

Our Vincentian Voice



The Monthly Newsletter for The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council



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February 20, 2017

A LENTEN RETREAT INVITATION

From Charism To Calvary



What our Vincentian Charism Teaches About the Road to the Cross

Please join us on Saturday morning, March 18th at the Mount Carmel Cemetery Chapel for a Lenten Retreat. We will explore the relationship between our Vincentian Charism and the Road to the Cross. Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 9am and Father Ken York will open the retreat at 9:30. The morning will conclude at 11am. We are looking forward to a spiritually fulfilling morning.

"Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ."-- Pope Francis, Message for Lent 2017. . .



FEBRUARY POWER HOUR



In Preparation for the Season of reparation, February's **POWER HOUR** will be a set of short, daily prayers for each day of LENT.

This will be included with a flier and registration form for our LENTEN RETREAT on March 18th. Look for them in your mailbox next week!



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MINUTE MESSAGE FROM
DIRECTOR'S DESK

Our Vincentian Charism leads us as servants of Christ to be servants to the poor. Lent offers a special challenge to give this service with MORE zeal, MORE kindness and MORE love. In other words, to "GIVE MORE" and therefore "RECEIVE MORE" of God's divine love.

May God give us grace for this blessed journey.

Peace, Pat Hogrebe,

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DINNER THEATRE MARCH 25, 2017

CSI : ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



We are excited about the 2017 St. Vincent de Paul Dinner Theatre which will be held on Saturday, March 25th at the Cathedral's McCormick Center. CSI : ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will be action packed and mystery filled so plan on joining the fun!

This is the major fundraiser for our feeding programs and we are once again asking for your help to ensure it's success with:

- Gift cards
- Themed baskets for silent auction
- Sponsorships
- Ticket sales
- PRAYERS!

Please contact Pat or Joe (office 618.394.0126) with questions or donations. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



For many years, the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store Truck has been a familiar sight all over the diocese, proudly picking up donations to make them available to those in need. For a long time, this was an efficient and cost effective way of getting the job done. But times change... and so must we. The cost of operating the truck has been escalating and the benefits have been steadily declining. Therefore, effective January 1, 2017, the thrift store pickup service was discontinued. **HOWEVER, WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS** and we are asking for your **continued support** as we solicit donations that will help us meet the basic needs of the poor such as clothing, linens of all kinds, shoes, accessories, dishes etc. We are asking that people bring their items to:

SVdP Thrift Store at 3718 State Street, East St. Louis, Monday–Friday 9 am to 2 pm, Saturday 9 am to 11:30 am

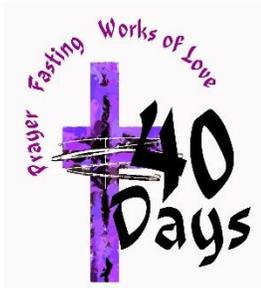
SVdP Office located off Route 157, 13 Vieux Carre, across from new Save-A-Lot, Monday–Friday 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please call (618) 394-0126.

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A Message from the USCCB

In a particular way during Lent, we are asked to devote ourselves to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy that "remind us that faith finds

expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit."

Take inspiration for your Lenten journey from prayer and to the reading of Scripture, to fasting and to giving alms. The fasting that all do together on Fridays is but a sign of the daily Lenten discipline of individuals and households: fasting for certain periods of time, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities. Likewise, the giving of alms is some effort to share this world equally—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. Contemplate the meaning and origins of the Lenten fasting tradition in this reflection.

In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

The key to fruitful observance of these practices is to recognize their link to baptismal renewal. We are called not just to abstain from sin during Lent, but to true conversion of our hearts and minds as followers of Christ. We recall those waters in which we were

baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

IMPORTANT MEETING REMINDER

Join us for our February Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 28th
7pm
Mount Carmel Cemetery Chapel
10101 West Main, Belleville

2017

**CELEBRATING 400 YEARS OF VINCENTIAN
CHARISM**

