

Message from the Pastor

Our parish has been blessed with so many active parishioners who enjoy generously giving of themselves in service to fellow parishioners and members of the greater community. Our Baptismal calling encourages us to be active members of the Body of Christ, sharing our gifts with others to continue building the Kingdom. I am very grateful to those who have been so generous with their time and talents to provide so many activities and engage in various lay ministries to build our part of the Kingdom at St. Joan of Arc Parish and School.

May the Good Lord continue to bless you in abundance and may He send the Spirit to touch the hearts of others to join us in our unity to do all that we do for the greater glory of God.

Fr. Dan

Parish Information

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Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers

All parish youth in grades 5-9 are invited to participate in this important ministry. Being an altar server means being part of a team that works together for a prayerful celebration of Mass. Therefore, regular attendance at Sunday Mass is an important element and an expectation. Altar servers assist the celebrant and the entire worshipping community during the weekly Masses and for special liturgies. Servers should plan to serve at least once a month.

Training is provided in small groups and will take place during the school day for SJA students, and after the 10:30 Mass on Sunday for students from other schools. You will be contacted as the sessions are arranged. A parent approval form must be signed at that time.

Altar serving is a joyful experience, and can draw both the server and their family into a deeper experience of their faith. Opportunities for serving: Saturday 4:30pm Mass; Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am Mass; funerals and weddings as needed.

Primary Contact: Tricia Kane at timtrishkane@sbcglobal.net

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

The Eucharist is the primary liturgical event for the renewal of faith because it celebrates the paschal mystery that is the foundation of our Christian faith. While the priest and deacon are ordinary ministers of the Eucharist, Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are lay people who assist with distributing Holy Communion. These ministers are confirmed Catholics over the age of 15, with a deep reverence for the Blessed Sacrament. They take their spiritual growth seriously, developing their love of Christ and the Church through regular Mass attendance, prayer, and service. Ministers receive both practical and theological training, and are commissioned for a period of three years.

St. Joan of Arc Parish invites you to consider joining this special ministry. If you wish to become a Eucharistic Minister, please contact the Parish Office or

Primary Contact: Christy King at cking7863@comcast.net
(847)679-4150 (home) or (847)644-9635 (cell)

Ushers

Ushers serve at weekend and special Masses, providing for good order of our liturgies. They greet and welcome parishioners and visitors at church entrances, and direct people to available pews. They arrange for parishioners to bring up the offerings, handle the collection at the Offertory, direct communicants to the altar, open windows, set up additional chairs, assist in times of illness, distribute bulletins, and straighten up the pews when the liturgy is completed.

There is a need for an Usher Coordinator at each Mass, who arrives early, ensures the worship space is ready, and sees that there are enough ushers for the collection. It is helpful for those willing to help with the collection to ask before Mass if they are needed.

Primary Contact: Parish Office

Lectors

The Lectors of St. Joan of Arc lend their clear and confident voice to proclaim the Word of God and lead the Prayers of the Faithful during Mass. As one commentator noted, by proclaiming the Word, lectors effect the presence of Christ within the assembly and enable a consciousness of how God's Word is calling each of us to His service and to serving God's people.

We enthusiastically welcome anyone who is drawn to Scripture, is passionate about their faith, and is willing to share that passion in this important ministry. We offer electronic scheduling that effectively allows lectors to “self-schedule” for masses of their choice.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve or Nancy Naughton.

Primary Contacts: Steve and Nancy Naughton
stephennaughton29@gmail.com nancyparidy@me.com
920-216-6360 847-212-8110

Sacristans

Preparing the sanctuary and taking care of the elements of our liturgy is an important task for our sacristans. We look to them to water the plants in the sanctuary area, take care of the altar linens, cruets, candles, and maintain the cleanliness and order of the sacristy.

Primary Contact: Parish Office

Music Ministry

We take special pride in our music ministry at St. Joan of Arc and have a variety of opportunities for sharing talents. We welcome singers as cantors, in our choirs, and instrumentalists for the inclusion in our music at masses.

Cantors

Cantors lead the congregation in song during the mass. Our cantor program is continually evolving which keeps the leading of song at masses fresh. We introduce cantors to our parish as high schoolers and rotate all cantors. This is not a paid position, but one of joy and willingness to share a talent. If you enjoy singing and have a strong voice, please consider cantoring at SJA.

SJA Kid Choir

The SJA Kid Choir began nearly 20 years ago. All parish youth in grades 3-8 are invited to join this ministry! We sing once a month at the Family Masses during the school year, Christmas Eve, and the Marian Prayer service. Music and recordings are sent electronically to rehearse at home, followed by 1 rehearsal immediately following a 10:30am mass before the Family Mass.

SJA Adult Choir

The SJA Adult Choir is a fun organization. Participation is easy and flexible, and we sing during these times of year: the four Sundays of Advent, a few Sundays following Christmas Day, most Sundays during Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Pentecost. We take a short break during Ordinary Times. We have a few evening rehearsals, but most learning is done electronically and shared via dropbox. We meet at 9:30 AM to rehearse in the church prior to singing at the 10:30am Mass. Please consider joining this wonderful group of people. Music reading skills not necessary.

Instrumentalists

We love to enhance our liturgies with instruments – clarinets, flutes, guitars, trumpets, violin – if you play an instrument and can share your talent, please let Carrie Elko know!

Primary Contact: Carrie Elko at celko@saintjoanofarc.net

Family Mass Coordinators & Ministers

Family Mass is held during the school year, usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Building on the themes from the 2015 World Meeting of Families, the ministers are organized around families in order to highlight “the impact of the love and life of families on our society”.

Multiple families are needed for each Mass. There are roles for all ages from pre-school to senior citizen, and multi-generational families are encouraged. If you are interested in being a Mass Coordinator, all training and support will be provided. The most important quality is someone who knows the parish families, and can serve in a leadership role.

Primary Contact: Linda Hickey or Parish Office

Religious Education - Grow in Faith

RE Program for Kindergarten through 8th Grade

Matthew 28: 18-20 The Great Commission

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus instructed us to teach his word – Become a Catechist and be his disciple.

Our Religious Education program is designed to supplement the learning that begins in the home at birth, and is continually enriched through regular attendance at Mass. It is the objective of our program to teach our youth how to more fully imitate and grow close to Jesus Christ in our daily lives, to bring them into a lifelong relationship with the Lord and the Church.

We offer Religious Education classes at SJA for children in Kindergarten through 8th grade who do not attend Catholic school. Classes are held on most Sundays from 9:15am to 10:20am from mid-September through mid-May. (No classes on holidays.)

True discipleship is a lifetime of studying and learning, so attendance throughout grade school is expected in order to build a solid foundation of a faith that will last throughout adulthood. Please note that the Archdiocese requires two years of study for Sacramental preparation. This includes grades 1-2 (Reconciliation and First Communion) and grades 7-8 (Confirmation.)

Do you want to make a lasting, positive impact on the lives of our children and youth? Do you want to be inspired and challenged to grow in your faith? Please consider joining our team of volunteer catechists and aides. Our Catechism books are designed for volunteers, so no prior experience is necessary. In addition to the prepared lesson plan in the teacher's manual, it also includes activities, ice breakers, background information, and there are chapter-specific online resources. Individual support and guidance is also provided by the Religious Education Coordinator. The RE program needs your gifts, your passion, your faith, and your love! Opportunities are available for lead or assistant catechists, aides for various support roles, and substitute catechists.

Primary Contact: Sister Rosemary Hickmann through the Parish Office

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW)

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word offered for preschool through 1st graders at the 10:30 AM Mass. Just before the Liturgy of the Word begins for the assembly, these children are invited to go with the weekly leaders to a classroom. During this special time, the volunteer teacher leads the children through prayers, songs and readings that are simplified for children. The children return to their families during the Preparation of Gifts.

The children learn about the same Scripture readings as the rest of the assembly. They are taught a simplified main message of the readings and are encouraged to share that message with their parents after Mass.

Volunteers are needed to teach the lessons, as well as to assist with the supervision of the children. This is a great opportunity for adults and middle school/high school youth to help our children learn the Word of the Lord.

Primary Contact: Moira Carlson at MJZINN81@yahoo.com

DYNAMICS Youth Ministry

St. Joan of Arc Teen Group, DYNAMICS (Dedicated Youth Now And Tomorrow In Catholic Service), is devoted to encouraging social activities, spiritual development, and service projects for the teens of the parish. The group is open to all teens and welcomes new members to the group.

DYNAMICS was established to provide support and fellowship to teens (grade 9-12) in the parish through social activities, community service projects and spiritual development through discussions and activities related to faith and issues that teens face.

Primary Contact: Jill Murphy through the Parish Office

Eucharistic Adoration

We have adoration on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of the month. The Church is open from 5:30 until 7 PM. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed so people can come and adore Our Lord. It is a time to spend quietly with Jesus in prayer. There is often a group rosary during this time at about 6 PM.

We would love to have people join us in prayer and take time from their schedule to visit Our Lord. It is a very peaceful time to pray for your own needs and other's needs. As the Lord tells

us, " Be Still and Know that I am." This time of reflection gives us the opportunity to sit with Our Lord and listen with our hearts.

Take a break from the demands of the world we live in and join us. Become renewed and refreshed by Our Lord. Come to church for five or fifteen minutes to greet Our Lord, or spend an hour with Him.

Primary Contact: Ann Pike or Jerry Kamienski through the Parish Office

Light of the World – Parish Retreat & Faith Sharing

The Light of the World ministry encourages participants to grow spiritually as individuals, promotes active involvement in the life of the parish, and provides a means of allowing a person to find new life in their faith in an ongoing way.

- The starting point is a weekend retreat held right here at St. Joan of Arc each Spring and Fall, but each evening you go home to your own bed. Friday evening provides a short transition from the business of life to being in “retreat mode.” The weekend brings the Gospel message alive through talks, small group discussion, lively fellowship, and renewal of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, leading each person to a living encounter with the person of Jesus Christ.
- The attendees have an opportunity to extend the retreat experience as part of a small faith-sharing group. These communities meet on an ongoing basis to study the faith, pray, share life, and support one another, developing deep friendships along the way.
- Past retreatants may also reach out and serve others by supporting future retreats as part of the team, or assisting with hospitality throughout the weekend.
- All parishioners can be a vital part of this process simply by praying for those planning or participating in the retreat.

Light of the World is a nationwide Catholic ministry which strengthens the “Good News” of the Gospel in a way which encourages participants to embrace and live its message, deepening their commitment to Christ. Learn more by clicking “Light of the World” on the home page of the parish website www.saintjoanofarc.net, or visit www.LOTWEM.ORG

Next Retreat Dates at SJA:

October 13-16, 2017

February 16-19, 2018

Primary Contact: Valerie Walker at vwalker@saintjoanofarc.net

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

The goal of the Intercessory Prayer Ministry is to bring the women and men of the parish together in prayer, whether it is in person or in spiritual communion. Prayer support is provided to our community by the daily intercession of dedicated “prayer warriors” who pray with love and compassion for the requests that have been submitted.

- Requests can be submitted in the box that is located near the votive candles in church, with future plans for an online form. All that is needed is the first name and last initial, and a few words to explain the reason for the prayer. We also pray for the entries in the Book of Intentions located at the back of the church.
- Members of the group receive weekly e-mails with intentions to be prayed for throughout that week. There is also an opportunity for monthly in-church prayer sessions at which we pray together as a community.

Primary Contact: Catherine Flanagan through the Parish Office

Scripture Reflection Group

Scripture Study is a form of prayer, as well as a learning process. No special knowledge is required, only a desire to learn more of the Word of God and draw closer to Jesus. The group uses a “booklet” series that has Scripture at the top of the page and a Scripture scholar’s commentary on the lower half. The format lends itself to easy, thoughtful discussion.

A Scripture Reflection group currently meets every other Tuesday in the School Hall after the 8:30am Mass. Other groups can easily be formed at other convenient times. The books, training, and guidance will be available.

Primary Contact: Fran Moskal through the Parish Office

Organizations

SJA Women's Club

The SJA Women's Club is open to, and encourages the participation of, all women of the Parish. The purpose of the Club is to promote the spiritual, social, and fiscal support of the Parish. Feel free to contact the WC president with any questions!

Board for 2016-2017

- President: Jen Buntain
 - Vice President: Cathleen Dettling
 - Treasurer: Maura Fitzgerald
 - Secretary: Kate Ommen
-

Committees

- Marketing: Kate Ommen
- Newcomers: Kathy Caplice
- Parish Directory: Solita Murphy and Marianne Schermerhorn
- Bridge Club: Barb Kucera
- Golf League: Michaela McCarthy
- Outreach: Pam Fitzell
- Faith Formation: Linda Hickey
- Properties: Mary Ginley
- Giving Tree: Cathy Dooley
- Moms and tots: Moira Carlson

SJA Filipino Community

The SJA Filipino Community (SFC) was formed for the primary purpose of planning and coordinating the Simbang Gabi (SG) and the Filipino Mass celebrations at St. Joan of Arc Parish (SJA). Through these activities, SFC hopes to share with the community of SJA its faith, culture and tradition. The SFC may, at its own discretion, plan and coordinate other activities for SJA to promote fellowship in the faith community.

Simbang Gabi is a Philippine tradition for celebrating a novena of Advent masses in preparation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, and is celebrated in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Chicago (Archdiocese). The participating parishes in the Archdiocese each host an evening mass during the period December 15 through December 23 of each year. This is consistent with the

Philippines' traditional celebration of SG, which is 9 days before Christmas. SG at SJA is celebrated on a Saturday during this time period, starting with a Mass at 4:30 p.m., followed by a reception.

The Filipino Masses are usually held on the last Sunday of each quarter at 10:30 a.m., followed by light refreshments. SG and the quarterly Filipino Masses are celebrated in English with Filipino volunteers assisting in the celebration. The Filipino Choir provides liturgical music and incorporates Philippine music that expresses spiritual love and brotherhood.

Opportunities:

Filipino parishioners of SJA are highly encouraged to be actively involved in the parish activities but not limited to the areas, listed below:

1. Commit to the Spiritual Life and Outreach and Pastoral Care Parish's Commissions, specifically, Eucharistic Minister, Altar Server, Lector, Usher, and the Filipino Choir.
2. Assist the SFC Coordinating Committee in the SG and the quarterly Filipino mass celebrations as follows:
 - Invite the faith community of SJA and other parishes;
 - Assist in the physical set up of the place for hospitality, including cleanup afterwards.
 - Assist in planning and serving the refreshments.
 - Become a member of the SFC Coordinating Committee if a vacancy occurs. Currently, there are thirteen members including the Coordinator, who leads the group.
 - Become a member of the Filipino Choir.

Primary Contact: Parish Office

SJA Men's Club

The Men's Club seeks to promote fellowship among all men of the parish through social, spiritual and service activities. In addition, the members also raise funds for the ongoing needs of the parish including but not limited to the Fall Raffle, Men's Golf Outing & Dinner and the Daddy-Daughter Dance.

Primary Contact: Chris Walsh or Rob Muno through the Parish Office

Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC is a ministry that provides counsel and support to the pastor. We seek the aid and guidance of the Holy Spirit, to listen to God's voice as Christ speaks to us through one another and our fellow parishioners.

PPC has four basic responsibilities:

1. To research the needs, the ideas and the hopes of the faith community
2. To encourage and support existing ministries
3. To evaluate the quality of life of the parish and faith community
4. To plan for the parish's future by recommending policies, procedures, and programs that will implement its value and fulfill the Church's mission.

We normally meet each month with exceptions made for scheduling challenges of major holidays and summer months. We act as a liaison between parish and Pastor. In order to accomplish this effectively, the PPC members focus on five pillars of parish life. They are:

1. Faith Formation and Education
2. Spiritual Life
3. Outreach and Pastoral Care
4. Community
5. Stewardship / Communication

If you would like to learn about the many facets of our SJA community, and are passionate about furthering the mission of Saint Joan of Arc, please contact any of the following members:

Members

Kevin Smith – President
Meg Cagney
Julie Lynk
Ray Silvano

Primary Contact: Kevin Smith through the Parish Office

Finance Council

The Finance Council works with the Pastor and Parish Staff in an advisory capacity. The council helps develop the operating budget for the Parish and School, monitors financial activities, reviews plans for fundraising and capital improvement projects, and helps develop policies and procedures consistent with the Archdiocese best practices.

Members

Dan Schermerhorn – President
Dave Enghauser
Mike Fitzgerald
Neil Gardner
Kelly Mannard
Sally Osborne

Primary Contact: Dan Schermerhorn through the Parish Office

School Advisory Board

The role of the St. Joan of Arc School Advisory Board is to provide consultation to the principal and pastor. The School Board promotes the school within the parish and larger community. When appropriate, the Board recommends policies to govern the operation of the school, in accordance with Archdiocesan policies and directives. It consists of nine voting members, named by the Pastor and Principal. Board meetings are usually the first Monday of the month at 7p.m. in the second floor conference room, and are open to parishioners and parents of children attending St. Joan of Arc School.

Members

Dan Byrnes – President

Amy Coath

Maria Matias

Holly Pickering

George Schultz

TBD

TBD

TBD

TBD

Father Dan Costello (ex-officio)

Craig Scanlon (ex-officio)

Primary Contact: Craig Sheehan through the Parish Office

Parent-School Organization (PSO)

The mission of the PSO is to foster parental involvement at multiple levels within the community and the school. The organization directs and coordinates parental support of St. Joan of Arc School through the school volunteer program, social events and fundraising activities. We focus on providing opportunities for parents and students to be an active part of our organization.

With everyone's help, the PSO will continue to be a strong, successful and diverse organization. Please consider how you can help. Thanks to those who give so much time and money to St. Joan of Arc.

- Lisa Holubar - President
- Molly Inzitari – Vice President
- Char Mitchell/Mary Kay Scheid – Treasurer
- Heidi Goebel – Secretary

Many hands make light work!

Volunteers are always needed to assist with all of the many events which benefit our school. We are looking for volunteers now for next **year's** events !

- Room Parent Orientation -- August 21, 2017 :30 a.m.
- Welcome Back Coffee and Uniform Exchange -- August 23, 2017 8:00 a.m.
- Back to School Social -- August 25, 2017 7:00 p.m.
- Boosterthon Fun Run -- September 27, 2017 (rain date September 28, 2017)
- Battle of the Books -- November through March
- Scholastic Book Fair -- November 7-12, 2017
- Turkey Trot (adults only) -- November 18, 2017
- Breakfast with Santa -- December 9, 2017
- Staff Christmas Luncheon and Bake Sale -- December 19, 2017
- PSO/Women's Club Christmas Luncheon -- mid-December
- CSW Open House and Preschool Art Show -- January 28, 2018
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon -- January 30, 2018
- Talent Show -- February 2, 2018
- Science Fair -- Mid-March 2018
- Service Day -- April 27, 2018
- Grand Person Day -- May 11, 2017
- SJA Carnival -- June 7-10, 2018

Primary Contact: Lisa Holubar at Lholubar@gmail.com

Service Opportunities

St. Agnes of Bohemia — Sharing Parish

Our role in the Chicago Sharing Parish Program began in 1976 when every parish was assigned a fellow Archdiocesan parish with fewer resources. Over the years, St. Joan of Arc has shared Mass and fellowship through the children's choir and St. Agnes dancers. Our Men's Club has participated in service projects at St. Agnes School. Currently, the St. Joan of Arc Women's Club assists in the coordination of a Christmas Giving Tree, to complement a winter coat and Thanksgiving food drive, along with periodic monetary donations to St. Agnes of Bohemia.

Primary Contact: Pam Fitzell at pfitzell@comcast.net or 847-677-2218

Ministers of Care

Ministers of Care are trained volunteers who carry the Eucharist from the Church to the homes of the sick or homebound parishioners, to hospitals and to nursing homes. Every Wednesday, we staff St. Francis Hospital, Skokie Hospital, The Presbyterian Home, as well as both of the Aldens in Skokie.

Parishioners who wish to become Ministers of Care are sponsored by the parish, and complete a training workshop offered by the Archdiocese. There they learn how to interact with the sick and aged. At the end of the training they are mandated as Ministers of Care and are able to bring Communion, care and comfort to those in need.

Primary Contact: Meg Cagney at mwc227@aol.com or 847-674-2283

Angels on Call

The Mission of Angels on Call is to communicate the love of Christ through assistance to those parishioners in need during times of crisis, illness, disability or change by providing support with transportation, meals, visits and wellness calls. If you are interested in becoming an “Angel,” please contact us!

Primary Contact: Meg Cagney at mwc227@aol.com or 847-674-2283

Meals at Home

Meals at Home fosters health and contributes to individual well-being and independence by delivering nutritious meals and medical prescribed diets to the homebound, elderly, disabled and others temporarily unable to care for their nutritional needs. Every Monday, SJA volunteers pick up Meals at St. Francis Hospital and deliver them to Evanston residents.

If you are interested in this Ministry please call the Rectory or Meg Cagney.

Primary Contact: Meg Cagney at mwc227@aol.com or 847-674-2283

Soup Kitchen

Every Thursday evening of the year, the Evanston Ecumenical Council of Churches (EECC), operates a soup kitchen at the First United Methodist Church at Hinman and Church streets in Evanston. Parishes and congregations within the EECC take turns staffing the kitchen. This soup kitchen feeds dinner to approximately 70 to 100 individuals, and also provides a bag lunch for them to take home for the next day.

Volunteers from St. Joan of Arc work at the soup kitchen on **the first Thursday of each month**. Responsibilities include purchasing of food, cooking at home, delivering to the facility, kitchen prep, serving the food, and clean up. One parishioner also provides live piano music. Some volunteers like to sit and talk with our guests. The time commitment is normally from 5:30-7 PM. Funds for the purchasing of the food comes from the “Feed the Needy” contribution box in the back of the church.

Primary Contact: Coordinators through the Parish Office:
Mardi & Garry Woodward, Mike & Julie Lynk, Cookie Schaefer

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. HFH seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. HFH has built more than 500,000 houses around the world. St. Joan of Arc participates with Habitat for Humanity – Lake County (www.habitatlc.org) and SJA volunteers help build houses in the Waukegan area. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old.

Primary Contact: Frank Zeigler at frank.ziegler@gmail.com or 847-675-1522

Respect Life Committee

The Respect Life Committee oversees the total scope of respect-life needs and efforts within St. Joan of Arc parish. We proclaim the sanctity and value of human life as a gift from God and the foundation of human dignity, promote the Church’s Respect Life agenda, coordinate parish Respect Life activities and advocate and source pro-life issues within the parish and community. The committee is a communication link between the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops’ Committee for Pro-Life Activities and the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office and the parish.

We are committed to the most fundamental of all human concerns, those of reverence for human life at all its stages, from conception to death, in all conditions for all people. We provide educational and public information on pro-life issues, spiritual guidance through prayer, offer pastoral care through support of crisis pregnancy centers, and advocate the Church’s position on life-protecting or life threatening laws and public policies through the support and approval of St. Joan of Arc parish.

The Women’s Center in Chicago provides compassionate counseling, social services, medical referral attention and material goods and items to women in need. St. Joan of Arc supports the Women Center in Chicago through three fundraising projects each year:

Baby Bottle Project – October

Take home a baby bottle from the back of church and fill it with the extra change you have at the end of each day and around the house. Bring the bottle back at the end of the month.

Christmas Wreaths – December

During the Advent Season, Christmas Wreaths and other holiday creations are sold to parishioners to raise money for the Women’s Center of the Greater Chicagoland Area.

Mothers’ Day Flowers – May

A variety of floral bouquets are available for sale this weekend. Buy one to place before the Blessed Mother to honor her in May. Buy another bouquet for that special woman in your life.

Primary Contact: Julie Lynk through the Parish Office

Society of St. Vincent DePaul

St. Joan of Arc, St. Peter and St. Lambert Conference

Volunteers from St. Vincent de Paul help the poor and disadvantaged in Skokie. There are many in our area who are living on the edge of financial disaster due to an illness, loss of a job or other change in life circumstances. Many of those we help have young children in their homes.

A two-person team of volunteers visits potential clients in their homes to assess their situation and their needs. We aim to provide assistance to help clients get past an immediate hardship, such as delinquent rent or utility bill. We often refer clients to other social service agencies that can provide specialized services.

Our efforts are funded primarily from the donations of members of the three parishes in Skokie that are members of our conference. The St. Vincent De Paul Society is the oldest charity in Chicago. The Society’s primary purpose is to serve those in need. The website for the Society in Chicago is: www.svdpchicago.org.

SVDP volunteers at St. Joan of Arc participate in a collaborative effort with other Catholic parishes in Skokie to serve needy families and individuals in the Skokie area in a variety of ways. This includes short-term material assistance, such as help with rent, utilities, groceries, clothing and furniture. This also includes services such as moving assistance and referrals to other local organizations for temporary support. SVDP funds come from the “Feed the Needy” contribution box in the back of the church and from special collections.

If you want to donate clothing, there is an SVDP collection box at the south end of the St. Joan of Arc parking lot. To donate furniture, call SVDP at 773.779.6700 to schedule a pick-up. To become an SVDP volunteer, contact the Parish Office 847.673.0409 for more information.

If you need SVDP assistance in Skokie, please leave a message at 847.604.1222.

If you have a car no longer in use and would like to donate it for a tax deduction, please contact the Parish Office 847.673.0409 for more information.

Primary Contact: Jim Ford through the Parish Office