



## *End Poverty Through Systemic Change*

### **The Mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering.

While helping relieve the spiritual and material needs of the poor is an admirable goal in itself, the Society differs from other charities in that this action also does spiritual good for the members, helping them become better and more fervent Christians.

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Francis de Sales Church**

Our parish SVdPS has several outreach programs, including:

**Opportunity House:** We prepare and serve a dinner meal on the 4th Thursday of each month to a population comprised of about 65 men, women, and children.

**Kennedy House:** We prepare and serve a meal on 2 weekends a year to an estimated 300 people each weekend. We meet at the Steak Shack in Sinking Spring at 9:30 AM both days and carpool into Reading. We prepare, serve, and clean-up which concludes by 1:30 PM.

**Collection of Toiletries:** We collect toiletry items for Opportunity House and Berks Women in Crisis.

**Gift Cards:** We also assist our parish community and local community during times of need, with food cards, gas cards or other financial assistance they may need.

If you would like to know more about SVdPS at St. Francis Church, please contact the church office or Betty Schmoyer.