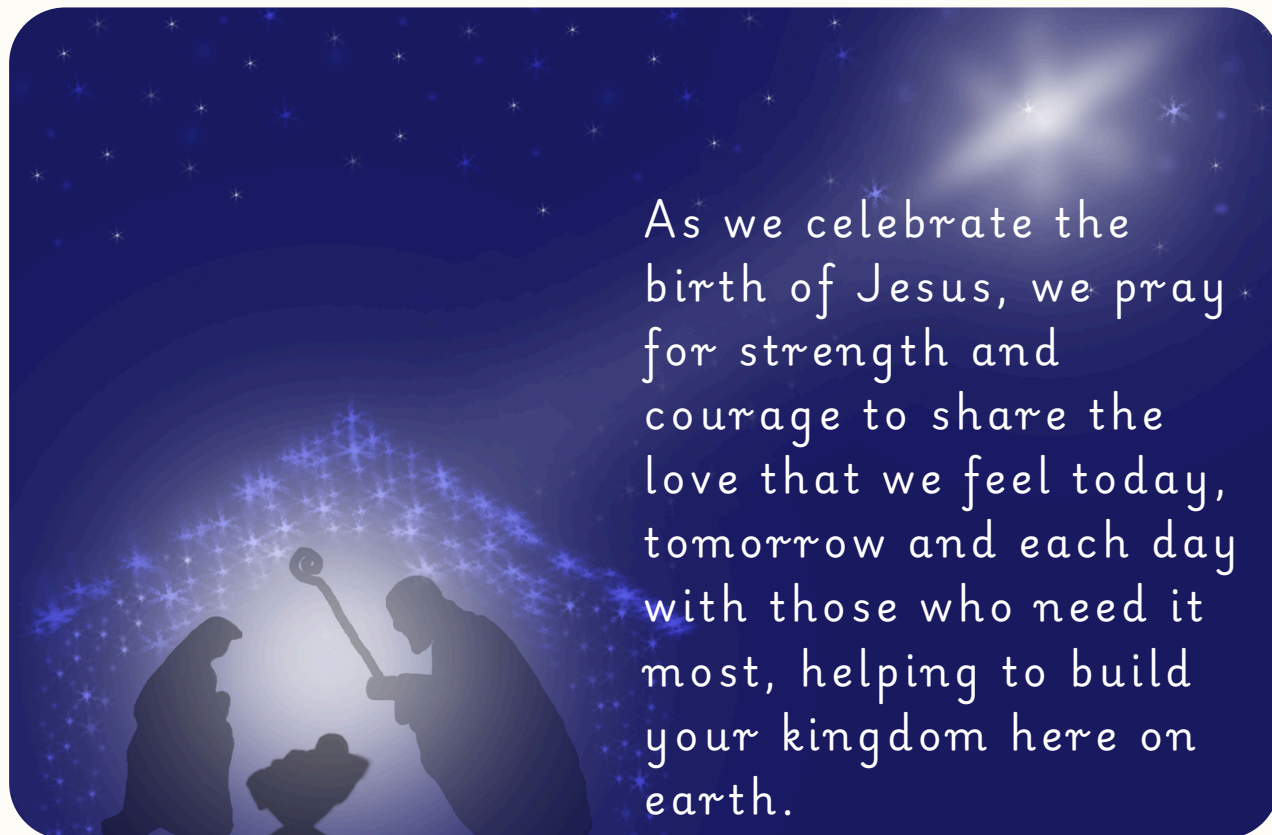


DECEMBER
2025

FROM THE HEART



A MONTHLY SVDP MKE VINCENTIAN NEWSLETTER



Wishing you and yours a holy Advent, blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

Advent in Two Minutes

Click here for a peaceful reflection during this time of hope and joy in waiting for Christ.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December See Page 3 for Holiday Schedule

13 Voice for the Poor Committee 9AM

15-17 Greenfield Thrift Store **CLOSED** for renovations

17 Advent Reflection-Virtual 10AM

24-25 Council Office Closed

31- Jan 1 Council Office Closed

Meal Program Holiday Schedule

Closed December 24 & 26

Serving Holiday Meal Dec 25 12:00-12:45PM

Closed December 31 & January 1

January

10 Voice for the Poor Committee 9AM

28 Growth & Revitalization Committee 4PM

26 Thrift Stores Anniversary

In Memoriam

Beverly Krass

Basilica of St. Josaphat

Obituary

Eugene J. Miller

St. Alphonsus

Obituary

Betsy Wendelberger

Christ King Parish

Obituary



May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

News & Events

Important Announcement: The SVdP Thrift Store at 4476 S. 108th St. in Greenfield will be closed next week, December 15-17, due to renovations. Please inform neighbors! This closing will be for the Greenfield Store only; both of our other stores will be open.

Inclement Weather Policy

Our current policy for inclement weather is that if Milwaukee Public Schools are closed, SVDP Meal sites and Thrift Stores are also closed, with one big exception. When MPS schools are closed due to extremely cold weather, our meal sites and thrift stores will normally remain open. Meal Providers and Volunteers: If due to inclement weather you are unable to make your scheduled meal or volunteer, PLEASE inform Peggy at 414-722- 1353 at your EARLIEST convenience.

Advent Reflection

Join fellow Vincentians in a virtual gathering to reflect and discuss Serving in Hope Module V- Our Vincentian Rule. Take a 1 hour pause in your busy days!

Wednesday, December 17 10AM-11AM [Zoom Link](#)



**SVDP MKE
HOME VISIT
SERIES
PART I**
Recorded Presentation
available in January
2026

PART II
Tuesday, March 3
9:30AM-11:00AM
In-Person Workshop

Topics

- Guiding Principles
- Spirituality How-To's
- Basics of a Home Visit
- Beyond the Home Visit
- Council Resources
- How We Do Home Visits
- Home Visit Scenarios

 Recorded Presentation
will be provided in
January 2026

 In-Person Workshop
3-3-25
Wauwatosa Public Library
Firefly Room
7635 W. North Ave.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

 RSVP Requested:
akarbouski@svdpmilw.org
414-667-0242

Subject to change based on attendance.

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED

During this busy holiday season, we're receiving many requests for help, both on our intake line and through our website.

We are looking for volunteers to help us:

- Listen to messages
- Make calls to neighbors and
- Enter information into ServWare for conference referrals

This can be done from the comfort of your home for 1 – 2 hours per week or for whatever time you can give.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Melanie at mcritton@svdpmilw.org or 414-667-0243.

Holiday Hours



Council Office

December 24-25- Closed

December 31- Closed

January 1- Closed

Meal Program

December 24- Both Meal Sites Closed

December 25- Both Meal Sites Serving 12PM-12:45PM

December 26- Both Meal Sites Closed

December 31- Both Meal Sites Closed

January 1- Both Meal Sites Closed

Thrift Stores

December 15-17- Greenfield Store Closed

December 24- 9AM-4PM

December 25- Stores Closed

December 31- 9AM-4PM

January 1- Stores Closed





SVDP Society Safeguarding: Milwaukee Council Update

The Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council has implemented the VIRTUS Program as its new comprehensive safeguarding platform.

Vincentians who were previously registered with Catholic Mutual Group have an account in the VIRTUS Online database as of November 10, 2025. For information on how to access your VIRTUS account, please contact [Maria](#).

Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to meet compliance with the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council Safeguarding Policy for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

- New members of the Society are required to complete the VIRTUS training modules and background check before interacting with Those We Serve.
- Current members who were not previously enrolled in our Safeguarding platform and have interactions with Those We Serve must complete the VIRTUS training modules and background check by **January 1, 2026** before resuming home visits.
- Those who have absolutely NO PUBLIC INTERACTION (NPI) with Those We Serve, must still have this status recorded on the VIRTUS database. Please contact Maria with name, address, phone and date of birth of members or volunteers who fall into this NPI category.
- All members and volunteers must participate in the Society's Safeguarding training. This may be in addition to your parish's requirements for Safe Environment certification.
- Everyone associated with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul must be accounted for Safeguarding compliance.
- One first-time only exception is permitted when a new person is discerning if our service is something they wish to continue doing.
- [Safeguarding Explanation Flyer](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [VIRTUS Registration Instructions for New Members](#)

Fundraising and Marketing Updates

Thank you for supporting the SVDP mission in 2025!
We are grateful for your gifts of time, talent and treasure.
Together, we make a meaningful difference
for our neighbors in need in Milwaukee County.

If you are on social media, please look for us on these platforms:



Facebook:

St. Vincent de Paul Society - Milwaukee
<https://www.facebook.com/svdpmilw>



Instagram:

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee
<https://www.instagram.com/svdpmilwaukee>



LinkedIn:

St. Vincent de Paul Society (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-milwaukee>



YouTube:

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee
<https://www.youtube.com/@st.vincentdepaulsocietyofm9190>

We hope to grow our online presence and share news, events and important updates about our programs and services.

When you find us on these platforms, please be sure to **follow us** and **like, share and comment** on posts of interest to you.

This engagement helps raise awareness of and support for our mission...and it's free!

Lastly, if you have good news or stories to share from your conference, please contact Tyler Curtis (Director of Development and Marketing Communications) at tcurtis@svdpmilw.org or 414-285-5515. Thanks!

Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!

Resources

Visit with Santa and Holiday Toys

See this article from Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service for gifts for children this holiday season.

Northcott Neighborhood House 2460 N 6 St 414-372-3770

Toy distribution 12-23-25 4pm-8pm | Dinner & gifts for children 12-25-25 11am-3pm

Winter Warming Centers 2025-2026

<https://www.milwaukeeecoc.com/seasonal-resources>

Several designated warming centers will offer nightly shelter through 3-30-2026. Centers operate 7pm-7am with walk-in hours beginning at 8pm. Trained staff and volunteers will be available to make referrals to community resources.

Locations:

- Guest House of Milwaukee 1216 N 13 St 53205- single men
- Unity Lutheran Church 1025 E Oklahoma Ave 53207- single men, single women
- Repairers of the Breach 1335 W Vliet St 53205- single men, single women
- St. Ben's 930 W State St 53233- single men, single women
- Joy House 830 N 19 St 53233- single women & families
Call before visit 414-344-3774
- Milwaukee Rescue Mission 830 N 19 St 53233- single men
Call before visit 414-935-0240

Medical Resource: [Listing of Free & Charitable Clinics](#)

Winter Wear Resources

Maccanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary Doorway Ministry First come-first serve for basic needs items, clothing and winter gear on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 2461 W. Center St. 414-404-0600

[Click here for information.](#)

Repairers of the Breach Open clothing pantry from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Mondays and as needed for emergencies. 1335 W. Vliet St. 414-342-9323.

Capuchin Community Services Clothing Closet Clothing and winter gear by appointment from 1p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at House of Peace 1702 W. Walnut St. 414-933-1300

Check the links on our website for other resources: **[Vincentian Resources](#)**

October 2025

Appliances- 133
Beds- 176
Food- 10
Furniture & Household- 315
Rent & Utilities- 31
Other- 98

Referrals Made to Conferences: 402

Intake Summary

November 2025

Appliances- 89
Beds- 128
Food- 8
Furniture & Household- 193
Rent & Utilities- 11
Other- 73

Referrals Made to Conferences: 259



Meal Program

Meal Program Volunteer Sign-Up links

South Meal Site

Cross Roads Kitchen

931 W. Madison St.

414-649-9555

crossroads@svdpmilw.org

Serving

Sun.-Fri. 5:30PM-6:15PM

North Meal Site

Harambee Kitchen

2600 N. 2nd St.

414-249-3866

harambee@svdpmilw.org

Serving

Mon.-Fri. 5:30PM-6:15PM

Please pre-register for volunteer shifts. Click on the location links above for calendars on Sign-Up Genius.

Meal Program Manager - Peggy West-Schroder

pwest@svdpmilw.org 414-722-1353



Are you able to provide any of these items that are much needed for our Meal Program? Please bring donations to either location 4pm-6pm.

Thank you for your generosity!

- Coffee / creamer / sugar
- Silverware (spoons & forks)
- Baby wipes
- Travel size hygiene products
- Hand warmers
- Wash clothes & towels (not white)



Thrift Stores

December 15-17 Greenfield Thrift Store CLOSED

- Bradley & Lincoln Stores are open

HOLIDAY HOURS

December 24 9am - 4pm

December 25 Closed- Merry Christmas

December 31 9am - 4pm

January 1 Closed- Happy New Year



Thrift Store Quick Cinks

[Beds Sizing Visual Guide](#)

[Delivery Letter for Customers-updated](#)

[Donation Guidelines](#)

[How to Issue a Gift Certificate Guide](#)

[Como Llenar Los Comprobantes de Regalo](#)

[Text Club Flyer](#) [Club de texto](#)



Help Neighbors with the guesswork of what will fit in their vehicles.



Box Dimensions of Platform Foundations for Mattresses

TWIN Platform Foundation box measures: **38" x 38.5" x 3.5"**

FULL Platform Foundation box measures: **37" x 27 "x 6.5"**

GREENFIELD 4476 S. 108 St. 414-377-9077

Mon.- Sat. 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sun. 11:00AM-6:00PM

Donations Mon. - Sat. 10AM-5PM Sun. 11AM-4PM

LINCOLN 2320 W. Lincoln Ave. 414-672-2040

Mon.- Fri. 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sat. 9:00AM-6:00PM

Sun. Closed

Donations Mon. - Sat. 10AM-5PM

BRADLEY 8010 N. 76 St. 414-363-8099

Mon.- Fri. 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sat. 9:00AM-6:00PM

Sun. Closed

Donations Mon. - Sat. 10AM-5PM

Donations Pick-Up Line 414-462-7863 Ext. 113