



**Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**  
**Saint John the Baptist Conference**  
**1282 Yardville – Allentown Road**  
**Allentown, New Jersey 08501**

*"If everyone gives one thread, the poor man will have a shirt."  
Russian Proverb*

December 17, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

It is hard to believe that we're heading into the final week of preparation for the birth of our Lord and Savior. This year has largely slipped by, owing mostly to the pandemic that is Covid-19. The local conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, here at Saint John's has carried on throughout this bizarre year. Our procedures have been adapted to fit the situation, such as virtual meetings and socially distant visits with the neighbors we meet. Surprisingly, during the shutdowns, layoffs and ensuing unemployment, our calls have not skyrocketed, as expected. While there has been no surge in cases yet, the need has been steady and not in small amounts. Couple this with the anticipated tsunami of evictions once the moratorium is over, and the need may indeed be great.

Without our normal Mass attendance, poor box donations as well as our special Parish semi-annual collections have diminished. While our treasury is still solvent, helping a family with a couple months' rent could wipe out the balance. We have adjusted to current times and continued to fundraise throughout the year. We also have some angels in our midst here at Saint John's. These donors have helped to keep the aid flowing.

At this time of year, when we think of giving above receiving, I ask that you not forget God's less fortunate. Donations may be sent to the Society by dropping them in the baskets at Church during Masses, depositing them in the secure mailbox at the door to the Religious Education building, as well as by mailing them to Saint John's with Saint Vincent de Paul mentioned on the envelope. **Checks should be made out to "SVdP, Saint John's Conference"**. Please keep in mind that the Society is a 501c3 organization and donations are tax deductible.

Thank you all for your attention. The generosity of the people of our Parish is truly inspiring. Anyone interested in volunteering with the Society is encouraged to contact the Parish Office or email me at **president1svdp@gmail.com**.

Merry Christmas to all and may God continue to bless and protect the people of Saint John the Baptist Parish.

Sincerely yours in faith,  
Graham Smith, President

