christmas spirit."

Bernie is a member of St. Paul's Knights of Columbus. Over the first five years of this event, the Knights collected more than \$65,000 in contributions for Holy Trinity Seminary chapel and library reconstruction. Even though the Seminary need was met, Bernie and the Knights have continued the tradition of the Sing-Along Concert for the listening enjoyment and camaraderie of parish members and guests.

Again this past Christmas, the Parish Children's Choir, School Choir, Posada Children's Choir, the Adult Choir and Youth and Family Choir participated. Thank you to all who made this a special event. It was a special evening again and we can already look forward to the ninth Sing-Along Concert, scheduled for December 18th, 2011.



Over the years a number of babies have played the role of baby Jesus in the Posada. We're wondering... where are those babies now? If you know of one, please send information to Jane

Koenecke at jane.koenecke@ibsa.com or 913 Northlake Dr. Richardson, TX 75080. We'll include them in a future Saint Paul People newsletter.

Faith Formation

The Faith Formation program continues the mission of Jesus through a Catechetical Ministry that embraces the total young person by striving to provide an inclusive program that responds to the spiritual, intellectual, Sacraments, social, and psychological needs of the TOTAL young person. Our youth are accompanied from pre-school through high school on their faith journey, and are exposed to the Word of God through faith sharing, Mass, instruction, experiential activities, and service.



Man's soul is endowed with the free choice of the will, which he shares with God, himself and the angels and by which he stands completely apart from other

created things. This is great nobility and a wonderful excellence. Manager Mike Averswald and his staff form the



Officer Michael enjoyed the great breakfast from I-Hop with Britney and Alex Zavala

I-Hop in Richardson showed their nobleness to the St. Paul Faith Formation Students at their annual Christmas party with their contribution. They came to the parish, cooked and served breakfast to over 500 students and volunteers. Many of our students have never eaten at an I-Hop. Joy is the true gift of Christmas not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can

communicate this joy with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help and forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us. Thank you Mike Averswald for all you do for our St. Paul community.

Children's Mass is held the third Sunday of the Month (Oct-May)

First Communion - We have 168 children who are



preparing for the First communion on April 29th and 30th. Please pray for our First Communicates on their Spiritual journey.

Children's Choir - Thank you to our St. Paul Parish Children's choir and their parents for the commitment to serve our Parish. Melissa Humason Parish Children's Choir director.



Peace begins with a smile. -Mother Teresa



High School Night, 2/20- Author Trish Kahlich



SPY rocks!



Thank you St. Paul Community for supporting our Super Bowl of Caring!

Pro-life dinner, 3/26



A SMILE is within reach of your computer or phone. Contact Frances Uhrick at St. Paul Youth Ministries & find out of upcoming service, spiritual and social youth events. Email: SPYM@saintpaulchurch.org Office Phone #: (972) 235-2598

St. Paul Scout Troop 728



St. Paul the Apostle's Boy Scout Troop 728 has been in existence nearly as long as the parish, having been founded in 1958. In those 52 years, sixty-two (62) Troop 728 Scouts have achieved Scouting's highest rank: that of Eagle Scout. In order to reach that rank, a Scout must complete the requirements

for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class, go on to earn 12 required merit badges plus 9 others, fulfill leadership requirements, complete an extensive Eagle project, and pass Scoutmaster conferences and Boards of Review. It is quite an accomplishment: less than five percent (5%) of all Scouts reach Eagle rank. This past year has been a special one for us: in 2010 a record nine (9) Troop 728 Scouts earned the rank. Our St. Paul the Apostle 2010 Eagle Scouts are Kevin Muehleman, Scott Miller, William Venden, Dean Leonard, Alex Eddy, Alex Carrier, Jack Bobzien, David Koenecke, and Luke Davis.



Show your Patriotism!

To help our Troop 728 raise funds for activities, they are now providing a flag service, where they provide the flag and the stand in your front yard for five national holidays each year. It's a beautiful 5 ft x 3 ft U.S. flag on an 8 foot wooden pole with a metal stand posted in your yard in the early morning and picked up near sunset on each of these holidays.

- Independence Day**
- Labor Day**
- Veterans Day**
- Memorial Day**
- Flag Day**



The troop is providing this service in the Heights Park area now, and looks to expand to other Richardson neighborhoods in the near future. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Cormier at petersen44@tx.rr.com, or for more information visit the site <http://www.troop728flags.org>.

Ideas for the Newsletter?

Please send them to jane@koenecke.us or call 972.669.9346. Thank you!

Flour, dry potatoes, sugar, cooking oil, corn bread and muffin mix, sugar, dry dinner mixes (hamburger helper), canned meats (spam, tuna, salmon, stew, ham, chicken), canned potatoes, sweet potatoes, jam and jelly, jello and pudding, pancake mix, ketchup, dry milk, mayo, mustard, salad dressing, bar soap, dishwashing soap, coffee, tea, laundry detergent, kitchen and bath cleaners, juices, oatmeal, drink mixes, spaghetti sauce, canned tomatoes, canned peaches, pears, mixed fruit, pineapple and apple sauce, tooth brushes, shampoo, deodorant, baby wipes, diapers (new born, size 4 & 5 pull-ups).



We continue to collect on the third weekend of the month for NETWORK. Here are some of the items they need most.

Please Help Network Help Others

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
720 S. Floyd Rd.
Richardson, TX 75080

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