St. Vincent De Paul Church

Mission Statement

St. Vincent de Paul is a faith community striving to live Jesus' gospel message of love, peace and justice for all peoples. In the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, our inclusive community welcomes, affirms and serves both the poorest of the poor and those who are alienated and most vulnerable among us. Our individual faith journeys join together in the celebration of the Eucharist. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to nurture the gifts of all our members. Our parish family will draw strength and unity from diversity. We will foster an atmosphere of warmth, hospitality and prayerfulness. We pray that our commitment to these efforts will further the mission of being one with our God and one with each other.

The DePaul Catholic School, An Independent Mission School
44 W. Logan Street • Philadelphia, PA 19144 • 215-842-1266 • www.thedepaulcatholicschool.org

Parish Staff

- ♦Sylvester Peterka, C.M.
- Pastor, Ext. #218
- ♦ Joseph Cummins, C.M.

Parochial Vicar, Ext #220

- ♦ Valerie Lee-Jeter
- ♦Darin P. Williams

Ministers of Music

♦ JoAnn O'Connor

Bookkeeper, Ext. #229

♦Evelyn Rogers

Parish Social Ministry

215-438-1514

♦Corbin Gardner & Grace Yi

Directors of Religious Education

♦Dan Kraning & Katie Crump

Directors of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

◆PAR-Recycle Works Prison Ministry Timothy Lyons, C.M. & Laura Ford 267-335-5455 Par-recycleworks.org



Partners in Ministry

♦ Inn Dwelling

Sr. Rosemarie Jefferson Administrator Alfred J. Smith, C.M. Director

215-438-2195 inndwelling.org

♦ Face to Face

Mary Kay Meeks-Hank Exec. Director

215-849-0179 267-566-8402

facetofacegermantown.org

♦ My Place Germantown

Jeffrey Williamson Executive Director js@myplacegermantown.org

215-763-6387

Eucharistic Celebration ♦ Saturday 4pm, Sunday 9 & 11am Sacrament of Reconciliation ♦ Please call for an appointment.

	MASS INTENTIONS FOR T	HIS WEEK
SUN	12/04 Mark Rogers	9:00 am
MON	Miraculous Medal 12/05 NO MASS	11:00 am
TUE	12/06 Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
WED	12/07 Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
THU	12/08 Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
FRI	12/09 Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
SAT	12/10 Miraculous Medal	4:00pm

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUN Second Sunday of Advent
SAT Sacrament of Penance 3-3:30 pm

FOR THIS WE PRAY Parishioners

Muriel Ancrum, Patricia Banmiller, Bernadette Barry, Katherine Elliott, Tom Weir, Anoah Curtis, Myles McDonald, William Drinker, Judith Di Battista, Ruby Tyer, Donna Jean Cocchia, Leo Johnson, Patricia Judge, Pat Burton, Thomas Baumann, Dick Taylor, Ginny Witte, Edna Poole, Nan Wade, Betsy Moore, Vince Morgan, Gerry Widmann, Kay Harty, Mary Lynn Kraft, Darryl Carroll, Natalie Gianetti, Arlene Myers, Betty Barnett, Annie Serious, Mark Rogers.

Friends of St. Vincent's

Maryann Hunsicker, Steven David Aslow, Mary Fazzini DeCanelo, Laura Alfonse, Nancy Tooker, C'Aron & Wynter Marie Hamilton, Tim McCabe, Harrison Harper, Claude Harper, Jaedon Anthony Horton, Arturo Magana Herrera, Lisa Kineke, John Brennan, Ashley Kiker, The Carey Family, Monique & Joseph Phillips, Dan Wuenschel, Ashley Margetech, Johnny Hilferty, Diane McCabe, Judy Spearmint, Millie Kribel, Kathleen Lawson, Dorothy Heimlich, Connie Bronson, Joseph Simmons, Amy Natkins, Terri Jackson, Alice Penderghest, Samuel Gonzalez, Mary Elizabeth Unterfofler, Ana Esquilin Santos, Ann Rainsford & Family, Rayan Bousso, Richard Lipton, Palmina Rucker, Martha King Cox, Anna Satchell, Steve Damville, Jessica Jara, Joe Hagan, Ned Dugery, Fred Ludwig, Marie Anderson, Vincent Owens, Barbara Rothenbach, Diane Harris, Gerrie Breslin, Siobhan Barrett, Mary Corini, Robert Glasgow.

Our Sister Parish of Las Anonas de Santa Cruz, El Salvador. Those who fight in wars, those who are victims of war, and those who seek peace and justice.

PASTORAL CARE

We will bring the Eucharist to those unable to attend Mass regularly because of sickness or infirmity. Please call the Rectory, at 215-438-2925.

Last Week's Collection	4,136.95
Electronic	2,972.00.
Total	7,108.95
Tithe	355.44

Today's Readings

First Reading: Iuckcj "33\$/32" Psalm: Psalm 92" Second Reading: Tqo cpu"37\$\(\delta\)/, O cwj gy "5\$/34

Readings for Next Week

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Psalm: Romans 13:11-44 Matthew

Second Reading: 24:37-44

Gospel:

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;

Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac,

11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8,

10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt Friday:

11:16-19

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac,

Saturday: 3b, 15-16, 18-19;

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

BAPTISM OF OUR CHILDREN

Call Fr. Sy Peterka, Pastor, at 215-438-2925, ext. 218, for available dates and additional information.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The RCIA is the process through which adults become members of the Catholic Church. If you are interested in exploring whether the Catholic Church is where you want to begin or continue your Christian faith journey, please contact the Rectory at 215-438-2925.

THOSE IN NEED OF THE SACRAMENTS

Please contact Fr. Sy Peterka, at 215-438-2925 ext.218, to make arrangements.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in becoming involved in one or more of our Parish ministries, call the Church office, at 215-438-2925.

PARISH OUTREACH

Non-perishable food donations may be made Monday, Tuesday and Friday between 9am and Noon. To make an appointment for any other time, please call Evelyn Rogers at 215-438-1514.

RESERVATIONS FOR MEETINGS/EVENTS

Please call the Church office, 215-438-2925.

RACIAL HEALING STATEMENT

To foster a community in which people of all races and cultures are treated as equals and fully participate in the life of the church. We hope to achieve this by... Deepening Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural relationships; Developing each person's gifts for Leadership & Min-istry, (Including each group's Art & Culture) and by... Supporting actions for justice.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Please come to our CONCERT **December 4 at 3pm** in the church. We will feature music from our new CD available for purchase at \$15 (a great Christmas gift! with proceeds supporting the ministry and capital campaign!).

You can also sing with the choir during Advent/Christmas. Call the rectory office for times and dates and experience a special seasonal joy!

YOUTH MINISTRY MEETINGS

Dan and Katie invite you to come for fellowship in Christ with your peers in the Hospitality Center. Youth group is open to youth in grades 6-12. Our next meeting is **December 4**. More information at: youthministry@saint-vincent-church.org.

THE "GIVING TREE"

Please note that our "giving tree" has returned! It is decorated with multi-colored tags with wishes on them for children and adults at Face to Face, My Place Germantown, and DePaul Catholic. Please take a wish and fulfill it by placing your gift in the collection basket any time before Christmas.

SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS

DePaul Catholic 7th graders are collecting NEW socks for homeless people. Let's help them! Drop off a pair or two of NEW socks in the wrapped "sock box" in the back of the church. The program is called Joy of Sox. See www.joyofsox.org.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) have made greeting cards and pictures for parish homebound. This makes a special connection for the homebound and the children. Cards are located in the rectory dining room, in a box marked "Artwork for Homebound Parishioners". Please take one when you visit.

LEGION OF MARY

Legion of Mary meets Wednesdays at 1:30pm in the rectory.

SENIORS MINISTRY

We are meeting for fun, food and fellowship in the Hospitality Center on Wednesdays at 11:00am. Any questions, call Jerry Smith at (215) 508-0427.

RCIA

are you interested in becoming Catholic? Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church, if you would like more information.

HOSPITALITY

Please join us for hospitality provided by the community after the 9am Mass in the Hospitality center. You can sign up to help as an individual, family or group on the bulletin board by the side entrance. Volunteers buy donuts, OJ and milk and are reimbursed. All other items are provided in the Center's cabinet. Please arrive early to make coffee prior to Mass. All items are sold for fifty cents. Questions? Call Jack DiFeo 215 287-5682.

HELP NEEDED

Our Evangelization Team and DePaul Catholic have teamed up to offer an afterschool course, called "Walk with Jesus" one day a week, after school (2pm until 3:15pm). We are now teaching one class of 18 students, K-2, on Wednesday but would like to expand this program since there is a 59 student waiting list to get in. If you would be interested in teaching your faith to "little ones" for one hour a week, please sign up in the back of the church, on the list called "Walk with Jesus".

POWER UPDATE

Over 25 parishioners helped boost voter turnout in Germantown and across the region by knocking on doors and making calls. POWER-wide, these contacts added up, and we hope will help us to show policy makers that we are serious about getting more and more Philadelphia-area residents involved in issues that matter to families: Better-funded schools, higher minimum wages, and criminal justice reform. THANK YOU to all!

Curious about POWER? Much planning is going on now re/responding to the new post-election "landscape" for the issues that matter to people who are struggling. Watch for a St Vincent's POWER meeting in December. For more info, contact Terri Burgin (215-651-0100) or Mary Laver (610-324-9388).

WHAT is R.U.M.?

The mission of the Reconciliation & Unity Ministry (RUM) is to foster our "becoming One Body of Christ" as a parish community where all are welcome-across races, generations, sexual orientations, countries of origin, and Mass preferences-to encounter Christ's loving presence in each other. RUM began in the aftermath of the national trauma generated by the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson in 2014, when Fr Sy invited a diverse group of parishioners to come together to reflect on what our times called us to be and do as a parish community. In its first two years, RUM initiated the Pew Conversations to encourage dialogue among parishioners about the meaning of the Gospel for our lives. RUM also launched Movie Nights, bringing us together to think about pressing and potentially divisive issues like racism, homophobia, and immigration. But RUM's main purpose is not to start new programs but to encourage our many ministries-from liturgy to social justice-to use "becoming One" as a central guide for their work. RUM members commit to meeting together monthly and following up on "homework" that arises between meetings, to talk, plan or collaborate with members of other ministries or external groups about ideas raised in RUM. Parishioners are welcome to talk with Fr Sy or RUM ministry members, Chris Newsome Bolton or Sharon Browning to find out more, and to consider joining.

MEET & GREET AT DEPAUL CATHOLIC

Come see us on **Thursday, December 15, 9-11am** at 44 West Logan Street to hear where we've been and where we are going. Meet our student scholars and teachers and our leadership team with their vision for moving us forward. We will also share donuts, coffee, and conversation.

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish Registration Form

Thanks for being here! If you would like to become an ACTIVE member of St. Vincent De Paul Parish (full-time or part-time), we invite you to **complete the Parish Registration form below.**

Date	Envelop	e number
Name		
last		first
Address		
City	State	Zip
Date of Birth	Home P	hone
Cell		
Email		
Full name and re	elationship of all	resident family members
	DOB	Relationship
Have you received the Sacraments? ()Baptism ()Confirmation ()First Communion Are you interested in ()Liturgical Ministry ()Service Ministry (Can you sing, lector, teach) Please place completed form in the Offeratory basket or send to the Parish Office and we will contact you.		
	line: Mondays by	

Bulletin Deadline: Mondays by noon. Email to secretary@saint-vincent-church.org

St. Vincent de Paul Church Electronic Donation Authorization ES6255

Thank you for considering donations to St. Vincent de Paul electronically via your bank account. Please complete this form so that we can set things up for you. If you have questions, call Kitty at 215-438-2925x229

Date	Envelope	Number
Electronic Type:	New	Number Change
Name		
last		first
Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone #		
Cell #		
Email		
Date of 1st Dona	tion	
Amount of Dona	tion	
Frequency:		
Monthly on the 1st Monthly on the 15th Weekly (every Monday) Weekly (every other Monday)		
Bank Routing Nu	mber	
Account Number		
Please debit my checking account per <u>attached</u> <u>voided check</u> . (If you wish to debit your savings account, please contact your bank for routing and account number.) I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my bank account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization. Authorized signature and Date:		

General Intercessions ~ Second Sunday of Advent December 4, 2016 11:00 Mass

For a Church where all people are welcome and all gifts are celebrated, let us pray . . . Lord, hear our prayer.

For a country where all immigrants are welcome and where each person's experience is valued, let us pray . . . *Lord, hear our prayer*.

For a city where all children are welcome to play in their neighborhoods without fear of harm or ruin, let us pray . . .

Lord, hear our prayer.

For a parish

that moves us to be instruments of peace in our city, spreading our spirit of welcome wherever we go, let us pray . . . *Lord, hear our prayer*.

For a world where families affected by HIV & AIDS find support and care, healing and welcome, let us pray . . . Lord, hear our prayer.

For a world to come where all are welcomed into the arms of God and the company of the Saints, let us pray . . . *Lord, hear our prayer*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 3RD & 4TH, 2016

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Finance Council, Tuesday, December 6th, at 7pm.

Pastoral Council, Wednesday, December 7th, at 7pm.

Liturgy Council, Monday, December 12th, at 7pm.

<u>CHRISTMAS CONCERT</u>: St. Vincent's Choirs will be at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, on Saturday, December 10th, at 1pm.

Thursday, December 8th is a <u>HOLY DAY</u>, "The Feast of the <u>Immaculate Conception</u>". We will have Mass in the Church, at 7am and 7pm.

Monday, December 12th is the Feast of <u>Our Lady of Guadalupe</u>. We will have a Spanish Mass at 7pm, in the Chapel.

<u>DEPAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL</u>: DePaul students have made Christmas cards and for every gift of \$20, we will send you a pack of 10 cards to give to family and friends. Please go to www.depaulphila.org to purchase or call Kelly Bielby at 215-842-1266.

PRAYER AND FASTING (DECEMBER 19TH TO 23RD): Everyone is encouraged from Monday, December 19th through Friday, December 23rd, to join in Prayer and Fasting. We recommend it, for those who are able. No meat, just fruits and vegetables, water and juice. No desserts, alcohol or eating between meals. If you cannot do it for five days, fast and pray for three or one. We are praying that we grow in Faith and Love for our brothers and sisters on the margins. If you cannot fast, take more time to pray. Come to morning Mass at 7am or to Eucharistic Devotion, Monday through Friday, in the Chapel. The side door of the church will be open.

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE (Christmas Eve Mass counts as your Christmas Obligation):

4:00pm Choir. 4:30 Christmas Eve Mass

7:00pm Choir. 7:30 Christmas Eve Mass

11:30pm Choir. 12 Midnight Christmas Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS IS AT 10 AM.

2017 Church Calendars are available. Please take ONE home with you.

Please remember to take a tag from the Giving Tree.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE WEEKEND IS DECEMBER 10TH

AND 11TH: St. Vincent de Paul Church is a family of families. As a family, we praise God together, share joys and sorrows, good times and bad; we touch others and we are touched by them. Together, our parish family grows, dreams and realizes our goals. Surely our Capital Campaign, "Raising All to Raise the Roof", is proving that.

I am so proud to be your pastor and so grateful to all of you for your love of God, your love of your families and your love of others in this world. We announced at our Kick Off Sunday that \$450,000 of our minimum goal of \$750,000 was raised during the first phase of our Capital Campaign. Everyone in our parish has now been asked to make their pledge and mail it by December 10th or bring it to Mass the weekend of December 10th and 11th. Pledges have been coming in the mail, by phone, by email and by people stopping me at meetings to tell me they are still praying and thinking about their response.

It would be so wonderful if all our parishioners could make some gift or pledge to this Campaign and in particular, for Pledge Commitment Weekend, December 10th and 11th. Please do the best you can. A pastor could ask no more.

Father Sy

What is the Reconciliation & Unity Ministry (RUM)? Are you called to join us? An Advent Invitation...

RUM was formed in 2014 following the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, and the Ministry was tasked with exploring ways of facilitating dialogue and the development of relationships here at St. Vincent's so that "we may become One."

The ministry has sponsored several initiatives, including Pew Conversations and Movie Nights, and is now hoping to work with other parish Ministries and Committees throughout the parish to encourage everyone to incorporate this theme of "Becoming One" in their planning and work.

During this holy season of Advent, as we prepare the Way of the Lord in our lives, our parish, our city, our nation, and our world, we ask that you prayerfully consider joining in this essential work of reconciliation and unity. We now find ourselves in a time of unprecedented judgment and fear, but also, therefore, of an extraordinary opportunity to live our Gospel values more fully. More than ever, we must join together to birth God's love into our suffering nation and world.

Our faith tradition has always incorporated periods of prayer and fasting before major feast days, and so we are asking everyone to consider participating in a time of pre-Christmas Fasting and Prayer, from Sunday December 19 through Thursday December 23. During this time we will pray for the healing of all divisions among us, and for the healing and unity of our parish, our city, our nation, and our world. Fr. Sy and Fr. Joe will be providing more detail on this.

We also ask that you discern your call to the ministry of Reconciliation and Unity, and let us know if you are interested by writing your name on the Sign up sheet in the back of church before Christmas. We will begin our work in 2017 with a day-long retreat on Saturday January 14.

For more information, please contact any of the RUM members who will make announcements during Advent. Or Fr Sy.

May all of us experience ongoing reconciliation and healing so that we may be ambassadors of Christ's peace to each other and the world!



donuts at DePaul

Thursday, December 15, 2016

9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

44 W. Logan Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144

A candid meet and greet tour and discussion about DePaul; where we're been and where we're going.

All of our students can tell you - & show you! - our school values:

Faith = We believe in God

Honor = We do the right thing

Initiative = We get things started

Perseverance = We never give up

Community = We work together

Come and meet our student scholars and witness DePaul's 5 values at work! Meet our student scholars and see what they are learning. Meet our teachers and how they strive above and beyond for students. Meet our leadership team and their vision for moving DePaul forward.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!

Spring 2017 Semester

St. Charles Borromeo Seminary - School of Theological Studies (STS)

Certificate in Pastoral Ministry to Black Catholics (MBC) - Master of Arts Degree. Scholarship applications are available through the Martin de Porres Foundation at www.martindeporresfoundation.org or contact your Pastor/

Deadline to register is Friday, December 30, 2016

Courses will begin January 17, 2017

Spring 2017 Courses - For registration information and additional courses - Go to www.scs.edu. Need further assistance: call 610-785-6287.

> Mondays 6:30PM - 9:30PM STS 101 Old Testament

Tuesdays 6:30PM - 9:30PM STS 401 Church History

North Bay Retreat 2016

St. Ignatius of Loyola By Cameron Coles

I have been a member of St. Ignatius Church for 15 years and part of the TLC youth group for 2 years. This was my second time going to North Bay Camp or Jesus camp as we call it.

Now, North Bay is an experience that in no way can be put into words, but I am going to try my best. This retreat is exciting, nerve racking, fun, blood rushing, spirit raising, holy and new. When you go to North Bay you are totally separate from the outside world. I mean there's like four spots in the place where you can make a call or text and don't get me started about the Wi-Fi. None of that is important anyway. The activities like small groups, the 20 minutes of silence outdoors and even mattress wars, bond every teen no matter what their background is and I think that is very special.



Lastly, North Bay will bring you closer to God than you have ever been. At this isolated holy fortress, as I call it, I can honestly say it washes away your worries at the threshold. All those distractions and obstacles that get in the way of feeling His presence are eliminated and you just feel him enter you. You connect with God in every Mass and especially in adoration. Adoration is just the cherry on the top

besides the special themed party, of Contact your Pastor/DRE about the Martin de Porres course. But, honestly adoration drags the tears from your eyes and you just Foundation funding. break down and give yourself a way to him and I felt that this year. I didn't cry or anything but every struggle that I had and sin that I did or thought about doing ran through my head. It's almost as if God was telling me to stay strong in faith which I am prevailing in, I now can say I am closer to God and I want to thank the Martin de Porres Foundation, from the very pit of my heart for every penny that was donated to our cause to help my group go on this journey and I look forward to next year. May God, Bless you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Open House and Christmas Concert

Date: Sunday, December 4th at 1:00 pm Location: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary 100 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, PA

- Campus Tours
- Stay for the Christmas Concert at 4:00 pm Christmas concert featuring Seminary choir and musicians
- International Christmas crèche display This event is free and open to the public

SAVE THE DATE

REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PRAISE & WORSHIP JANUARY 16, 2017

MANUPPHILLY - MARCH 4, 2017

THE AREA'S LARGEST MEN'S SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE. To register for this year's Conference visit: ManUpPhilly.com/registration.

Early Bird	Sale End: 12-31-16	Price: \$40	Fee:\$1.99
Normal Reg	3-1-17	\$50	\$2.24
Student Re	9 3-4-17	\$25	\$1.62
Late Reg	Not started	\$55	\$2.37

The Bulletin and Beyond

Building a Parish Communications Plan for the 21st Century. Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 - 9:00 am - 12:30pm Location: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary - College Auditorium. 100 E. Wynnewood, Rd. Wynnewood, PA Speak: Matthew Warner, founder and CEO of Flocknote. The workshop is designed to be relevant, whether your parish uses - or plans to use - Flocknote & whether you are tech-savvy! \$20 pp Includes morning refreshments. To register: phillyevang.org/events

This half-day workshop will cover the essential elements of modern parish communication, including:

- Simple ways to update the way you communicate without breaking your budget
- Crafting your message so it gets noticed & increases engagement

National Black Catholic Congress XII

Date: Thursday, July 6, 2017 to Sunday July 9,2017 Location: Hyatt Regency Orlando

9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819 Registration Fee: Adults - \$295/ Youths - \$150 Hotel Registration Fee: Single/Double/Triple, Quad \$125 + tax per room - per night.

www.orlando.regency.hyatt.com http://nbccongress.org/events/default.asp#lampstand

St. Vincent de Paul Music Ministry Presents:

"All Are Welcome"

A CD featuring the music of our combined choirs and an original composition by our own, Darin Williams.



Now YOU can sing along with the choir!



COST: \$15 - Available Dec. 4

*This will make a GREAT Christmas gift!

***There will be a **CONCERT** featuring the music from the CD on SUNDAY, DEC 4 at 3PM at St. Vincent's church (in the church).

Please put the form below in an envelope CLEARLY marked "Music CD". You may place it in the collection basket or give it to a member of music ministry.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO ST. V MUSIC MINISTRY AND THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

Name:	
Email or phone #	
# of CD's ordered:	(\$15 per CD)
Amount enclosed: \$	
Checks made payable to St. Vin	acent de Paul Church

MADAGASCAR

My Dear Friends,

Because of your mercy, compassion and generosity, you have brought *HOPE* to the Church in Africa. I know in this *YEAR OF MER-CY* that I will have your support and prayers.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for all you have sacrificed and for your generous spirit that has and continues to bring HOPE in Africa. This year, we have some very exciting ways in which you can help bring God's love, hope and mercy to the poor in Africa.

Please pray for the success of these projects. Thank you in advance for all you do. Please live mercy and give generously, so we can help complete these projects; GIVING MERCY AND HOPE TO THE POOR IN AFRICA. If you have any questions about this appeal or would like to consider a bequest, feel free to contact me at (410) 371-0627 or frsy7@hotmail.com.

Please make all checks payable to "CON-GREGATION OF THE MISSION-AFRI-CA". Be assured of my prayers and the prayers of hundreds of Vincentians priests, brothers and seminarians in Africa.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr Sy









In Madagascar, the Vincentian priests and brothers are hoping to set up a program that helps children with disabilities. Many of these children are orphans, because their families see no hope for them, so they abandon them. This program will develop a forestry program in which the children will be trained and through the growing and selling of trees. This will provide for their basic needs and give hope to these orphans and children with disabilities.Cost \$13,000





CHAID









In Chad, Thank you for all that you have done in building schools and helping build their first church in the Vincentian parish. They have worked hard in building their church, but could use help with furnishing (altar, pews, lectern, etc.) To finish this project, they need only \$7,500.





Please accept my contribution to help, Thank you!

Name:	
Any amount is	appreciated!
□ \$25	-
\$50	
□ \$100	
□ \$500	
Other \$	
☐ Please accept of \$	pt my monthly contribution

Please make check payable to:

Congregation of the Mission / Africa

Return in self addressed envelope to: Congregation of the Mission / Africa 109 E. Price Street Philadelphia, PA 19144

Please give address if giving monthly: Address:

NIGERIA

In Nigeria, Father Jacob, a Vincentian priest, is starting a ministry called "DePaul hope Social Center". This center helps train widows so that they can provide for themselves and their children. Many of these women are widows because their husbands were killed by the terrorist group Boko Haram. After training, they will be given "micro-loans", so that they can become self-sufficient. Their total need to fund this project is \$21,500. Please help bring God's MERCY & HOPE to these widows.





ETHIOPIA

In Ethiopia, a Vincentian priest is building two small homes for widows and their children. Because of the severe draught and extreme poverty there, they need our help. The cost for these two homes is only \$3,500. Please show mercy and give hope.



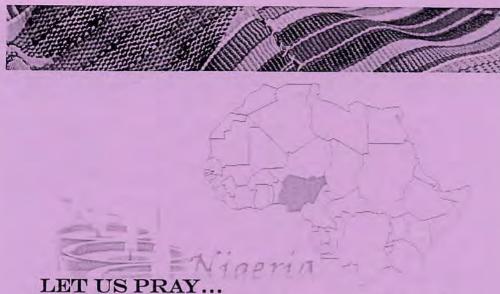


African

Appeal for Hope

"Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's Life. The Church's very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love."

Pape Francis



O Lord our God, in the name of our Daughters and Sisters of Nigeria we come to you on bended knee in prayer. In the heat of this day, suffering and hardship has visited young ones and we beg you, almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit to bring forth release and mercy on those who have been captured, sold and raped. Reverse O Lord, the spirit of the captors. Restore O Lord, the hope of these young innocent girls and bring Recovery to them and their families. Relieve the injured and Redeem O Lord, this situation and drench it with Your love and mercy. We remember O Lord, how You set the captives free in Egypt and how You carved a way to freedom by splitting the waters of the Red Sea. We remember, O Lord how Your mighty hand brought David out of the lion's den and we ask You, O Lord to do the same for our dear young Sisters and Daughters. We come to You this day, knowing the fullness of Your amazing grace which makes a way out of no way. We thank You O Lord for what You can do and will do in Jesus' name- Amen



Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it!

Following Jesus Every Day:

GOSPEL MEDITATIONS FOR DAILY LIVING

Ninety days' worth of Gospel verses and reflections including a meditation, a prayer, a simple activity for the day and a related verse from the Old Testament. Ideal for Lent and Eastertime, or for any time of year!



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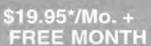
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Our Mission

Philadelphia FIGHT is a comprehensive health services organization providing state of the art, culturally competent primary care, consumer education, advocacy, social services, outreach to people living with HIV and to those who are at high risk, and access to the most advanced clinical research. FIGHT's goal is to end the AIDS epidemic within the lifetime of those currently living with HIV.

Each year FIGHT reaches over 8,000 individuals with social services and education programs and treats over 2,000 people with HIV at the Jonathan Lax Treatment Center. All FIGHT programs and services are offered regardless of gender, race, color, sex, religious beliefs, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, insurance status or your ability to pay.















Philadelphia FIGHT Programs & Services

FIGHT conducts Advanced Clinical Research of new drugs, vaccines and treatment options, and we are working to find a cure. FIGHT has been collaborating with the Wistar Institute for more than two decades. We are currently part of Wistar's randomized trial using an immune system modulator to decrease the HIV viral reservoirs



of chronically infected patients. This is an easily accessible strategy and if successful will be a milestone in our quest to find a cure for HIV. This is one of the largest clinical trials of its kind.

AIDS Education Month (AEM), held annually in June, is a series of conferences, workshops and events throughout Philadelphia to increase awareness of HIV/AIDS and to bring people together to find strategies to combat the virus. Over 10,000 individuals are directly reached by AEM every June.





The AIDS Library, the only dedicated HIV/AIDS public lending library in the world, serves the community through delivery of information on HIV. Our team of professional librarians is available to answer HIV-related questions and provide referrals to regional and national resources.

Critical Path Project

is a digital inclusion training and advocacy program that provides low-income people with access to the Internet and digital literacy training. With four public computing centers, we offer various ongoing workforce development and computer classes.



The Diana Baldwin Clinic provides HIV-informed



behavioral health services to address the psychological, social, and medical factors that drive the HIV epidemic and commonly affect individuals living with HIV. Rather than dictating the direction an individual's therapy will take, our therapists help patients decide the goals they aim to reach.

End AIDS in Ghana

Philadelphia FIGHT and the Ghana AIDS Commission work to bring vital resources to Ghana. FIGHT raises funds to support HIV treatment, care and support, as well as the prevention of new HIV infections.



The Office of Faith Initiatives tends to the spiritual health of people living with HIV/AIDS by offering hope, light,



wholeness and transformation. Through spiritual guidance, reflection, relationship building, outreach and education we seek to build a network where FIGHT and local faith communities can collaborate to foster healing in supportive and holistic ways.

HIV Counseling and Testing seeks to reduce HIV acquisition and transmission by providing the

most up-to-date information about HIV to those who need it most. Our team also helps people create personalized risk reduction plans to protect themselves and others from contracting HIV.



The Institute for Community Justice (ICJ) offers innovative, prevention-focused programs in a stigma-free space that empowers, educates and supports people



affected by the parallel crises of HIV and mass imprisonment. ICJ protects community health and raises consciousness around issues of social justice. We provide reentry services to address the educational and social support needs of ex-offenders.

The Lax Center Women's Program is committed to excellent care for women with HIV that is comprehensive,

team-based, and respectful of diverse cultural backgrounds and spiritual traditions. We partner with and support HIV positive women to heal, grow, maintain health, and achieve their goals.



Project TEACH (Treatment Education Activists Combating HIV) is an innovative health education program which trains people living with HIV/AIDS to act as peer educators, activists and advocates in the underserved communities hardest hit by the AIDS pandemic.TEACH focuses not only on prevention but treatment education, outreach and advocacy.



TREE (Treatment Recovery Education Empowerment) is an intensive outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program

for people living with HIV/ AIDS. Our mission is to help addicted individuals establish and maintain recovery by offering multiple pathways to recovery, based on an individual's unique strengths and resiliencies as well as his or her needs, preferences, experiences, and cultural background.



The Youth Health Empowerment Project

(Y-HEP) is a drop-in center and outreach program for young people aged 13-24. In addition to a safe place for high-risk youth to get off the streets, Y-HEP offers food, showers, laundry services, mental health counseling, support groups, prevention interventions, prevention case management, family planning, and sexual health care.

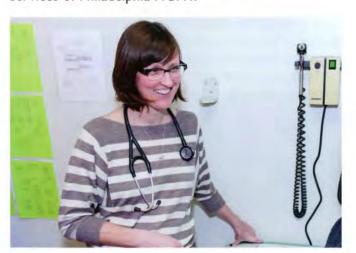


Philadelphia FIGHT Community Health Centers

The Jonathan Lax Treatment Center provides state-of-the-art primary care HIV medicine. Our team offers integrated, culturally competent medical and social services on-site. The Lax Center focuses on client-centered healthcare. We strive to combat social injustice by caring about the individual needs and unique circumstances of each and every client.



Clinica Bienestar (Well Being Services), in partnership with Prevention Point Philadelphia and the Norris Square Civic Association, is one of the city's first Spanish-speaking HIV clinics. The primary care clinic, located in North Philadelphia, is supported by the extensive case management, medical and social services of Philadelphia FIGHT.



The Y-HEP Health Center offers free or low-cost primary care and family planning services for young adults including preventive medicine, vaccinations, physicals, sick and well visits, and referrals to specialists. We see young people regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay, and support uninsured patients in insurance navigation and enrollment.



The John Bell Health Center (JBHC) is connected to FIGHT's Institute for Community Justice and is a comprehensive healthcare clinic that provides primary medical care to citizens returning from prison or jail. JBHC provides care in a one-stop shop, treatment-team environment for people with chronic health conditions.

