



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ALTOONA/JOHNSTOWN

SEPTEMBER 2020

DIOCESAN COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Mary Beth Schmidhamer has accepted the position of Diocesan Council Spiritual Advisor after the seat was left vacant when Alice Emanuel retired in August after 19 years as the Council's spiritual advisor.



Mary Beth joined St. Vincent de Paul in 2009 after she heard Sonny Consiglio give a talk about the Society one Sunday at mass. Mary Beth said, "The thing that drew me to the Society was the spirituality of the organization."

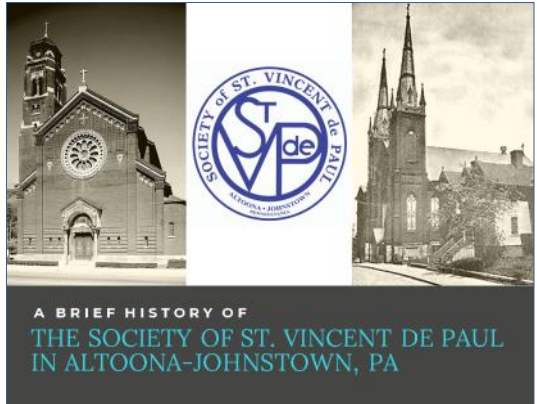
Since 2009 she has been the St. Therese Altoona Conference Spiritual Advisor and Conference President, and Altoona District Council President and Spiritual Advisor. It seems only fitting that the next step in her spiritual journey is Diocesan Spiritual Advisor. Welcome Mary Beth.

Mary Beth Schmidhamer reading during the St. Vincent de Paul's Feast Day, Sunday, September 27 at the Holy Name Parish in Ebensburg.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY GETS NEW CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

Thank you to Felicia Mulley for giving her time the last couple of years as the OLV conference president.

We welcome Carol Gouty who will be taking on the duties of conference president.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is celebrating 175 years in the United States. The first conference was established in St. Louis, Missouri and is still active today.

The history of the Society in our diocese dates back to 1898 with the first Conference at St. Mark Parish in Altoona. The Society of Altoona Johnstown as we know it, today, was reorganized in 1982.

[Click here](#) to see a "Brief History of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania".

A sincere thank you to Vincentian Monica Smith for putting together this presentation.

CONTACT US

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Memory/ Honor of Donation



[Click here](#) for daily reflections and a quote of the day.

Famvin Quote of the day September 23

"Take every day as a ring which you must engrave, adorn and embellish with your actions, to be offered up in the evening at the altar of God."

– St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

THIRD ANNUAL FRIENDS-DAY WEDNESDAY SOUP SALE



The **Johnstown Family Kitchen** will hold its third annual Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale starting **October 14**. The soup is available from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford Street.

The fundraiser is based on the Empty Bowl Fundraising Project. Individuals can purchase a quart of soup and bread for \$7 or a bowl of soup and bread for \$5. The fundraiser will run through March 10, 2021 on the second Wednesday of each month.

Local businesses, community groups, and churches will sponsor two soups each month.

Individuals wishing to support the project or to order soup can contact Greg (814) 539-7811 / 270-4111 or Georgia (814) 242-2083.

Follow this event on the Johnstown Family Kitchen's [Facebook page](#).

Barbara's Hallmark in Johnstown has again decided to make **SVDP Food for Families** in Johnstown beneficiary of their Gift of Giving Event over the Thanksgiving weekend. Proceeds are from the sale of select ornaments.



[Click here](#) for more information on Voice of the Poor.

On St. Vincent de Paul's Feast Day, Sunday, September 27 Sonny Consiglio, SVDP Executive Director, presented Alice Emanuel with a plaque in recognition for her 25 years of devoted service to the Society and to the Poor.

Below is an article by Alice that was first published in the SVDP newsletter in 2013 and is still relevant today.



VINCENTIAN SPIRITUALITY

First Published in November 2013 by Alice Emanuel, Spiritual Adviser

Our mountains are ablaze with breathtaking views! This prompted me to think about how our life cycle goes hand-in-hand with God's great gift of the natural world.

At the end of summer, we look forward to fall. The cool weather and bright blue skies bring more energy and a new awareness of our surroundings. After Thanksgiving when the fall season ends, we look forward to Christmas, celebrating our Savior's birth. The pure joy and beauty of this time should last forever.

But, not so, before we know it a long cold winter sets in. We stay more indoors. The bravest and heartiest do venture out to experience the beauty of winter. The length of this cold season can wear us down. We also enter the Lenten season that sobers us. We think deeply of our relationship with our Lord.

Spring comes with a hint of hope. The Easter season brings our most blessed religious celebration of the Resurrection! During this time the earth springs back to life. We are aware of a renewal in our lives, as the birth of a child brings to us.

Soon summer arrives. We spend more time outside. We visit, picnic, attend reunions, go to ball games and enjoy outdoor sports. We even change the time to enjoy more daylight! At the end of summer we harvest what was planted and share it with others. Back to fall and the Thanksgiving reminds us to thank God for all the graces we've been given.

This cycle begins again. Our lives mirror the seasons. We all experience a time to be born, a time to grow and a time to die. We experience a wide range of emotions and trials in life and the seasons have a huge impact on them. Throughout, our Lord and the Holy Spirit reside within us, just a thought, just a prayer away.

We look forward to the time we will join them when our life cycle has ended. Seasons and life cycles will begin anew for others until the end of time.

FARMERS TO FAMILIES DISTRIBUTES IN HASTINGS

The USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service is partnering with national, regional and local food distributors whose workforces have been impacted by the closure of food service businesses to purchase and distribute the food to those in need through the Farmers to Families Food Box program.



The program will supply food boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, meat products and a combination box of fresh produce, dairy or meat products. Distributors will package these products into family-sized boxes, then transport them to food banks, community and faith-based organizations, and other non-profits serving Americans in need.



Ginny Gates from Lancaster Foods arranged to bring the food boxes to the St. Bernard's Food Pantry in Hastings for distribution on Saturday, September 26.

Ginny said, "It was my pleasure to be in Cambria County, Pennsylvania yesterday with the wonderful

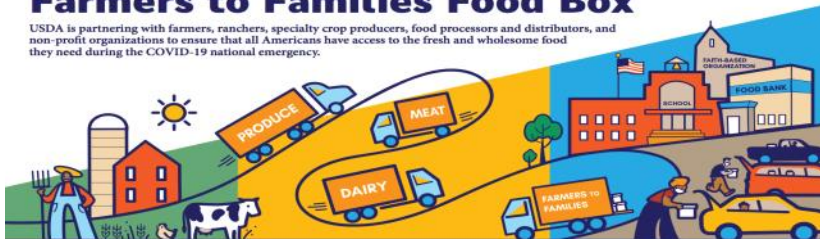
folks of Hastings SVDP Food Pantry as they distributed 576 food boxes to the rural needy."

Click on the graphic below to find out more information about the program.



Farmers to Families Food Box

USDA is partnering with farmers, ranchers, specialty crop producers, food processors and distributors, and non-profit organizations to ensure that all Americans have access to the fresh and wholesome food they need during the COVID-19 national emergency.



Farmers

sell food previously destined for restaurants and bulk purchasers to distributors, preventing waste

Distributors

partner with USDA to package family-sized boxes with fresh produce, dairy and meat products, then transport them to non-profits across America

Families

pick up food boxes from local schools, food banks, faith-based organizations and other non-profits



2020

- **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

2021

- **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10**
Friends-day Wednesday Soup Sale
Johnstown Family Kitchen, 231 Bedford St.
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **SUNDAY, JUNE 20**
Annual Feed the Need Food Truck Rodeo
PNC Park, Johnstown
Noon - 5:00 PM

KEEP UP-TO-DATE ON SVDP/FFF EVENTS



Our website has a 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. Send events to svdpadmin@atlanticbnn.net to be added to the calendar.