

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE

210 Haddow Close
Edmonton, Alberta
T6R 2P3



Dear Friends in Christ,

On November 17, 2024, the Church marks the Eighth World Day of the Poor as declared by Pope Francis. In his words, “We are called in every circumstance to be friends of the poor, following in the footsteps of Jesus who always began by showing solidarity when dealing with the least among us.”

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP), has a specific mission to serve the poor with dignity and respect regardless of personal creed or background. At this time of year, we invite all parishioners to join us in giving generously to those less fortunate than ourselves.

The rapidly rising cost of living has been hard on everyone, but it is felt most keenly by the already marginalized. Consequently, the demand for the Society’s services has increased significantly. Our neighbours in need – here in this local area – struggle to feed their families, provide basic household comforts and winter clothing, and pay for essential utilities. It is heart-breaking to visit a family where the cupboards are empty and children are sleeping on a cold floor.

On World Day of the Poor, we ask that you consider your own good fortune and how that might allow you to help. With a financial donation, or by volunteering your time and talents, you can help us make a difference in the community.

Starting in 2023 your contributions to *Together We Serve* has helped to fund the Society’s Edmonton Central Council’s operations including a Distribution Centre, logistical support, and coordination of 20 local conferences across the Archdiocese.

Please note that donations to this World Day of the Poor appeal will go to our local SSVP Divine Mercy Conference here in our Parish, to help our neighbours in need in our local area. To do that, kindly use the attached envelope. Cheques can be made out to “SSVP Divine Mercy Conference” and dropped off or mailed to the parish office. Tax receipts will be issued in January 2025 for all donations of \$20 or more. Alternatively, you can donate online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/The-Society-of-Saint-Vincent-de-Paul-Divine-Mercy-Conference/>

Thank you for your support of the Society’s mission of charity.

To volunteer or learn more, contact me at mariakssvp@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call our help line at 780-471-5577.

God Bless,

Maria Kelly
President, Divine Mercy Conference
Society of St Vincent de Paul