

# Summer - 2011



## **Immaculate Conception - Arnold, Missouri St. Vincent de Paul Newsletter**

Thank you so very much!!! As always, we thank you from the bottoms of our hearts for all you do. It is through your generous financial support (and prayer support for the St. Vincent de Paul society and members) that we are able to help those in need to be able meet at least their minimum needs in this life.

Our SVdP members are constantly busy and as you may have seen in the bulletin, we posted our 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011 statistics. Yet again, we were extremely busy handling a large volume of calls from those in need in April, May and June.

In these last three months alone **we paid out \$10,065 and worked 176 cases** brought to our attention!!! This included utilities, rent, gas money, lodging, prescriptions and transportation assistance.

**Our staff of 10 volunteers put in nearly 280 hours of service time in those three months!!!** This included personal house visits, working with utility companies, food pantry, answering phone calls from those in need, administrative, accounting and managerial duties, all performed by unpaid volunteers – parish members, serving God’s call to help the less fortunate.

Just one example of a person we were able to help was a woman who had been in an abusive marriage for years. Finally she managed to leave and get help for her mental and physical wounds. Although she was very proud, we were able to help her with some of her needs, although she never fails to return her thanks. These are very small tokens of her appreciation to our members for their help, as she regains her life and her dignity, but they mean a great deal to us.

We also have 18 box fans for **FREE** to give out to the elderly or families with small children, who will not have any source of cooling in what promises to be another hot summer. At the time of this writing, there were also funds available to help with electric/air conditioning needs, but these funds are from the main council and require more information and copies of a photo ID. At any given time, there may be funds available through other resources, so please contact us if you know of anyone in need. This includes food needs, as we can direct them to the Arnold Food Pantry for assistance.

We will also have our annual Walk for the Poor in September, at St. Pius High School, along with our other conferences in our district (including St. David’s). We raise funds, by having members walk a mile (in their shoes), getting pledges for that distance (like a walk-a-thon) and **these funds all stay within our conference to help those in our conference.** More information can be obtained by contacting Judy Blume (636) 461-1485 if you wish to donate, or if you wish to be a corporate sponsor and get a sign put up along our walk path.

Once again, thank you all so much for your continued help. And again, we could use your help, not just monetarily, but in volunteer hours. Even if you only have a couple of hours a month to help, please come to a meeting in the **Parish Center**, the **fourth Tuesday of each month, at 7pm**, or contact the hotline number or email the address below.

And as always, if you know of anyone who may be in need of assistance, or you may need assistance yourself, please use the following SVDP phone number: **(636) 321-0002, Option 6** or email us at [svdp@icarnold.org](mailto:svdp@icarnold.org).

*“He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his deed.” ~ Proverbs 19:17*

## **Thank You !!!**