

St. Vincent De Paul Church

109 East Price Street ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19144-2145 ♦ 215-438-2925
www.facebook.com/StVincentDePaulCatholicCommunity ♦ www.saint-vincent-church.org

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**

♦ **Dennis Rivera**

Ministers of Music

♦ **JoAnn O'Connor**

♦ Bookkeeper

business@saint-vincent-church.org

♦ **Evelyn Rogers**

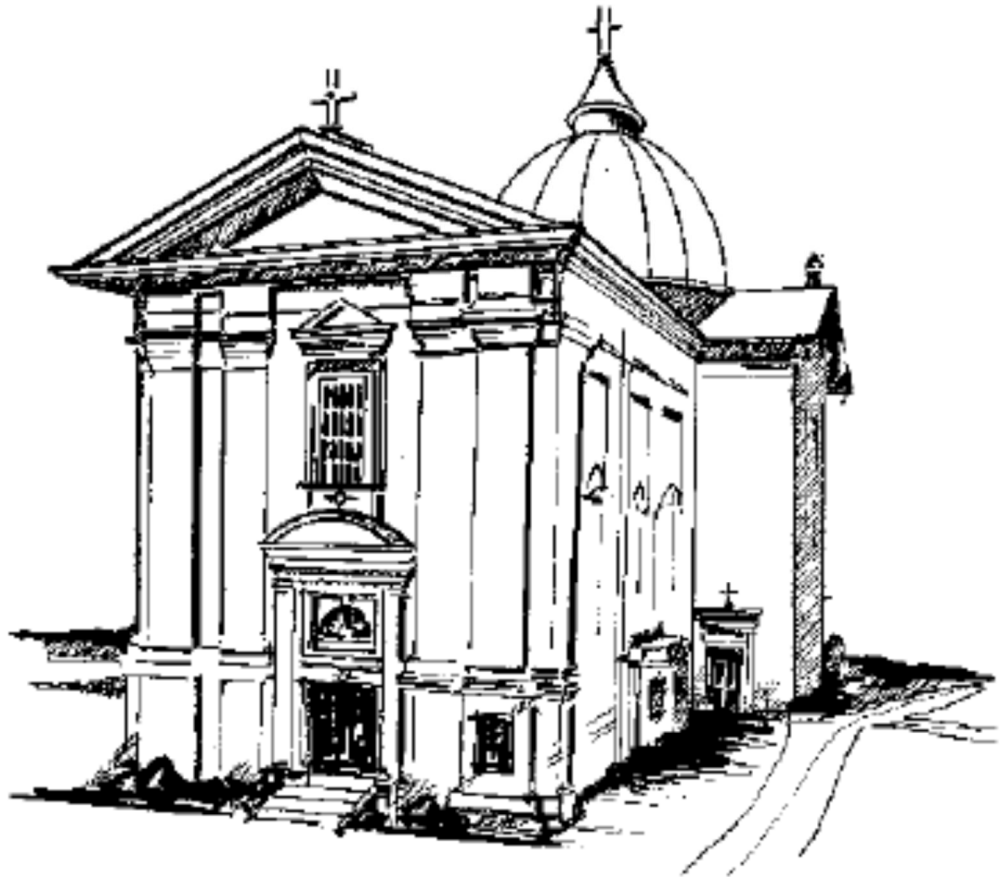
Parish Social Ministry,

215-438-1514

♦ **Delia Landers &**

Katie Crump

Directors of Youth &
Young Adult Ministry



Partners in Ministry

♦ **PAR-Recycle Works
Prison Ministry**

Timothy Lyons, C.M. &
Laura Ford

267-335-5455

Par-recycleworks.org

♦ **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.

October 8, 2017

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

SUN	10/08	Stan & Julia Callahan	9:00 am
MON			11:00 am
	10/09	NO MASS	
TUE	10/10	Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
WED	10/11	Marianne Buczek-Szucs	7:00 am
THU	10/12	Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
FRI	10/13	Miraculous Medal	7:00 am
SAT	10/14	Joan Bretschneider	4:00pm

**THIS WEEK'S
CALENDAR**

SUN	Twenty Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time
SAT	Sacrament of Penance 3-3:30 pm

FOR THIS WE PRAY

Parishioners

Muriel Ancrum, Patricia Banmiller, Bernadette Barry, Katherine Elliott, Anoa Curtis, Myles McDonald, William Drinker, Judith Di Battista, 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, Mary Ellen Graham, Mary Ann Delaplane, Joey Gavin, Barbara Adams.

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, Samuel Gonzalez, Mary Elizabeth Unterfofner, Ana Esquilin Santos, Ann Rainsford & Family, Rayan Bouso, Richard Lipton, Palmina Rucker, Martha King Cox, Anna Satchell, Steve Damville, Jessica Jara, Joe Hagan, Ned Dugery, Vincent Owens, Barbara Rothenbach, Diane Harris, Siobhan Barrett, Mary Corini, Alys Smith, Joanne Gerney, Diane Dugan, Mary Hunter Gibbs, Louis Malizia, Alice Penderghest, John Schmitt.

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	3,838.10
Electronic	<u>3,250.00.</u>
Total	7,088.10
Tithe	354.41

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm: Psalm 80
Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9
Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

Readings for Next Week

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalm: Psalm 23
Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Monday: Jon 1:1 - 2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

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.

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 & Ministry, (Including each group's Art & Culture) and by... Supporting actions for justice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - October 8-14, 2017

SOLIDARITY SUNDAY - OCTOBER 8

There is a legend that when the Germans ordered Jews in occupied Denmark to identify themselves by wearing armbands with yellow stars, King Christian X of Denmark and non-Jewish Danes thwarted the order by donning the armbands themselves. This made it impossible to identify those who were Jewish. Today we invite you to wear the rainbow ribbon to show your support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people. We encourage you to put the ribbon on your name tag so that all who enter the House of Vincent will know this is a welcoming place. If you already have a ribbon, please share one with a friend or family member. You can read more about Solidarity Sunday on the prayer card that was given out today.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW)

CLOW has returned! Sign up is in the back of the church. Again, welcome to our new DRE's, Kevin Gomez and Suzanne Garnett.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR PUERTO RICO

We received \$2,027 for Puerto Rican relief.

LECTOR UPDATES

Save the date for our pre-Advent Lector Gathering: **Saturday, November 18, 1:00 to 3:45** (ends in time to attend the 4 PM Mass). Planning session coming up. If you would like to be trained as a new lector, come an hour early (12 noon) and we will train you! The new liturgical year begins with the first Sunday of Advent on the weekend of Dec. 2-3. To prepare for that, we've ordered lector books and "At Home with the Word" books. These will be sold after Masses starting in mid-October.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CIRCLE

After each Mass, those wishing to pray for something specific or to pray for those with special needs can come and pray or become a part of the prayer circle. This should last about 5 to 10 minutes. It will be led by our Lay Leaders of Prayer.

SENIOR MINISTRY

Please note: Our Senior Ministry will **NOT** be meeting during the month of October. Call Jerry Smith 215-508-0427 for more information.

RCIA

If anyone wishes to learn more about the Catholic faith or become Catholic, please see either Diane Zieg or Father Sy.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Discussion of James Martin's book, Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity, will take place on **Saturday, October 28**, following the 4 p.m. liturgy. Books are available for purchase in the back of the church. See Margie Winters or Theresa Ta if you have any questions.

HOSPITALITY

Please join us for hospitality provided by the community after the 9am Mass in the Hospitality center. To volunteer, sign up on the bulletin board by the side entrance. Questions? Call Jack DiFeo 215 287-5682.

Many thanks to our beloved parishoners for the honor we received on St. Vincent's Day. We humbly accept this recognition as representatives of the many, many parishoners who follow the example of St. Vincent by loving others, as exemplified by previous honorees. Thank you!

Joy & Jim Wuenschel and Mary Laver

UNDER THE SAME MOON ARTISAN SALE

October 28-29 before & after **ALL Masses**: Beautiful jewelry, scarves, ornaments, keychains, purses and more, handcrafted by Guatemalan artisans. Proceeds will go to UTSM & St. Vincent's Capital Campaign. Cash, credit, debit and checks accepted. Shop for the holidays...for yourself, or a special someone!

DEPAUL CATHOLIC NEWS AND EVENTS

Save the date: Friday November 17, at the Commodore Barry Club will be our annual St. Vincent De Paul Catholic School's Beef and Beer Fundraiser. Start time is 7pm. More information is coming soon.

POWER UPDATES

Never heard of POWER? Heard of it but not sure what it is or why St Vincent's belongs to it? (Hint: Community organizing is another way to follow up on Matthew 25..."When did I see you hungry...?") Watch for the upcoming mini-series on "What is Community Organizing & What's Catholic About it?" Open to all parishioners over 16. Free of charge! **Save the Date**: Come out to represent St Vincent's at POWER's fall Legislative Assembly on **Tuesday, October 10** (location TBD).

NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT

Sanctuary in the Street Vigil: What a great show of support for immigrants and all who are oppressed by unjust power in the Street Vigil at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill. Look for further actions of the New Sanctuary Movement in September and October. There will be a vigil at City Hall on **October 22**. We will organize and demonstrate for justice until we gain victory. Si, se puede!

FOOD CUPBOARD

Supplies are getting low. Please don't forget to bring non-perishable food items on Saturday and Sunday Masses. Thank you.

INN DWELLING FALL CELEBRATION

You are invited to Inn Dwelling's annual silent auction, dinner, and celebration of scholars noon - 4pm on **October 15** at the Bossman Center, 7301 Germantown Avenue. Call Br. Al at 214-438-2195 for ticket information and reservations.

YOGA AT ST. VINCENT'S

Come participate in a gentle, yet challenging, chair yoga class. Chair yoga is practiced sitting in a chair, or standing using a chair for support. It's ideal for those seeking the physical and mental benefits of yoga- stress reduction, increased flexibility and strength, and developing the mind-body connection. Contact the teacher, Janeen Chavis, at 646-763-7134 if you have any questions. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a bottle of water! Dates: **10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14**. Time: 6:30-7:30pm. Cost: \$3 per class. Location: First floor of the Hospitality Building.

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 _____ Envelope number _____

Name _____

last

first

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Home Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Full name and relationship of all resident family members

_____ DOB _____ Relationship _____

_____ DOB _____ Relationship _____

_____ DOB _____ Relationship _____

_____ 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.**

.....

**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, contact Joanne at business@saint-vincent-church.org.

Date _____ Envelope Number _____

Electronic Type: New _____ Change _____

Name _____ last _____ first _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone # _____

Cell # _____

Email _____

Date of 1st Donation _____

Amount of Donation _____

Frequency:

Monthly on the **1st** _____

Monthly on the **15th** _____

Weekly (**every Monday**) _____

Weekly (**every other Monday**) _____

Bank Routing Number _____

Account Number _____

Please debit my checking account per **attached voided check**. (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:

Prayer Petitions for October 8-9, 2017

Oh God of the Marginalized, St. Paul tells us in scripture "to keep on doing what we have learned and received." Help us Lord to make the House of Vincent a model church so that all Catholic Churches truly welcome all peoples, especially our LGBT sisters and brothers.

God of Healing, many of our sisters and brothers in Puerto Rico feel abandoned and have lost hope. Help the worldwide community remember that the people of Puerto Rico need our continued support, prayers and love.

God of all children, the youth of our community are our future. Guide Kevin and Suzanne as they begin to lead our children instilling in them a caring heart and a love for all people through our Children's Liturgy of the Word program.

Oh Great Teacher, Matthew speaks your words "the stone which the builders have rejected has become the cornerstone." Fr. James Martin is being rejected by members of our church, for his compassionate call to welcome our LGBT members. Open the minds and hearts of the Catholic Leadership so that they too can learn mercy and love for all people.

Creator God, many of your people are poor and needy. Help make us meek and humble of heart, give us an ardent desire to work earnestly to be a living testimony of your mercy and goodness.

God of Light, a loved one has died and our world feels empty. Sustain us in our time of grief and remind us that they are waiting in the loving arms of the Father.

Jack DiFeo

October 2, 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 7TH AND 8TH, 2017

BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday, October 11th, we will begin bible study. Join us at 7 pm, in the Rectory.

SENIOR MINISTRY: The Senior Ministry will not meet the month of October. Please call the Rectory, if you have any questions.

CLOW: Sign-up sheets for Children's Liturgy of the Word are in the back of the church.

BOOK DISCUSSION: Discussion of James Martin's book, Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity, will take place on Saturday, October 28, following the 4 p.m. liturgy. Books are available for purchase in the back of the church. Please see Margie Winters or Theresa Ta if you have any questions.

UNDER THE SAME MOON ARTISAN SALE: October 28-29 before & after ALL Masses. Beautiful jewelry, scarves, ornaments, keychains, purses and more, handcrafted by Guatemalan artisans. Proceeds will go to UTSM & St. Vincent's Capital Campaign. Cash, credit, debit and checks accepted. Shop for the holidays...for yourself, or a special someone!

RCIA: If anyone wishes to learn more about the Catholic faith or become Catholic, please see either Diane Zieg or Father Sy. Signup sheets are in the back of the church.

LITTLE FLOWER FOREVER: On October 28, 2017 Little Flower Catholic High School for Girls invites you to join us in celebrating 25 years since Saving our Beloved School. There will be tours, a program and social. The Flossie Shop will be open. 3-6 pm. RSVP to alumnaupdates@littleflowerhighschool.org or 215-455-6900.

Mass count is this month for the Archdiocese. Please bring family and friends.

ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN MUST BE SENT TO SECRETARY@SAINT-VINCENT-CHURCH.ORG BY 8 AM MONDAY.



SOLIDARITY SUNDAY is a faith-based initiative of **DignityUSA** highlighting anti-gay violence.

As an anti-violence initiative, this program is consistent with Catholic principles of peace and justice. **DignityUSA**, an organization of concerned Catholics, works for respect and justice for all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons in the Catholic Church and throughout the world.

Solidarity Sunday is consistent with the American Bishops' pastoral letter *Always our Children*. Imagine how supported a mother who has been silent about her child's homosexuality would feel, sitting in Church the morning of Solidarity Sunday surrounded by fellow parishioners wearing rainbow ribbons.

Concern for the oppressed is part of the very fabric of our Church. One pastor in southern Maine wove the fact that Solidarity Sunday and Pro-Life Sunday occurred on the same day by remarking that the rainbow ribbons were a good reminder of the sanctity of all life. At a Catholic college in Colorado, Solidarity Sunday was celebrated during Parents' Weekend. The Mass included prayers for people who are victims of anti-gay and other kinds of violence, and a ribbon was pinned to the altar cloth during the Offertory.

How to Participate in Solidarity Sunday

1. Wear your Solidarity Sunday ribbon.
2. Pray for an end to anti-gay violence.
3. Educate your children, your faith community, your colleagues, your friends about the need to stop violence against all people, especially gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.
4. Take the Solidarity pledge.

The Solidarity Pledge

I WILL WORK for civil and human rights for all people, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgender. Civil rights are not special rights.

I WILL SEEK to stop jokes and unkind language about anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgender when spoken in my presence. Words that hurt and bigotry are not funny. I will speak out against any slander, debasement, lies or dehumanization of anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgender, including when spoken by political or religious leaders. Violent speech leads to physical violence.

I WILL WORK to stop physical violence against anyone, including violence against gays, lesbians, bisexuals or the transgendered. Violence against any person is violence against all people.

The Solidarity Prayer

God, You are the Creator and Lover of all. You wish us to live in solidarity with each other and to rejoice in our diversity.

We pray that all Your lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and straight children may experience justice, enjoy peace and spread Your love throughout the world.

We pray in the name of God, who welcomes all to a holy circle of friendship. Amen.

Solidarity Sunday

Wear the Rainbow Ribbon!!!

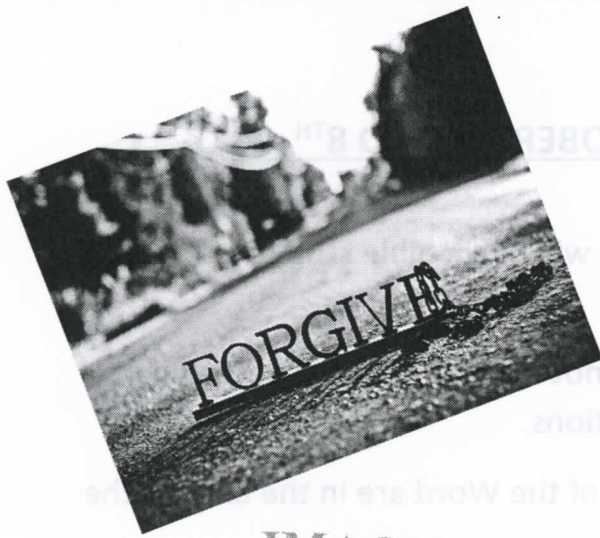
Violence against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people is an issue of real concern in today's America. Each year, tens of thousands of Americans are the victims of violent crimes directed against because of their sexuality.

Solidarity Sunday is a faith-based anti-violence initiative. **DignityUSA**, an organization of concerned Catholics, works for respect and justice for all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons in the Catholic Church and throughout the world.

Solidarity Sunday is marked by the wearing of a rainbow-colored ribbon a symbol of gay pride that reflects the diversity of the GLBT community, their families, friends and supporters. Wearing the ribbon is a token of support and for the quest for equal rights for all people.

Solidarity Sunday is dedicated to the memory of those who have lost their lives through violence because of whom they were or who they were perceived to be. May their deaths not be in vain. Let us work together to end verbal and physical violence against all people.





CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE'S
INSTITUTE FOR
FORGIVENESS and
RECONCILIATION

invites you to an inspiring presentation &
conversation:

*Forgiveness: A path to heal
both victim and offender*

IMAGINE your child is murdered.
Imagine your heartbreak/heartache.
Imagine going through the trial and judicial process.
Imagine coming to you own voice against the death penalty.

When: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 7:00pm

Where: Redmond Room of Chestnut Hill College

Vicki Schieber is a promoter of restorative justice and the reform of our criminal justice system and a woman of remarkable, moral courage. Come to learn more about her story and her activism over the last 20 years.

Be inspired.

Vicki Schieber is Catholic Mobilizing Network (CMN)'s Education Director and co-founder of Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights and is a noted advocate for death penalty repeal. Vicki is co-editor of *Where Justice and Mercy Meet: Catholic Opposition to the Death Penalty*, a comprehensive exploration of the Catholic stance against capital punishment. She and the CMN team are available to teach educators how to present CMN's workshops. They offer teaching workshops at National and State Conferences for Religious Educators, Social Justice Ministers, Pro-Life Activists and other interested groups.



Institute for
Forgiveness &
Reconciliation
AT CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE

Catherine T. Nerney, SSJ, Ph.D

Director, CHC's Institute for Forgiveness and Reconciliation
215-248-7099

Free and open to the public. RSVP to this email at forgive@chc.edu, if you will attend.



Join us for An Evening of Remembrance All Souls Day

Thursday, November 2, 2017
7PM

St. Vincent de Paul Church

Please fill out the form at the bottom and return it to the rectory
(place in the offertory basket)



Name of the Deceased: _____

Contact person: _____

Phone # or email: _____

Will someone be representing the family at the prayer service on
November 2? Yes _____ No _____



*An invitation from:
The Office for Black Catholics, Archdiocese of Philadelphia
The Office for Mission, La Salle University
POWER Interfaith*



13th Screening & Panel Discussion

The 13th Amendment banned slavery—except as punishment for a crime.
Join us to watch & discuss the acclaimed film *13th*, a documentary about the
mass incarceration of African Americans in the U.S.

**Saturday, October 21, 2017
9:45 AM to 1:30 PM**

**La Salle University
1900 W. Olney Ave.,
Philadelphia, PA**

**Holroyd Hall Atrium
(enter the campus at the Olney Ave.
gate between 19th and 20th Sts.)**



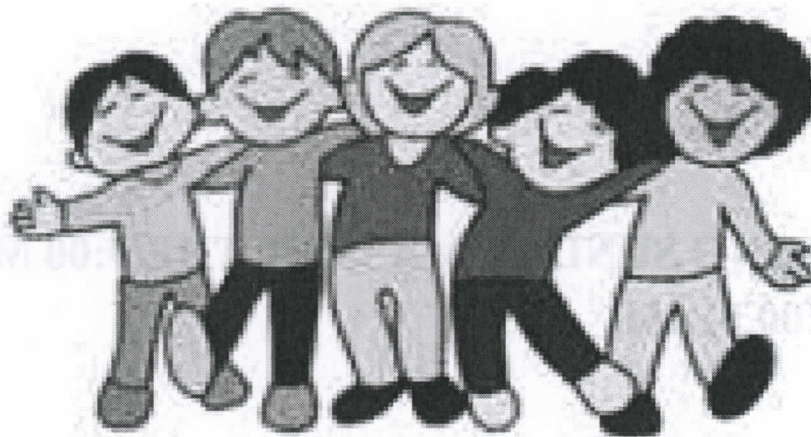
POWER

Morning refreshments & lunch will be served.
RSVP by Oct. 16 to mlaver@powerphiladelphia.org or 610-324-9388.
Please indicate if you plan to stay for lunch (will be served at 1:00 PM).

CLOW (CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD)

WILL BE BACK ON OCTOBER 1ST, 2017

Welcome to Children's Liturgy



**Co-Directors of Religious Education: Kevin
Gomez & Suzanne Garnett**

WHAT IS CLOW?

CLOW (CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD) refers to the practice of children leaving the Sunday assembly during the Liturgy of the Word and gathering elsewhere to celebrate a separate Liturgy of the Word that is more appropriate to their level of understanding.

MOTTO: LOVE GOD, LOVE YOURSELF, LOVE OTHERS

Grades: Pre-K through 7th

**WHEN: DURING SUNDAY MASS AT THE 9:00 MASS
OR THE 11:00 MASS**

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

EMAIL US: DRE@SAINT-VINCENT-CHURCH.ORG

A Pledge to Live the Virtues of St. Vincent de Paul

I commit myself to living the virtues of St. Vincent more deeply:



I pledge my heart to the virtue of **SIMPLICITY**. I will speak plainly, converse honestly, and conduct my affairs with straightforward goodness. I will strive to free my heart of attachments to the possessions, pursuits, and concerns that distract me from serving my God.

I pledge my heart to the virtue of **HUMILITY**. I will remember my own dependence on God, and consider others' virtues ahead of their flaws. I will strive to cast aside pride, and to approach each day as a lowly servant of our good and loving God.

I pledge my heart to the virtue of **MEEKNESS**. I will be warm, approachable, respectful, and open to those I encounter. I will strive against any natural irritability, praying instead for a kindly spirit with which to serve God's people.

I pledge my heart to the virtue of **MORTIFICATION**. I will be clear-eyed about my faults, resolving to die to sin daily. I will strive to be a faithful servant to people who are experiencing any form of poverty, placing their needs above my passing pleasures.

I pledge my heart to the virtue of **ZEAL**. I will live the life of faith joyfully, my heart burning within me as I respond to God's call. I will strive to live a balanced life, so that my service of God's people may long endure.

As members of a faith community modeled on the example of St. Vincent DePaul, we pledge ourselves to the virtues that St. Vincent held most dear: Simplicity, Humility, Meekness, Mortification, and Zeal. May our embrace of these virtues continue our conversion — as individuals and as a parish—into all that God longs for us to be in this world.

SOME GUIDANCE FROM OUR BISHOPS REGARDING IMMIGRATION

THE U. S. CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE has long held a strong position in favor of the reform of the U.S. immigration code. We are a catholic, or universal, church. We cannot rightly exclude anyone for any reason, certainly not for reasons of race, color or national origin.

Recently our own pastor, Archbishop Charles Chaput, stated that ending the DACA program (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) would be wrong. He said:

It's one thing to tighten the security of our borders and to deport violent criminals here illegally.

It's a different and much uglier thing to punish young people who've grown up in the United States as their home, but whose parents entered the country with them illegally.

He went on to caution the White House that failing to protect the 800,000 non-citizens from deportation was unacceptable:

This would be a drastic mistake. It can only make our complicated immigration issues worse. It will poison our national debates and damage the lives of hundreds of thousands of young people who pose no threat to anyone." He urges all of us of the Archdiocese "to press [our] federal lawmakers to find a positive legislative replacement for DACA, and to prevent the deportation of these young people.

We of St. Vincent de Paul parish are heartened by his firm words in defense of undocumented immigrants.

In July, Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso, Texas promulgated a much-heralded pastoral letter to his flock. <http://www.bordermigrant.org/assets/pastoral-letter-eng-smll.pdf> It is a prophetic document, worth reflecting on. He may not be our immediate pastor, but his words of pastoral concern have a universal ring. We may not live near the southern border here in Philadelphia, but his words apply to us.

As God's people here on the border, we are called to transform this desert, making refreshing pools of the burning sands of injustice and quenching the thirst of the oppressed. In this letter to you, the People of God in El Paso, (*read Philadelphia*) I invite you to consider the challenges of a system which is breaking apart our community and to reflect upon how God is asking us to respond. In bold and specific ways, I wish to grow in our commitment to charity and justice on our border and towards our migrant brothers and sisters.

He spoke of his involvement

... in the cause of those who have come to our country without documents. There is really nothing complicated about it. I have heard the Lord's call. I have also had the opportunity to know many of these immigrants personally and to hear their stories <http://www.bordermigrant.org/assets/pastoral-letter-eng-smll.pdf> to know their human dignity and their goodness...and to love them.

Even though we in Philadelphia do not experience the intensity of the immigrant situation that exists on the border, we can still relate to much of what Bishop Seitz says. He says, "I am a citizen of a community where children worry whether mom or dad will be there when they return from school. In this situation, daily I ask the Lord to give me the right words to console, to denounce injustice and announce redemption."

Paragraph 11 of his pastoral letter is worth quoting entirely.

Pope Francis expressed the Church's entire teaching on migration in that moment on the Rio Grande: encounter, conversion and compassion. This teaching rests on ancient foundations. The Old Testament is clear: 'You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt' (Lev. 19:34). Jesus himself was a refugee on the flight into Egypt (cf. Mt. 2:13-23). We know that God stands on the side of migrants, and 'is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them' (Heb. 11:16). Every human being bears within him or her the image of God, which confers upon us a dignity higher than any passport or immigration status. On account of this dignity, the Church has long recognized the first right of persons not to migrate, but to stay in their community of origin. But when that has become impossible, the Church also recognizes the right to migrate. While countries have a duty to ensure that immigration is orderly and safe, this responsibility can never serve as a pretext to build walls and shut the door to migrants and refugees.

Finally, his closing prayer. Let it be ours:

May these bonds of charity continue to grow and inflame our hearts. May we take up new and prophetic actions to bring about the Kingdom of justice, truth and reconciliation in order to transform this desert, so that the burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

The New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia – St. Vincent de Paul Committee

Chair Yoga @ St. Vincent de Paul Church

109 E Price Street, Phila, PA 19144

Oct 5 // Oct 19 //
Nov 2 // Nov 16 // Nov 30 //
Dec 14 //

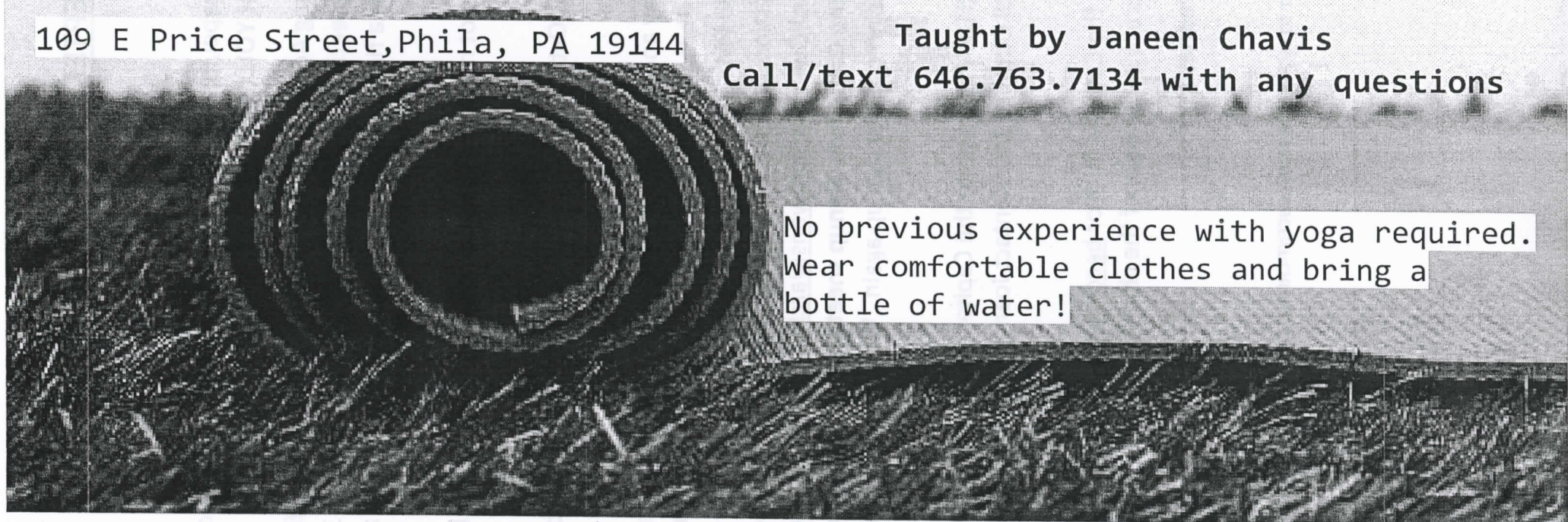
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We invite you to watch a Discovering Christ youtube video to learn more about the course:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5-QPh2_3n2k

or find us on www.facebook.com/StVincentDePaulCatholicCommunity or www.saint-vincent-church.org

This course is designed to revitalize your faith or to bring back your family and friends who have been away from the church.

Discovering Christ was developed by ChristLife, a Catholic ministry in the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

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Please put this form in the basket at rear of church or collection basket.



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Saturday October 28
Sunday, October 29

BEFORE & AFTER MASSES



Who are we?

Under the Same Moon (UTSM) is a non-profit organization that helps support a primary school, Bendición de Dios, in San Juan Alotenango, Guatemala. Bendición de Dios educates about 500 children, most of whom cannot afford the \$250 in annual costs needed to attend the "public" schools there.

We raise money by collecting donations & selling handcrafted items made by Guatemalan indigenous artisans and locally sourced Guatemalan coffee, Dean's Beans.



UTSM works directly with artisans & artisan cooperatives to follow fair trade practices. Thus, our purchases also provide opportunities for greatly improved earnings for the artisans.



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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 , 2017

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- **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**



What: Inn Dwelling is having a fun(d)raiser!!!!

Who: You and your friends

Where: The Brossman Center located at 7301 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA

When: Sunday, October 15, 2017 (Don't worry! The Eagles play on Thursday of that week)

Time: Noon to 4 PM

Cost: \$45 a person; \$90 a couple; \$360 for a table; \$25 for high school and college students

What Can I expect: Dinner, Drinks, A Silent Auction with some pretty remarkable gifts:

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Show, wedding gifts, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts, etc. etc.

If you are interested, detach the form below and return it to Br. Al. We really look forward to seeing you.

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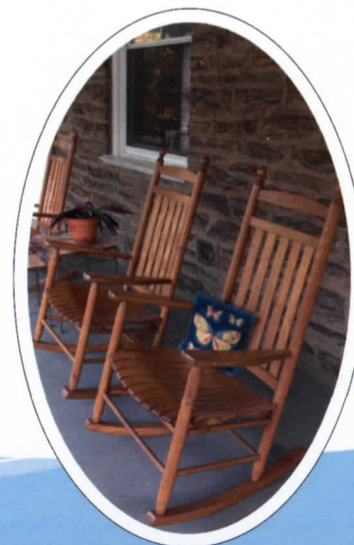
Names of Guests:

Enclosed: \$ _____

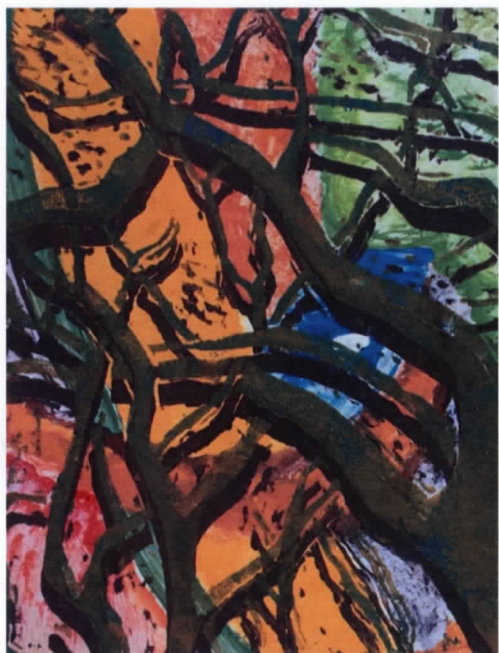
You are an Artist!

Artful Devotion sessions are open to all! We believe that each of us is an artist - creating in one or a variety of ways. Our innate capacity to create draws us closer to God, the ultimate Creator, and the process of creating opens us to hear from God in new ways.

Activities are designed for people of all experience levels. Process is as important as (or perhaps more important than) product! Our hope is that you will enjoy your time with God and others, and take home with you new forms of prayer to enrich your personal devotional life.



An invitation to pray artfully through the seasons



Artful Intercessions October 7, 2017
How do we begin to pray for the deepest needs of our family or friends. How do we approach God with the overwhelming complexities of our world? Using mixed media collage, we will explore intercession, both individually and as a group.

Contemplative Creations December 2, 2017
We enter the season of Advent as Mary did: desiring to open her heart to God's wonder and longing for a more just world. As we create simple prayer altars, we will examine the longings of our own hearts in preparation for the coming of the Holy One.

Colorful Confessions February 3, 2018
Reflecting upon our brokenness is a daunting yet necessary part of the life of faith. In preparation for the season of Lent, we gather in an atmosphere of creative introspection, to sculpturally form our shadow side in living color.

Glimpses of Gratitude April 28, 2018
From the ancient words of the Psalms to the latest studies on wellness, we know that gratitude is good for us. What's more, grateful hearts bring great joy to God! With nature's springtime beauty and the words of the poets as our guides, let's paint our way into an attitude of gratitude!

All events are held from **9:30 am to 1:30 pm** at **ThePorch@36W**
36 W. Phil Ellena Street, Philadelphia PA, 19119

A light lunch is provided. Cost is \$35 per session. Space is limited to 15 participants.

About the Facilitators:

Julie Ann Kring, M.Ed., has been an art educator for 25 years, teaching in public and private school settings. As a painter and printmaker, she draws upon her love of the natural world and inspiration from her dream life for deeper insights into evolving spiritual understandings.

Carey Davis, MDiv, DMin, has facilitated community and congregational gatherings for over two decades, encouraging growth and change through group interaction. She is currently exploring the impact of trauma on urban neighborhoods.



Praying through Art

Whether you find it difficult to sit still as you pray, or you simply want to try new ways to enliven your prayer life, we invite you to an experience of connection with God through creativity.

Each session offers opportunities to explore a form of prayer using various artistic methods.

Good company, a nice lunch, and a beautiful atmosphere included!

ThePorch@36W

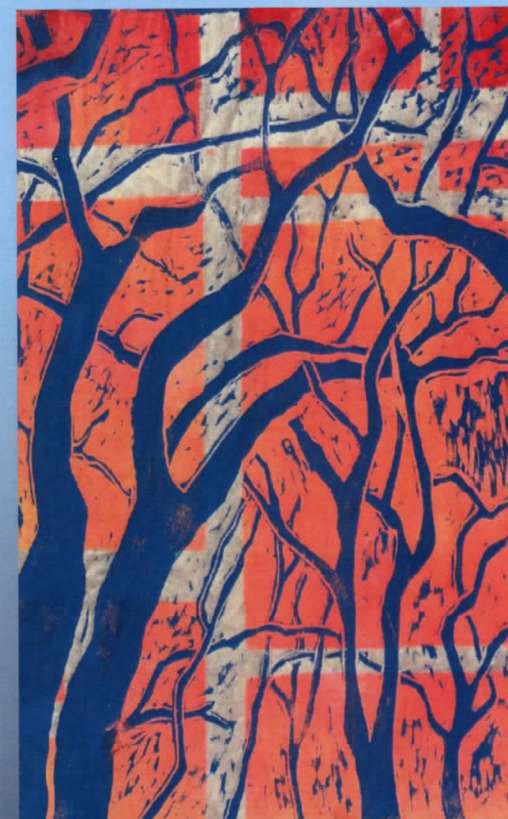
36 W. Phil Ellena Street
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For more information or to register:

267-766-5613

careymdavis@gmail.com or

juliekring56@gmail.com



Artful Devotion

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with art and prayer*

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Monthly, representatives of Sister Parish Ministry will take your order the week before delivery. You are welcome to place your order at church with us, or arrange to receive reminder emails and place your order that way. You can choose to pay on order or at delivery. We can be reached at Mary Durkin: joemarydelia@verizon.net or 215-354-7287, Ioanie Brooks: jmblapaz@yahoo.com or 267-825-6989, or Joan McGowan: joaniemc223@comcast.net or 215-624-3695

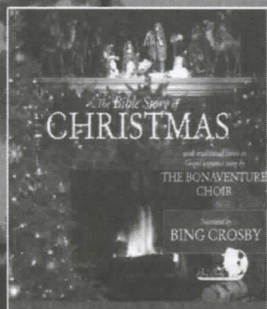
Make checks payable to Romero Interfaith Center.



LET US PRAY...

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





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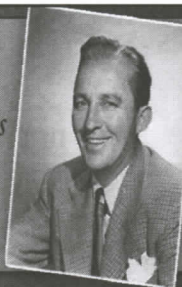


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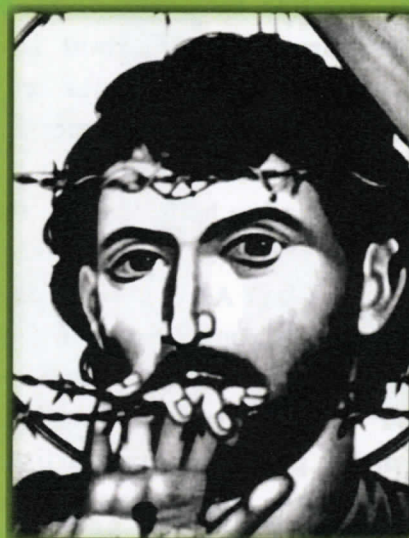
ADEODATUS

A Spiritual Field Hospital in Philadelphia

Office of Justice and Peace

Province of St. Thomas of Villanova

Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor



"I was in prison and you visited me."
Matthew 25, 31

VOICES FROM PRISON AND THE EDGE

Autumn 2017

No. 27

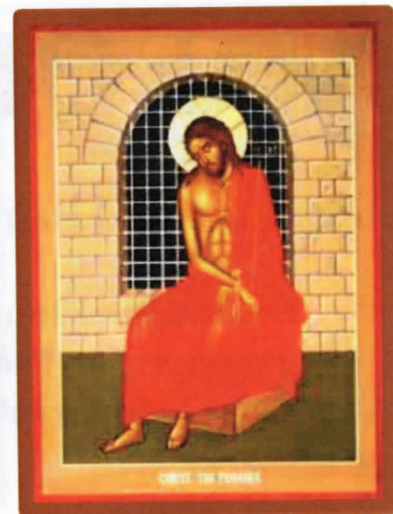


I have thought that some of those elderly men and women are like prisoners in the nursing home. Their mental or physical health confines them to the walls of the nursing home...Jesus is waiting within the walls of the prison and nursing home, so when we come to visit these people we also visit Christ.

Tom Abbott

(see page 5)

The cover question by Tom Abbott, one of the new Augustinian novices, raises an enormously important issue—aging. Especially for those in prison. But before we look at the critical issue of aging prisoners, Tom's sense that people in nursing homes may be in a kind of prison needs our attention. A question for all of us: "When was the last time you visited someone in a nursing home?" I ask this because it strikes me that nursing homes may be the least favorite place for us to visit, even more daunting than a prison! Why? As Tom suggests, people in nursing homes may be in a kind of prison, and one we all will face some day. It is scary and we don't want to be reminded of this. Before we look at a few of the things that can "imprison" someone in a nursing home, I want to offer a very poignant song from the past by a great artist, John Prine. He portrays for us an image of what it is like to grow old, and how each of us can offer a saving grace to those who are older: Just say "hello in there."



"Hello In There"
by John Prine

We had an apartment in the city,
Me and Loretta liked living there.
Well, it'd been years since the kids had grown,
A life of their own left us alone.
John and Linda live in Omaha,
And Joe is somewhere on the road.
We lost Davy in the Korean war,
And I still don't know what for, don't matter anymore.

[Chorus:]

Ya' know that old trees just grow stronger,
And old rivers grow wilder ev'ry day.
Old people just grow lonesome
Waiting for someone to say, "Hello in there, hello."

Me and Loretta, we don't talk much more,
She sits and stares through the back door screen.
And all the news just repeats itself
Like some forgotten dream that we've both seen.
Someday I'll go and call up Rudy,
We worked together at the factory.
But what could I say if he asks "What's new?"
"Nothing, what's with you? Nothing much to do."

[Chorus]

So if you're walking down the street sometime
And spot some hollow ancient eyes,
Please don't just pass 'em by and stare
As if you didn't care, say, "Hello in there, hello."

Hello in there, hello...how amazing to think of a person—us someday!—in there. In other words, we are not just a bag of bones, of pains, of wasting limbs and mind. We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit that Jesus told us about. An aging person is a sort of tabernacle of God's presence, the Body of Christ on a new kind of crucifix, one perhaps even more challenging than the one we are so familiar with. Some particular losses that aging may present us with are: Loss of freedom, loss of health, loss of companionship, maybe even loss of faith—the easy enough faith we had when we were younger and healthier with friends and family around. Now, imagine one more loss that most of us do not experience—you are in prison! What is it like to grow old in prison? Some statistics offered by Chaplain Phyllis Taylor in Philadelphia: We list them followed by a "Lord, have mercy...Christ have mercy" so they can be used as a litany of prayer rather than our being overwhelmed by them.



Prisoner John Buntz, age 94

Aging in Prison

The population of older inmates, 50 years and up, has more than tripled since 1990.

- Lord Have Mercy

It is estimated about 1/3 of inmates will be 55 years and older by 2030.

- Christ Have Mercy

Inmates typically present health issues common to non-incarcerated people 10-15 years their senior.

- Lord Have Mercy

Inmates over 55 years of age have a death rate 10x greater than those who are 25-34.

- Christ Have Mercy

20% of the PA DOC's population is 50 years and older.

- Lord Have Mercy

States typically spend \$27,000 to incarcerate a person/year. The cost is \$70,000 for a geriatric person.

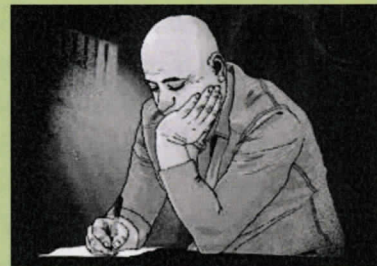
- Lord Have Mercy

Thanks to Phyllis Taylor

As a prison chaplain, I haven't met many old prisoners. Most of the inmates I have encountered in the Philadelphia Prison System on State Road have been rather young. They are waiting, even though they have not been found guilty yet, for their trial. They don't have the bail money, so they are imprisoned until their trial. So unjust. The older prisoners are Upstate. I visit prisoners in these State Prisons sometimes. I had gotten to know them in the county jail here. A few have been given 'Life Without Parole' sentences. In their thirties and forties now, they will grow old and eventually die in prison. I wonder if they ever think about this. We don't talk about it. I will be gone when they do die. Who will write them? Who will visit them? Who will remember them? My sons. Is there no way that our prison system can rehabilitate these people after 10, 20, 40 years in prison? If Jesus Christ identified with those in prison (MT. 25:36), doesn't he especially have a heart for the old ones? (*Hello in there*). – Father Paul

A challenge for all of us: In the next few months, visit or write to someone in a nursing home or prison. You will be glad you did because you will encounter Jesus Christ in his "distressing disguise." (Mother Teresa).

Thoughts From Our Readers



We had a letter from the author of issue 26 of *Voices From Prison and the Edge*, - Johnny. His previous piece had dealt with the loneliness and isolation of an inmate named Derek. Johnny writes,

"I like the newsletter, Voices From Prison and the Edge, you sent with the quote in the shape of a cross. I hung it on my wall, It's odd too...when I read my story in the Spring 2017 issue, it highly impacts me. I guess I didn't know it sounded so deep when I belted it out on paper. In a sense I feel that Derek's voice (suffering inmate) has been heard after so many years. Not just by me, but all of the Adeodatus readers." Johnny

If you would like to share your thoughts on this edition of *Voices From Prison and Edge*, consider sending us a message by email to www.rightsofthepoor.org or by regular mail to:

Adeodatus Prison Ministry
2130 S. 21st St.
Phila, PA 19145

Your identity will be withheld. Sharing thoughts leads all to an inner awareness, and perhaps, peace.

Recently, Jim, an inmate in Pennsylvania, wrote a piece on the insensitivity shown at times to some of the prisoners. Among them he includes the aged as inmates without much deference given to their age. He writes:

A couple of weeks ago, "they" locked us down. We didn't know what was going on. The next morning administrators and guards arrived with a list of prisoners they informed us were to pack up their belongings immediately for they were being shipped out to Virginia. Guys from Philadelphia had good reasons to want to stay close to home. For example the price of phoning increased dramatically outside of the local 215 area code. Still there were to be no exceptions whatsoever. If your name was on the list, you were going to Virginia immediately. A guy on my block, Bill, had recently returned from the chapel where he was told that his father had died. Now he too was being sent to Virginia. My neighbor, Harry, was a little white guy, in his fifties, but looked much older. His hair and teeth were gone. He was a five foot-six inch lump of very old agitation, but I liked him. More than thirty-five years in prison had left him with many psychological issues. Noise, bright lights, sudden movements, and any changes in his world really bothered him. Harry didn't want to go. He's in Virginia.

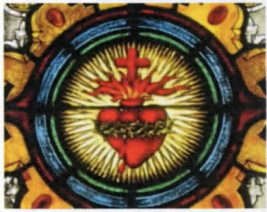
A co-worker Frank, got shipped out too. They took Fat Buck, Jimmy the Jew, Ant from Block D and over a hundred more. It was ugly. Trying to get out of it, Ant cut his arms with a razor. He was stitched up and held naked in a "hard cell" until he was dressed and loaded on the bus. One guy, actually managed to hang himself from his radiator, but was immediately cut down and shipped to Virginia. Similar situations were played out in prisons across the state as roughly two thousand prisoners were forcibly shipped to prisons in Virginia and Michigan.

One doesn't spend much time in prison before realizing that one of the fundamental beliefs that prisons are built on is that there is a hierarchy of worth regarding human beings. The premise is that those at the bottom of the hierarchy do not deserve the same rights, respect, and human considerations as those positioned higher up. It's a very old story. But it is one thing to realize this on an intellectual level and quite another to be subject to it. This supposed hierarchy not only allows people to rationalize the mistreatment of prisoners, it also provides a shaky crutch for those crippled by the fear of their own inferiority. In truth, the transient rush of false superiority is one of the unstated but most sought after perks in a prison. Think of it, no matter how messed up your life is, no matter how messed up you are, you can always go to work and tell yourself, "Here are people even more messed up than I am. " Good work, if you can get it. Older prisoners are surely at the bottom. Someday, "The last shall be first".

"Amen, amen I say to you, When you were young, you dressed yourself and walked wherever you wanted to go. But when you are old you will stretch forth your hands, and another will dress you, and lead you where you would rather not go." Now Jesus said this to signify by what manner of death Peter would glorify God. And having spoken this, he said to him, 'Follow Me.'



Future Augustinians



Ministering to the City



SPENCER THOMAS

I have had the opportunity to serve in prison ministry and with the Adeodatus program. The Adeodatus program, a spiritual field hospital, seeks to integrate the Gospel into the lives of those who find themselves on the periphery of society. We gather in community the people of the city to reflect upon the readings of Scripture. I am reminded of how our lived experiences, experiences of brokenness and suffering, as well as experiences of joy and beauty, all shape the way in which we approach God. This is, the real fruit of the Adeodatus ministry. In addition to participating in the weekly Adeodatus meetings, I also ministered to God's children who have been incarcerated. My role is simple, I bring the Eucharist to them. Yet, I believe my ministry is to also be a ministry of presence and of journeying with them. It is not merely my presence however, it is the presence of Christ, in me to them, and in them to me. What I can offer is, through my presence, the presence of God. I had an encounter with a young man in prison, who had suffered three immediate and tragic losses in his life. In one week his brother, mother, and ex girlfriend had all died. Despite being merely a week shy of release, he was unable to attend any of their funerals. He was lost in loss. I knew there was nothing I could say or do that would heal such suffering. But, I could be with him. I wanted him to know that he was not alone in his suffering. More importantly, God was with him. The presence of God, the presence of the Eucharist he received only moments earlier, was truly with him. The suffering Christ was indeed suffering with him in his darkest hours. Yes, we all suffer, but we never suffer alone.

TOM ABBOTT

I do not currently work in prison ministry, but I have occasionally come to the Adeodatus meetings. It is a ministry that spiritually helps men and women who have had past struggles with substance abuse or have spent time in jail. At Adeodatus I have been surprised and intrigued by the gospel reflections of some of these men and women. They are able to take the message of the Gospel, and apply it to their own lives and personal struggles. I truly think that the Holy Spirit is present in these men and women when they are giving reflections. Their perspective comes from healing in past hurts, or strength and courage in situations of tremendous hardship. They have trusted in God in moments when they have nothing else. In this way Adeodatus has led me to think about working in prison ministry. Also, I have done Eucharistic ministry in a nursing home every other Sunday for the past two years. I have thought of some of these elderly men and women as being prisoners in the nursing home. Their mental or physical health confines them to the walls of the nursing home. Some of them do not have family or friends that regularly come to visit them, and take them out of the nursing home. Some of these men and women have told me how lonely they are, or how they have lost faith in God because of how they feel abandoned. Thus, some of these men and women in the nursing home are prisoners. This is another reason I have been attracted to prison ministry. To simply be someone who listens to those who feel lonely or abandoned. I have learned from my experience that Jesus is waiting within the walls of the prison and the nursing home, so when we come to visit these people we also visit Christ.



Adeodatus

Group Support Through Scripture and Christian Fellowship

We are Adeodatus, a support group for ex-inmates, for those struggling with addictions, and anyone who cares about their reintegration into society. We meet every Thursday night (7:30 to 9:00 P.M.) at St. Rita's rectory, Broad and Ellsworth street. Through prayer, the Gospel and Christian fellowship we offer strength to meet the challenges of life in this world. Join Fr. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A. and our small circle in the comfort of the rectory living room.

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Mary Mother of Captives Group

St. Charles
Borromeo
Room 3407
Dennison Ave.
Drexel Hill, PA
610-259-3178

Third Wednesday

Mary Mother of Captives Group

St. Francis de
Sales
Room 4625
Springfield Ave
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610-259-3178



Mary Mother of Captives Group

Are you trying to cope with a loved one in prison, on trial, or about to be sentenced to prison? Do you know anyone who has loved ones in prison? Join us (7:00 PM) at any of these nights and locations.



Mary Mother of Captives Pen Pals

Be a prison pen pal, and write to the forgotten.

Voices From Prison and the Edge

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