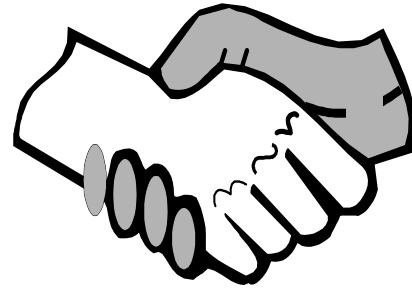


# CHURCH OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE



**2005-2006**

**“Love one another as I  
have loved you.”**

## SEPTEMBER

24, 25 Parish Stewardship Fair

## OCTOBER

22 Anointing of the Sick – 5 PM Liturgy  
TBA Meeting of Christmas Elves

## NOVEMBER

5, 6 Blanket and Sheet Drive  
19, 20 Giving Tree Begins  
21 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution

## DECEMBER

3, 4 Sign-up to Deliver a Plant  
10 Giving Tree Gifts Due Back  
16 Christmas Elves Preparation  
17, 18 Christmas Elves Pick-up Day  
17 Giving Tree Delivery Day

## JANUARY

7, 8 Personal Care Item Collection  
15 Sunday School for Adults: War and Peace

## MARCH

4 Regional Food Bank  
11, 12 Offering of Letters  
14 Catholic Conference Lobby Day

## APRIL

2 Talent Auction  
23 Sunday School for Adults: Communion with Creation

## MAY

7 Crop Walk

## MISSION STATEMENT

In the Spirit of the gospel and our patron, Saint Vincent de Paul, we are called to a spirituality that embraces the teachings of Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church. We strive to foster a community of faith that serves our brothers and sisters. We do this by:

- Educating our community to the social teachings of the church.
- Analyzing issues for their social and moral dimensions.
- Engaging our community to advocate for change that promotes justice in political, economic, and social arenas.
- Providing to our community opportunities for direct service to persons in need on a local, national, and international level.

## **Social Concerns Steering**

### **Committee**

Members attend monthly meetings from September through June to plan and implement committee programs.

## **Committees and Activities**

### **AIDS Care Team**

The team provides a structured and supportive way to serve persons with HIV/AIDS.

### **Bereavement Committee**

Members minister through prayer, sharing, and personal contact to parishioners who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

### **Chicken Soup Ministry**

Volunteers prepare homemade soup for delivery to homebound parishioners.

### **Fair Trade Products**

A group sells coffee, organic tea, and organic hot chocolate on the first full weekend of the month.

### **Food Pantry**

Individuals in need come to our pantry and receive bags of groceries sufficient to feed themselves and their families for three or four days.

## **Homebound/Nursing Home Visits**

Volunteers visit, call, and bring communion to our homebound.

## **Social Ministry Education**

Our parish community endeavors to raise awareness of social justice issues both locally and globally.

## **Twinning Exploration**

The committee is exploring the possibility of twinning with a parish in Central America or the Caribbean.

## **Annual Events**

### **Anointing of the Sick**

The liturgy for the anointing of the sick provides the opportunity for those over sixty-five, those dealing with physical or emotional challenges, and those soon to undergo surgery to receive the sacrament of healing.

### **Christmas Elves**

Our goal is to bring the joy of Christmas to our parishioners who are homebound or living in nursing homes. Workshops will begin in November to prepare gifts to be delivered at Christmas time.

### **Crop Walk**

Members of our parish join the larger community and walk to raise awareness and financial support for hunger issues.

## **Giving Tree**

Our parish community shares Christmas with our neighbors who are in need by providing gifts to those who might otherwise be without.

## **Holiday Baskets**

Our parish provides food baskets to needy families in our neighborhood at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

## **Lobby Day**

Join us and the NYS Catholic Conference in lobbying our elected officials on issues of social justice.

## **Offering of Letters**

Parishioners write to legislators to lobby for justice and an equitable distribution of basic resources.

## **Regional Food Bank**

Volunteers sort and repack larger food donations for redistribution to local pantries.

## **Shelter Drives**

Our parish provides sheets, blankets, and personal care items to homeless persons living in shelters.

## **Silent Auction**

This event benefits Bread for the World and our food pantry.

For more information please call the St. Vincent de Paul office at 489-5408.