



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ALTOONA/JOHNSTOWN

DECEMBER 2019

NATIONAL SVDP CHILDREN'S CENTER PROJECT TO FOCUS RESOURCES ON GIRLS HOME IN CHILE

Laurita Vicuña is a home operated by the Society of St. Vincent de



Paul for abused and disabled girls in the south of Chile. Currently there are nineteen girls ranging in age from four years to seventeen years old who have been sent there by the Family Courts. A staff of twelve

Vincenians are responsible for the administration and care of the home.

◀ The staff meet weekly as a conference of the SVDP. Fridays are set aside for special time with the girls to teach them about the Society and soak up the Holy Spirit. The girls have a daily routine with prayers and reflections on the Gospel. They go to school, do their homework and study with the supervision of a teacher. On the weekends they have recreational activities, games and television. They also attend external workshops where they learn crafts, yoga, dance, and other interests.

Not only are the girls provided with all their basic necessities, above all, they receive affection and personalized care. Health professionals, teachers, psychologists, and social workers, ensure their well-being. The care-givers treat each girl as their own daughter, giving attention, listening to them, sharing hugs, and making them feel part of the family. The girls even have birthday parties on their birthday.

There is no lack of caring or concern for the girls. Funding however, is a challenge. There is no funding from the State; all their needs are covered through volunteers and donations.

[Click here](#) if you would like more information on the Children's Center Project at Hogar Laurita Vicuña in Chile or would like to make a donation.

ST. ROSE OF LIMA CONTINUES WITH ITS HOMELESS SUPPORT PROGRAM



Dan Weaver, St. Rose Conference President and Lisa Hann, Family Services Director sort sweatshirts collected by the conference.

The St. Rose of Lima Conference collected hooded sweatshirts for use by Family Services in their homeless/needy programs. Through the month of November parish members donated slightly worn and new hooded sweatshirts towards this worthy cause.

A total of 58 sweatshirts were delivered to Family Services by the Conference. Dan Weaver, St. Rose Conference president said, "The members of the St. Rose of Lima SVDP Conference would like say thank you to all the parish members who donated to this noble cause. When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor. God Bless You All!"

SVDP HELPS CHILDREN WITH CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

The youth ministry program along with the Altoona and Johnstown Kitchens helped several hundred kids get gifts they may otherwise have gone without.

The youth ministry with help from some “secret Santas” helped 16 children. The Johnstown Kitchen helped over 50 children. The Altoona Kitchen’s toy, food and clothing give away helped over 400 children.



Forty-five boy scouts from Troop 2098 collected and helped separate food for the **SVDP Ebensburg Food Pantry**.

Scoutmaster Kevin O'Brien said the donations filled four pickup trucks.



Above: helpers at the Johnstown Soup Kitchen unload Christmas gifts.

At right a child poses with his gifts from Johnstown

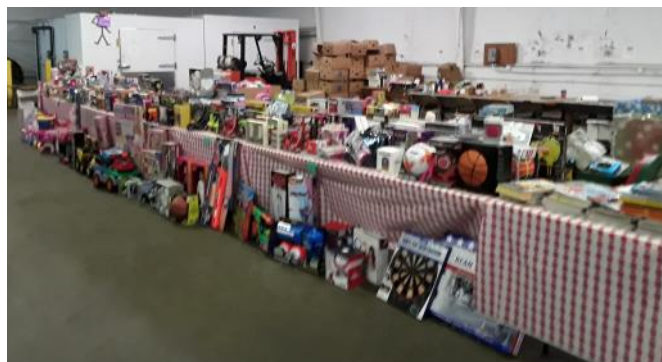


Below: the Altoona Soup Kitchen is lined with boxes of food and tables of toys for their annual Christmas give away.



Fr. Derek Fairman, pastor of **St. John the Evangelist parish** in Everett, is assisted by religious education students Violet Johnson, center, and Olivia Hillegas in preparing holiday food baskets. Parish members donated food to provide Christmas dinners for families in Bedford County. An anonymous donor provided vouchers so each family could obtain a turkey or ham.

The baskets were donated to the SVDP St. Thomas Conference and delivered to families by Vincentian volunteers.





In mid-December Santa greeted the children of clients at the **Altoona Pantry**.

They received coloring books and crayons donated by a sponsor. The Mt. Carmel ladies had a nice selection of warm hats and gloves for each of the children too.



And, oh yes, candy canes and a selection of puzzles were available as well.

ANNUAL ST. MARK'S LUNCHEON



The Altoona District Council hosted a noon meal the day after Thanksgiving at St. Marks Church in Altoona.

This annual event began because the Altoona Kitchen is closed so the managers and volunteers can have a day off after serving Thanksgiving dinner.

Patrons enjoyed a sit-down meal; being served their food and beverages.

On the left: tables of food, toiletries, and cleaning supplies were available free of charge.



Pictured on the left are some of the 130 people served.

THE VINCENTIAN HERITAGE PILGRIMAGE TO PARIS



IN CELEBRATION OF THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY of the Society of the St. Vincent de Paul in the United States

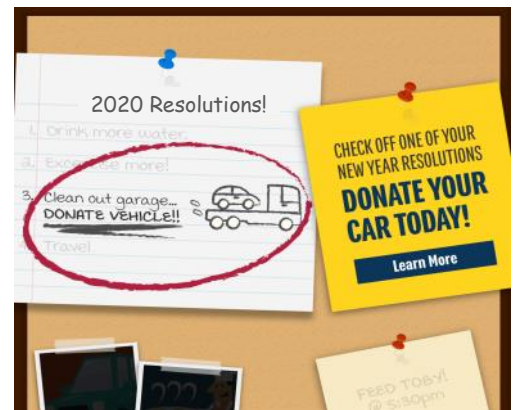
September 22-29, 2020

Registration Deadline: January 31, 2020

For more information, [click here](#).

For more information about the travel agency, [click here](#).

If interested in participating, contact Sr. Kieran Kneaves at kkneaves@svdpusa.org.



SVDP ALTOONA/JOHNSTOWN VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM

A sincere thank you to everyone that has taken advantage of this program over the past year.

Your generous donation supports St. Vincent de Paul Altoona Johnstown so we can continue to help those in need not only at this time of year but all year long.

[Click here](#) or call (800) 322-8284 to find out how you can donate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2020

- **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

KEEP UP-TO-DATE ON SVDP/FFF EVENTS

Our website has a new feature... a monthly calendar. The calendar makes it easier to see what's happening; fundraisers, events, etc. Go to our website svdpcares.org and click on calendar under upcoming events.



CONTACT US

(814) 943-1981

avcdepaul@atlanticbbn.net

www.svdpcares.org



Memory/ Honor of Donation

PICTURES FROM SVDP CHRISTMAS PARTIES



Holy Name Conference Christmas dinner was held at Kostas Restaurant in Ebensburg. Approximately 40 conference members, and thrift store and pantry volunteers attended.



Johnstown Christmas Party



Altoona Christmas Party