



Conference News and Notes
for Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Sent to all Vincentians & Staff

Vincentian Reflection for the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 19, 2023

Gospel: (Matthew 5: 38-48) Jesus said to his disciples: “*You have heard the commandment, ‘You shall love your country man but hate your enemy.’ My command to you is: love your enemies, pray for your persecutors. This will prove that you are sons and daughters of your heavenly Father, for his sun rises on the bad and the good, he rains on the just and the unjust. If you love those who love you, what merit is there in that? Do not tax collectors do as much? And if you greet your brothers only, what is so praiseworthy about that? Do not pagans do as much? In a word, you must be perfected, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*”

Reflection: Bishop Untener requested that every meeting in his diocese should begin with the question, “How shall what we are doing here affect or involve the poor?” He also said: “This must be addressed to the *poor* poor. They are the ones who get left out because they’re not part of what we did yesterday or today. The other kinds of poor people are part of our lives, and we need to be concerned about them. But I want us to connect with the *poor* poor. If we deal with them, all the rest will follow. The *poor* poor are the ones who rarely if ever are first on an agenda. So let’s talk about them. Always start with the *poor* poor.” (McCullen, *Deep Down Things*, p.737)

Vincentian Meditation: I think the Bishop’s observations could give us all much to reflect upon. In his question, “How shall what we are doing here affect or involve the poor?” I like the two verbs, *affect* and *involve*. Both are important. We can spend much time discussing problems about the poor without ever - or at least only after much time - *affecting* the lives of the poor. To *involve* the poor: that is an ideal which we must try to realize in the programs we elaborate to relieve need and redress injustice. We must try to *involve* the poor in the projects which we organize. We must try to help the poor in such a way that they will be able to help themselves and thus rise out of their poverty in such a way that is in harmony with their human dignity. The work we do for the poor is a work of faith. Activated by the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ and inspired by the example of St. Vincent, we try to bring the healing hand of Christ to those in need and the courageous voice of the prophet to those in power. This is the challenge that faces the Vincentian Family today. (McCullen, *Deep Down Things*, p.738)

**In what ways do we “*affect and involve*” the poor?
In what ways could we?**

Do you think this would provide a more lifting, lasting impact for our neighbor?

Your Formation and Training Opportunities & Tips

Our Newest Workshop! Growing Conferences through Communication: Designed to help you and your fellow Conference members invite others into the work of helping our neighbors, this workshop will help you to develop skills and processes to confidently invite and strengthen relationships with local community members to offer resources for neighbors in need, and welcome people to contribute to the work of your Conference as you strive to meet neighbors’ needs, while growing in faith and friendship. ***We encourage every Family of Conferences to have at least one member present – any Vincentian is always welcome.*** This workshop will take place on **Tuesday, 2/28 (less than 2 weeks away!)**, 6-8pm, at **St. James of the Valley (Wyoming)**. To sign up for this new workshop,

presented jointly by your External Relations and Conferences Support teams, [please use this link](#) or reach out to Chris Kelley directly to register.

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Signup Today! Our Annual Vincentian Retreat: Calling all Vincentians! Whether you are brand new or have been one for many years, you are invited to indulge yourself this Lent with a few hours spent on retreat, **led by Tim Williams – SVDP National Formation Director**, as we refresh our own Vincentian calling and the way we see the Home Visit on **Saturday, 3/11, 8am-noon at St. Xavier (downtown)**. Whether you make home visits yourself, or you have another role in your Conference, each of us are deeply impacted by our Conference's experience with our neighbors in unique ways which allow us to appreciate our heritage and see the face of Christ in one another.

To register for this Annual Vincentian Retreat, please use this link to our new form: <https://form.jotform.com/230394151480047> . When you register, you will be asked to answer a few optional questions anonymously which will enable us to better craft materials relevant to your journey.

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Reminder to those of you registered to participate: Your **Ozanam Orientation** is scheduled for **this Saturday, 2/18, 9am-3pm, at Good Shepherd** in Montgomery/Symmestown Township.

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Chris Kelley, our Formation and Service Learning Director, can be reached at 513.345.1767 or ckelley@svdpcincinnati.org .

***Voice of the Poor Resource Spotlight Is Today!
Wednesday, 2/15, 11am
Come on - Join Us!***

Voice of the Poor is hosting your **Resource Spotlight, via Zoom, today @ 11am**, on the topic of **Landlord and Tenant Rights and Responsibilities** .

We know many of our neighbors - and likely many of our members, staff, & volunteers attempting to assist them - hunger for better understanding of their role as renters. Did you know that many of our neighbors are renting on a month-to-month tenancy? Do you know what this means to the renter? We'll address this with an info-rich presentation, followed by Q & A and an explanation of Housing Vouchers. And you can conveniently participate from home.

Click on this link when you are ready to join this Zoom gathering @ 11am today:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83809863182?pwd=WEExLWW9ZMkJDMTBhWDJUM2R4TzIUUT09>

Knowledge today opens opportunities for a better tomorrow.

***All Neighbor and Vincentians are Welcome at
Your Money Matters
Financial Literacy Program***

Your Social Services team offers this workshop opportunity via Zoom on these Fridays:

February: 2/17 (this Friday)

March: 3/10 & 3/17

April: 4/14 & 4/28

May: 5/12 & 5/26

June: 6/9 & 6/23

Please consider this your invitation to join us...and to invite interested neighbors to do the same. To join us on Zoom @ 10am on whichever of the above Fridays you select, utilize:

Meeting ID: 868 3504 1708

Passcode: 476453

or join by phone @ 646.931.3860

Exciting Enhancements Coming to our Call Center

We will begin transitioning to some live call-taking in our Call Center - this week!

As part of this transition, we now have the ability to transfer neighbor calls directly to Conference voicemails. You may begin receiving calls that have been transferred in this way rather than receiving calls from our team members referring neighbors to you. Some neighbor calls to our centralized Help Line - 513.421.0602 - will still be rolling to our centralized voicemail, and the process for referring those calls to Conferences will remain the same as it has been. We are very hopeful that this enhancement will result in better service to our neighbors. If you have any questions about this transition, please contact Adriana Howard at ahoward@svdpcincinnati.org or 513.345.4964.

Beacons of Light Progress

Love in Action - Families of Parishes will be communities of charity and justice, serving those most in need and working to change systems that oppress and marginalize. The *Beacons of Light* Pathway Planning process includes a parishioner-based Love in Action Transitional Team. **Opportunity**: this team is likely forming in your Family - and your Vincentian vocation is all about Love in Action. How is your Conference connecting with fellow ministries committed to Love in Action?

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On January 24, the Feast of St Francis de Sales, patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Archbishop Schnurr publicly released a letter to all of us re *Beacons of Light*. You are encouraged to find this letter and other *Beacons* resources, including the February 2023 *Beacons of Light* Parish Vitality 6 Month Report, by exploring at this link:

[Beacons of Light](#) .

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Our Conference Presidents and our Conferences Support team are currently preparing to meet with each of the 24 pastors of Families of Parishes within our District Council's Hamilton County footprint. Our goal is to further nurture our collaboration in *Beacons of Light* in each of the respective Families. We are quite encouraged and pleased as Conference Presidents are sharing positive developments of friendship & faith shared among Conferences within their Family. And some intra-Family Conferences are partnering with material and people resources in service.

We most certainly anticipate that these Family pastors will voice their appreciation and support for your good works of faith in action, engaging our neighbors experiencing need with respect, dignity, & hope. You are radiating Christ, recognizing Christ, and representing our Catholic Church in these interactions. Yes, you are evangelizing! These pastors may have ideas & aspirations of how your Conference can be an even brighter Beacon of Light in your Family...just as your Conference may have ways your pastor can help fuel your good works.

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Do you have *Beacons of Light* progress to share from your Conference & Family of Parishes? We'd love to hear and share in this *Conference News and Notes* each week. You might just inspire others as we seize this opportunity to advance how we live our Vincentian vocation, engage our neighbors, transform our community, and evolve our Archdiocese. Please contact Tom Roberts at troberts@svdpcincinnati.org or 513.345.4910.

Winter Coat Vouchers - February is our Final Month This Season Just 2 Weeks Remain

Any Hamilton County resident who has not yet received a coat from St. Vincent de Paul is welcome to come to our Neyer Outreach Center (NOC, 1146 Bank St) to request a coat voucher. These vouchers can be redeemed at our Clothing and Home Resource Center (CHRC, in our Liz Carter Center across the street, 1125 Bank St) or any of our 7 SVDP-Cincinnati thrift stores (our Outlet Store on Chickering Avenue excluded). Neighbors must have a photo ID for themselves and any other member of their household for whom they request a coat. Our Winter Coat Vouchers are normally good for thirty days after the day they're written. **The last day to redeem coat vouchers will be Tuesday, February 28. We are continuing to write vouchers during February, but all February vouchers have a 2/28/2023 expiration date.**

Vincentians may request a coat on behalf of their neighbor using the following process:

- Check for eligibility in CMS. Neighbors are eligible to receive one coat per

household member per winter (from either a voucher or a distribution event). Previous coat assistance is listed in CMS under Programs – Coats through Liz Carter.

- Email Erin at enowak@svdpcincinnati.org to request a voucher. Please include:
 1. The name and date of birth of each household member who will be receiving a coat (including the head of household)
 2. Where the voucher should be sent (the address of either the neighbor or the Conference member who will be delivering the voucher)
- Please ensure that the neighbor is aware they will need some form of ID for each person listed on their voucher. Acceptable forms of ID are listed below, as well as on the voucher itself:
 1. Driver's license or other photo ID (including VESTA card, MARC ID, or work photo ID); or
 2. Social Security card; or
 3. Birth certificate; or
 4. Medical/Insurance card; or
 5. Lease agreement with household members listed
- Our Outreach Center Programs team at the NOC will take care of writing and mailing out the voucher, as well as entering the assistance in CMS.

We have shared a record number of coats with our neighbors this season. Simply put: we could not accomplish this together without so many donations of coats and caps and scarves and gloves and mittens. We are still eagerly and thankfully accepting donations of these items which will supply these voucher redemptions and provide a start for our winter coats assistance next fall. Huge thanks to all who have donated, have hosted drives, and continue to attract coats.

CMS Tips, Tricks, & Transformations

CMS is accessible from your web browser, using <https://cincinnati.cmssvdp.org> and nothing else.

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If your conference is not yet on CMS, you are strongly encouraged to do so as quickly as possible. The data you collect is important, not only for your ongoing assistance to neighbors, but also for our overall Cincinnati District Council reporting and analysis.

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CMS Statistics are available for you under the members area of our SVDP-Cincinnati website. Direct link to the page is <https://www.svdpcincinnati.org/conferences-members/member-support/>; then scroll down and click on "CMS Statistics – Conferences". If you are not familiar with accessing and navigating the SVDP website, please contact your Conferences Support Team.

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CMS Refresher training: If you are interested in any training refresh sessions, please contact John Wessel at 513.562.1823 or email jwessel@svdpcincinnati.org.

Free Income Tax Preparation Services Available

It is tax filing season. And for many of our neighbors feeling the financial squeeze, a tax refund is at least a short-term solution within their reach...sometimes with a little help. *Free Tax Prep*, an initiative of United Way of Greater Cincinnati funded by the IRS, provides free (federal & state) income tax preparation and filing services for low to moderate income neighbors residing in our Greater Cincinnati area. These same services are available to neighbors on fixed incomes, neighbors with disabilities, and those with limited English language abilities. To learn more, explore United Way's webpage by clicking [here](#), or calling United Way of Greater Cincinnati's 211 helpline or 513.762.7900. Please also note that United Way is seeking volunteers to help provide this service. More information about volunteering is available at this link to their [website](#) page.

***Upcoming Changes to SNAP Benefits:
Anticipating Impact Upon our Neighbors - and our Food Assistance***

During the COVID pandemic, neighbors receiving SNAP benefits had a second emergency allotment benefit loaded on their card, subsidized by COVID funding. This federal emergency funding is about to expire. **Beginning in March 2023 - this coming month**, neighbors will only receive the amount of their first benefit. This comes at a time when our food pantry network is already experiencing far greater demand relative to prior quarter or prior year, and food inflation is the highest it has been since 1979. Every household that receives SNAP benefits will be affected. The minimum reduction amount is \$95, and many families will see a significantly higher reduction (depending on whether they were receiving the maximum benefit amount prior to COVID). In addition, many households did not send in their proof of deductions (such as rent, childcare, etc) during the emergency allotment period. Please share this information with neighbors and help them plan for the reduction of benefits. Ask them whether they've submitted proof of deductions to JFS, and encourage them to use the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal to do so. If they need assistance using the portal, they can reach out to a certified SNAP benefit assister at the Freestore Food Bank, 513.381.7627. Click [here](#) for a flyer with additional resources.

Lent is Fast Approaching

Fat Tuesday (2/21) and Ash Wednesday (2/22) are less than a week away. Our Vincentian vocation offers us so many Lenten opportunities to connect with the suffering Christ, help carry the cross, and share the hope that is our Risen Lord. Take heart - we will once again celebrate the joy of Easter on Sunday, 4/9.

More Resources for our Conferences and Neighbors

Conference Assistance Fund (CAF)

Our January activity:

- You submitted **206** fresh applications
- We approved **192** applications; **4** were declined and **3** withdrawn

Our February activity (now 2 weeks in and 2 weeks to go):

- We've received **101** fresh applications
- We've approved **94** applications; **4** have been declined and **3** withdrawn
- We currently have **28** applications in process

We expected heavy volume in January - and we got it. Approximately \$85,000 in CAF assistance was extended to these 192 neighbor families/households. And February is proving to be similarly active.

You can check on the status of CAF applications you have submitted by going to the Member Support and Forms page of our SVDP-Cincinnati website and clicking on CAF Application Status, or use this link:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoibjQyZDg5NmMtNWQ1ZC00OTAyLWlwYmUtZTA2NGMwZmZmNmZiliwidCI6ImY2NWUwODUxLTYxM2QtNDEzNS05ZTE2LTUwOWFkYThjMDY2YiJ9> .

This resource is reserved for Vincentian members only; access to this resource can not be shared with neighbors, landlords, etc, under any circumstances.

In mid-October, our Council temporarily augmented our original FY2023 CAF budget provision of \$60,000 per month. Our Council subsidized \$80,000 per month for October, November, & December, 2022, and January, 2023. So, with carryover, we have February (a shorter month) provisions of approximately \$75,000.

Please note: We can extend this Council subsidy plus any (welcomed and encouraged) twinning to CAF from fellow Conferences. If your Conference is currently blessed with funds exceeding 2-3 months of your normal operating outflow, please know that we have fellow Conferences in search of funds to invest in lifting neighbors right now. Please contact Tom Roberts, 513.345.4910 or troberts@svdpcincinnati.org , for more info or to twin.

We continue to encourage you to guide our neighbors to other publicly- & privately-funded resources available within our community...and to nurture relationships that extend well beyond immediate basic needs (material) assistance to provide lasting impact. Budgeting can be an eye-opening exercise that leads to changes to create a

livable, new monthly model. How will our neighbor pay their rent, utilities, and other bills in the months to come?

Publicly-Funded Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA 2)

ERA 2, funded through the City of Cincinnati, was available for qualified/eligible tenant neighbors who reside within the City of Cincinnati. The City's funding was committed to us only through December, 2022. We (Conferences) processed and approved **132** ERA 2 applications (of 139 submitted) which resulted in **\$398,488** in assistance to our neighbors. Huge thanks to those Conferences and Vincentians who submitted ERA 2 applications...and to Olivia, Alec, Mary Reid, and our Finance team for turning these applications into assistance extended to our neighbors.

No new news yet. We will share any new developments as they present themselves.

Rahe Beds Fund & Program

February bed requests have been processed. Due to high demand (and a welcome increase in number of vouchers redeemed!), we will not be able to extend any additional vouchers this month. Reminder: Our online request form can be found [here](#), and updated CMS entry instructions can be found in the Rahe Bed Guide in the members section of the website.

If your Conference is considering **purchasing** beds to extend as assistance, you can get info, including current pricing, or purchase by contacting Dave Chidlow, Stores Retail Resource Manager, at dchidlow@svdpcincinnati.org or 513.853.1002. Your purchased beds will be picked up at our Clothing & Home Resource Center (CHRC) within our Liz Carter Center (LCC), 1125 Bank St. - the same place our Rahe bed vouchers are redeemed. **Please be aware that the bed purchase pricing has changed with our new bed vendor.**

A limited number of cribs and pack 'n' plays are available for neighbors with children younger than two. They can be requested by emailing rahebedfund@svdpcincinnati.org with the neighbor's name, date of birth, and address.

Metro Bus Passes (Everybody Rides Metro)

Your Conference has access to Metro single-day bus passes to be extended to neighbors for use for any of 3 defined purposes:

1. Commute to/from new employment
2. Commute to/from our Bank St services hub or other community social services
3. Commute to/from medical appointments

Please understand that these passes are sourced through the Everybody Rides Metro program and our Council is required to comply with the above-referenced usages and submit reports of passes distributed. Please also understand that your Conference will need to record bus passes extended in CMS for the neighbors receiving this assistance. Our Bus Pass Guidelines sheet for Conferences is available to you on the Members Support page of our website <https://www.svdpcincinnati.org/conferences-members/member-support/>

or use this link to go directly to this document:

<https://www.svdpcincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Bus-Tickets-Policy.pdf>

If your Conference wants to learn more about this program or request passes, please contact Alec Jewell, Conferences Manager, at ajewell@svdpcincinnati.org or 513.345.4983.

Cooking Improv with La Soupe

Our partner La Soupe teams with our Catino Choice Pantry to present monthly Cooking Improv demonstrations in the Teaching Kitchen at our NOC. Instructors from La Soupe and volunteers engage participants on basic cooking principles and how to use what you have to create delicious, nutritious meals. **All recipes are based off ingredients found daily in our Catino Choice Pantry. Neighbors are encouraged to sample the delicious dishes and discuss preparation and ingredients with our staff, volunteers, and resident La Soupe instructor, Chef Mona!**

These sessions are held on the first Wednesday of each month - which means **our next event is Wednesday, 3/1, 11am-1pm**. No pre-registration is required.

Feel free to share this information with your neighbors.

Note: We are in special need of volunteers to assist with this March Cooking Improv session. Chef Mona provides all the recipes and instruction, we just need some extra hands to help prepare the food and engage with our neighbors. Please email

dpatrick@svdpcincinnati.org if you are interested.

Haircuts from the Heart in our NOC - Please note service frequency enhancement!

This is a free haircut program, courtesy of our partner Franciscan Ministries. As started this month, **stylist Margarita is in our NOC every Monday, 9am-noon**, cutting hair in a room on the 2nd floor. Neighbors are accepted on a walk-in basis, and should sign in at our NOC reception desk upon arrival.

Education Center Within Our Neyer Outreach Center

Our NOC Education Center is available for our neighbors and Vincentians to use during our operating hours: Monday - Friday, 8am - 4pm, and Saturday, 8am - noon.

Language Service Available to our Conferences

A growing number of our Conferences are experiencing increased interactions with Latino members of our community...and are struggling to effectively communicate with neighbors who are most fluent or exclusively fluent in Spanish. We have contracted a dedicated language service to help you engage these neighbors in a welcoming, affirming manner. Any Conference member can download the "LanguageLine InSight" app on your smartphone, tablet, or computer at <https://insight.languageline.com/>. You simply need to use the Authentication Code **6NN692GLS2** the first time you login. Through this app you will have access to over 40 different languages, including Spanish, via an interpreter. You will have the option of either audio or visual (for those needing sign language); we strongly encourage using visual only when you must. **Please be efficient in your utilization as our Council pays by the minute for this service; and visual is nearly twice as expensive as audio. When you access the service, you will be asked for your name and department, you simply need to state your name, then "St Vincent de Paul Cincinnati Conferences", then your Conference name.** Be sure to only call through the app; you cannot use this service through a regular phone call.

Our Charitable Pharmacy, Social Services, and some Conferences are leveraging this tool to better engage our Latino neighbors.

If you have any questions or are having trouble accessing the service, please reach out to Alec or Olivia of your Conferences Support Team.

A final seed to plant: If your Conference is among those engaging more neighbors preferring or needing to communicate in Spanish, please consider this an opportunity to seek the addition of Spanish-speaking members. This could enhance your responsive communication and expand your Conference's perspective.

Christ Church Plumb Line

You've appreciated this community resource extending financial aid for qualified neighbors who are employed. Volunteers @ Christ Church are administering the Plumb Line on Mondays, 1-3pm, and scheduling in-person meetings for applicants for the following Monday (example: Volunteers in on 2/6 will be scheduling appointments for 2/13). **Please note: Since the volunteers @ Christ Church prefer to do an in-person interview with neighbors referred to them whenever possible, please be sure to tell the neighbor to expect Christ Church to reach out for an in-person interview when you are filling out a Plumb Line referral form with/for your neighbor.**

Olivia Scheper, our Conferences Support Coordinator, oscheper@svdpcincinnati.org or 513.345.4986, will continue to be your/our central contact point-person. **Plumb Line will only accept SVDP referrals from Olivia.**

Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW)

GCWW's **Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program** provides funds for assistance for eligible tenants residing in the City of Cincinnati. There are eligibility stipulations.

Tenants must qualify by completing an online application at assistance.mygcww.org. Renters can also call 513.591.7700 to receive assistance from the call center to complete an application. There is also a flexible payment plan through the PromisePay Portal.

GCWW customers can visit [GCWW.promise-pay.com](https://gcww.promise-pay.com) for details about the program and how to enroll. Renters not residing in Cincinnati city limits but living in Hamilton County can visit <https://erap.hcjfs.org/> for utility assistance. If you need additional materials or information, please contact GCWW at GCWWCares@gcww.cincinnati-oh.gov.

Duke Energy

On 1/25/2023, Duke Energy sent a release to community service partners with links to a variety of resources to assist their customers struggling with winter energy costs. We forwarded this release to our Conference Presidents on Thursday, 1/26/2023.

You can also find info by going to the Duke Energy website, clicking on the Financial Help

tab, and then clicking on Ohio.

Duke encourages us to follow our standard steps for processing pledges on customer accounts. For questions on accounts or pledges for neighbors requesting utility assistance, please contact Duke Energy's Centralized Agency Team at 800.241.3194.

Advocates are available Monday through Friday, 7:30am - 5:30pm.

Should our neighbor / their customer not meet Duke's qualifications for assistance, please refer them to Duke's customer care organization at 800.544.6900 where they may find assistance through a flexible installment plan.

State of Ohio Program for Struggling Homeowners

Save the Dream Ohio helps eligible Ohio homeowners facing foreclosure and/or who cannot afford to pay their mortgage payments, utility payments or other related housing costs as a result of economic hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The state of Ohio was awarded \$280 million from the U.S. Department of Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the program. Click here for more information:

[Save the Dream Ohio - Managed by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency \(ohiohome.org\)](https://ohiohome.org)

Hamilton County COVID Assistance

Our neighbors & you can still find info and resources at <https://513relief.org> . **Hamilton County has refreshed funding at Hamilton County Job & Family Services (JFS).**

Neighbors can apply at 513Relief.org on their mobile device or desktop. [The Hamilton County Rent and Utility Program's application](#) can be submitted on a smart phone.

Please note: this funding comes from the same federal pool as ERA and other COVID relief programs, so a neighbor who has previously exhausted their access to this pool will be ineligible. Please refer Hamilton County neighbors who you believe to be eligible.

Cincinnati Eye Institute Foundation (CEIF) Vision Clinic in our Neyer Outreach Center

The Vision Clinic operates **by appointment** on certain Monday mornings & Thursdays as designated by CEIF. **This Vision Clinic will be open on Thursdays only in February & March, as follows: tomorrow morning (2/16); all day on 2/23; the mornings of 3/2, 3/9, & 3/16; then all day on 3/23 & 3/30.** A limited number of walk-in exams can also be accommodated. To schedule an appointment, or to inquire for additional info, please call 513.207.6140.

You are Both Thanked & Invited

We thank you for your readership - we welcome your feedback to Tom Roberts at 513.345.4910 or troberts@svdpcincinnati.org - and we are eager for your content, including pictures, to make this weekly connection all the more relevant and empowering for you!

Our Mission

A network of neighbors, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

Our Call to Prayer

**For the grace to *affect* the *poor* who are living in poverty,
Merciful God, hear us!**

**For the grace to *involve* the *poor* who are living in poverty,
Loving God, hear us!**

Amen.



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