



The Society of ST. VINCENT De PAUL

St. Clement's Conference, Cambridge

November, 2017



Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Clement's Church:

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a registered non-profit volunteer lay organization that unites its members in the service of the poor. It was founded by Frederick Ozanam in Paris, France, in 1833. Under the patronage of Saint Vincent de Paul, it draws its inspiration from his thoughts and works. In a spirit of justice, charity, mutual help and solidarity with the poor, our members strive to ease the hardships of those who suffer by offering them Christ's love and compassion in the form of food, clothing, furniture or other basic necessities of life.



In preparation for our **Christmas Hamper Program**, tags will be on the "Giving Tree" in the Church starting on the weekend of December 2nd and 3rd. Additional tags will be added to the Giving Tree as more calls for assistance are received. In past years, your generous response to our plea for help has been heartwarming and sincerely appreciated by those families who turn to us for assistance at Christmas. If you choose to assist our Society by taking a tag, please **return** the gift **unwrapped** (with the tag attached) to the Church or the rectory by **Sunday, Dec. 17th**. After that weekend, all the gifts are sorted and delivered. Gifts returned after Dec. 17th may not get to a needy child.

This year, we will again be distributing food vouchers instead of groceries and so **cash donations** would be appreciated. A special Christmas donation envelope has been provided for your convenience. *If you would like a tax receipt, please include your full name and address.*

Our program relies on the goodwill of **volunteers** to deliver the **Christmas hampers**. This will take a few hours of your time and, in return, you will get the opportunity to share the spirit of Christmas with those less fortunate than yourself. Hampers are delivered to the needy from Tuesday, Dec. 19th to Friday, Dec. 22nd. If any parishioner is interested in assisting us in this worthwhile endeavor, please call the rectory at **519-653-6123**.



Last Christmas, with your generous assistance, 42 parishioners of St. Clement's Church delivered gifts and approx. \$16,300 worth of grocery vouchers to 157 needy families in the Preston area of Cambridge. We thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity this year!



*Members of the Society
of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Clement's Church, Cambridge*