



# SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ALTOONA/JOHNSTOWN

## DECEMBER 2023

### MEET OUR NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, REGHAN TURCHETTA-WOLFE



Reghan Turchetta-Wolfe, Assistant Executive Director, SVDP Diocesan Council

Reghan came to SVDP/FFF in June, 2022. At that time she was hired as the assistant director at the Johnstown Food for Families.

In November 2023 Reghan accepted the Assistant Executive Director for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Altoona Johnstown. She has begun to transition into her new role and will work closely with the Executive Director, Sonny Consiglio and around the dioceses working with the conferences, thrift stores, pantries, and kitchens.

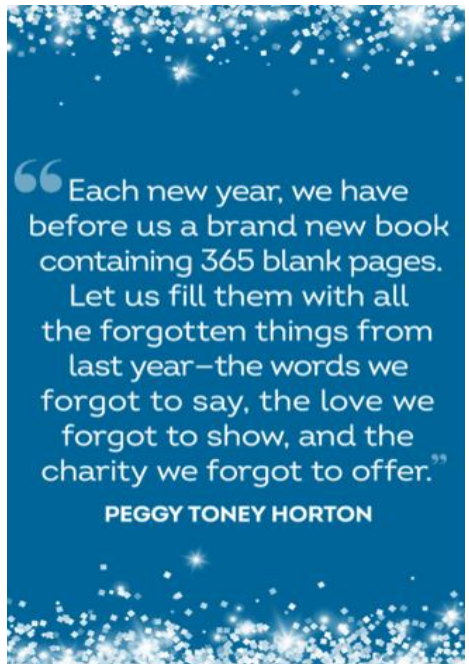
She brings to the position fresh ideas and an eagerness to learn all she can about the Society.

Sonny has contemplated hiring an assistant director for some time so when

the board of directors gave the go ahead, what good luck to find Reghan already working at SVDP.

“The only issue I have,” joked Sonny, “is now we have to find a replacement for Reghan in Johnstown.”

Rodney DeAngelo, FFF Director said of Reghan, “she’s the future of St. Vincent de Paul with great ideas and a new perspective that we all should embrace for the better.”



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Memory/ Honor of Donation

#### Famvin Quote of the day, December 23, 2023

*“We must strive to soften our hearts and make them sensitive to the suffering and worries of the neighbor.” (CCD 12:221)*

– St. Vincent de Paul

– Lord, create in me a sensitive heart, always open to those who need a listening ear or a helping hand.



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



In September, the U.S. Census Bureau released the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS helps local officials, community leaders, and businesses understand the changes taking place in their communities. It is the premier source for detailed population and housing information about our nation.

Last month, SSVDPUSA took a deep dive into [how to find and use the poverty statistics in the ACS](#) in their “Third Thursday Webinars”.

All Voice of the Poor Third Thursday webinars are recorded and posted on the VOP Webinar Library page on the website: <https://members.ssvpusa.org/voice-of-the-poor/voice-of-the-poor-webinars/>.

The next webinar is on Thursday, January 18, 2024. You can sign up for email notifications by going to the library page listed above.

*Above information from National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul.*

## SENIOR PACK PROJECT

The Senior Pack is a project the **Johnstown Warehouse** completes on the second Friday of every month through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program ([CSFP](#)). The CSFP is a state program that works to improve the health of low-income persons 60 years of age and older.

The Johnstown warehouse staff and volunteers pack the senior boxes that are distributed to seven participating pantries in Cambria county. The pantries will hand out the boxes to seniors that have signed up through PACE.

Any senior interested in signing up for the senior boxes and meet the eligibility guidelines, are put on a waiting list. Each month any remaining boxes are distributed to seniors on the list based on date of application and/or age of the applicant.



The warehouse is fortunate to have volunteers each month that participate in the senior pack project. Above is a group of volunteers that just finished packing with our own “elf” Reghan Turchetta-Wolf.



Call **1-800-322-8284** or click on the picture for more information and to start the donation process on line.

Remember, it doesn't have to run and you can designate what ministry gets the proceeds from your generosity. The program is not limited to cars, we accept:



The **St. Benedict Conference** in Carrolltown held a Community Christmas Dinner on Saturday, December 23 at the St. Benedict Church Hall. The dinner was free and included music and fellowship.

One individual on Facebook commented that the food was delicious and the hall was beautifully decorated.





**Altoona Thrift Store** held a Christmas party for their employees and volunteers on Sunday, December 17 at Marzoni's in Greenwood. The dinner was well attended and everyone had a good time. Deb Wright Adams, Manager and Charlette Airhart, Assistant Manager recognized several volunteers for their dedication over the years.

Above, first row from left: Elsie Fleck (8 years), Elaine Weber (6 years), Mary Frances Stokan (5 years); second row from left: Deb Steinbugl (8 years), Penny Nester (5 years), Ruth Ann Loose (12 years), Linda Irwin (7 years).

### ALTOONA SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS GIVE AWAY

On Thursday, December 21 Sister Paula, Sister Pauline and many, many volunteers worked together to help local families have a Merry Christmas. Along with the daily lunch served at the kitchen at 2201 Union Ave, the kitchen also handed out boxes of food, toys, hats and gloves.



Sister Paula (sitting in the picture on the left) is handing out vouchers for the boxes of food and toys.

On the right a volunteer is preparing dessert for the daily luncheon.



Over 200 pairs of socks were donated to the **Johnstown Family Kitchen**.

The kitchen distributed the socks which are one of the most asked for item of clothing by homeless people.

The Kitchen is located at 231 Bedford St, Johnstown and is open Monday through Friday. (814) 539-7811



Above people waiting to get into the Altoona kitchen. Below are boxes of food ready for distribution and volunteers ready to assist.

