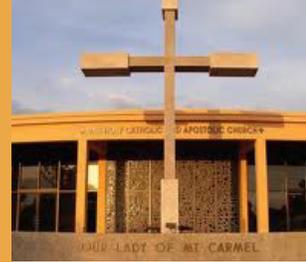




# THE Vincentian

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Conference September 2015



visit us online at <http://olmcstvincentdepaul.weebly.com>

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## Partnering with Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA)



Our St. Vincent de Paul conference enjoys an active partnership with Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA). **Stephen Sparks, Director of Operations**, recently attended one of our meetings to inform us about the services offered through TCAA.

For over 45 years, TCAA has been providing a social safety net to poor families, children, seniors, and the homeless through a variety of innovative services.

**Food Assistance for the Working Poor:** TCAA distributes approximately 2,000 pounds of food per day. Families and individuals can pick up a food box Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to noon and on Tuesdays from 4:30-6:30 pm. The TCAA Food Pantry is located at the Escalante Center at 2150 E. Orange Street in Tempe. Food, baby formula and basic childcare products also are distributed by TCAA to families with young children. (continued on page 2)

## Contact us

**Address:** St. Vincent de Paul Society, 2121 S. Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85282

**Tel.:** 480-966-1974 (clients call for assistance Mon. - Sat. 9:00-11:00)

**Facebook:**

Saint Vincent de Paul - Tempe

**Email: Writer/Editor Adelheid Thieme:** [editor@svdp-olmc.phxcoxmail.com](mailto:editor@svdp-olmc.phxcoxmail.com)

## 'I was hungry and you gave me food ...'

by Maxine Malini

*'Come, O blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'* (Matt. 25: 34-36)

Last week, when the temperature was at least 110 degrees, my partner and I were doing home visits: delivering two large banana boxes of food per household and helping with rent and utility payments to people who had requested help. We call most clients before we deliver to verify they will be home.

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## Partnering with Tempe Community Action Agency (cont. from p. 1)

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** TCAA also assists with enrollment in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps. SNAP helps limited-income families expand their budgets to purchase food. SNAP can be used to buy foods like fruits, vegetables, and meats at grocery stores, convenience stores, as well as farmers' markets.

**Meals on Wheels:** TCAA plans, coordinates, and delivers services for adults 60 years and older, as well as for persons aged 18 years and older with disabilities and long-term care needs. The Meals on Wheels program delivers 230 nutritious meals per day to seniors and the homebound population. Drivers, typically volunteers, are also trained to perform wellness checks on the people they serve.

**Homeless Prevention Program:** TCAA receives federal dollars to provide rental assistance. Unfortunately, the funds are insufficient to assist all those in need. Families with young children and the disabled have priority. Applicants need to call the first Friday of the month at 8:00 am.

**Homeless Program I-HELP:** In partnership with local faith communities, I-HELP (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program) offers shelter for homeless people in Tempe. 365 days a year, this program provides emergency shelter, meals, and workforce development to 35-40 individuals per night. A mobile shower unit, "Tempe Shower Power," allows clients to maintain proper hygiene required for gaining and maintaining employment.

Our St. Vincent de Paul conference is grateful for the smooth cooperation with Tempe Community Action Agency. We often refer our clients to TCAA if our funds are insufficient to help families in Tempe maintain an adequate food supply, pay their rent and utilities, and provide emergency housing. Together, we can alleviate a great deal of suffering.



### Thank you, Anonymous Donor

Every week, one of our parishioners faithfully places a \$25 Fry's Gift card in the Poor Box at the entrance of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Thank you for your generosity, dear anonymous donor.



"The question which is agitating the world today is a social one. It is a struggle between those who have nothing and those who have too much. It is a violent clash of opulence and poverty which is shaking the ground under our feet. Our duty as Christians is to throw ourselves between these two camps in order to accomplish by love what justice alone cannot do."

(Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, 1813-1853, Founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society)



## Save the Dates: Thanksgiving 2015

Every year, the St. Vincent de Paul Society tries to brighten the holidays for needy families in our community by providing a food box with a turkey and all the trimmings for a festive Thanksgiving meal.



Janet and John Kovach, who organized the Thanksgiving Food Drive in 2014, agreed to take on this task again this year.

Please plan on **helping deliver food boxes on Saturday, November 21**. We will begin with a blessing of the food in McCready Hall after the 8:00 mass at OLMC. We always work in teams, so please bring a partner.

**There are three more ways you can help:**

**1. Purchase the following items and deliver them by November 1 to our SVdP Pantry:**

Turkey 10-12 pounds, box of stuffing, box of instant potatoes, 2 cans of turkey broth, 2 cans of cranberry sauce, 1 jar of turkey gravy, 2 cans of corn, 2 cans of green beans, 2 cans of fruit, 2 loaves of bread, cake mix, frosting

**Total:** Approximately \$ 47.00 (less if you find items on sale)

**2. Write a check to St. Vincent de Paul, and we will do the shopping for you.**

**3. Participate in our parish food drive November 14 and 15** by filling the bags that we will hand out after all masses the previous weekend.

For more information, please email [secretary@svdp-olmc.phxcoxmail.com](mailto:secretary@svdp-olmc.phxcoxmail.com) or call 480-966-1974.

## God's Angels

They came into my home,  
to see how they could aid.  
These angels sent from Rome,  
saw that I was frayed.

In a soft tone they did speak,  
as I hung my head and cried.  
They saw that I was weak,  
and unto them I did confide.

I knew not how to cope,  
against obstacles I couldn't dismiss.  
They revived a glimmer of hope,  
Among all that had gone amiss.

Before sleep, I will pray  
and exult the Lord above.  
Thank him for the angels today,  
his mercy and his love.

(A client dedicated this poem to one of our teams after a home visit.)