

Whenever There Is Silence

Whenever there is silence around me,
by day or night,
I am startled by a cry.
The first time I heard it,
I went out and searched
and found a man
in the throes of crucifixion.

I went to him and said,
"I will take you down."
And I began to take the nails
out of his hands and his feet.
But he stopped me and said,
"You cannot take me down.
For I cannot come down
until every man, every woman,
and every child in the world
shall come together to take me down.

"But sir," I said, "your cry:
I cannot bear your cry."

"This cry," he told me,
"It is the anguish of those with no food,
of those who thirst, the ones huddled
naked against the cold, the cry of those
who are lonely and in prisons.
This is the cry of the homeless,
of the ones rejected and hated by society.
It is the cry of those whose lives are snuffed
out by anger, hate or fear.
This is the cry of those living on the edge of
war, those made to wander from their
homes in search of peace."

"Then what am I to do?" I asked him.

"Go about the world," he said,
"Tell everyone you meet:
We hang together on this cross."

Adapted by Bill Huebsch from an unknown
source. Based on Matthew 25.



**Society of St. Vincent de
Paul
St. Charles Borromeo
Conference**

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Prepare for Easter with Us

Society of St.
Vincent de Paul,
St. Charles
Borromeo
Conference



Artwork by Mark Hakomaki

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US ...

By doing the traditional things this Lenten season that we have learned to do in the past, you can help us help members of our community who have been hit hard by this economic crisis. By praying, fasting and alms giving you will make more room for God in your life.

These traditions of praying, fasting and giving to others are part of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

The traditional enumeration of the Corporal Works of Mercy are:

To feed the hungry;
To give drink to the thirsty;
To clothe the naked;
To shelter the homeless;
To visit the sick;
To ransom the captive;
To bury the dead.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are:

To instruct the uninformed;
To counsel the doubtful;
To admonish sinners;
To bear wrongs patiently;
To forgive offences willingly;
To comfort the afflicted;
To pray for the living & the dead.

These “Works” are the mission of the Society of St Vincent de Paul every day. Would you consider helping us through your version of the above, instead of “giving up” something for Lent? Please consider this your personal invitation to join us this Lenten Season. See how helping others can help you to make more room for God in your life.

WORKING WITH YOU MAKES US WORK WELL!

Our Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will distribute Easter Food Baskets on Saturday, March 27, 2010.

Our Diaper Drive is on-going through February 2010.

Our members attend Mass at Mullen Manor and at Lakeland with Catholics who can't come to us.

We provide emergency food to approximately 40 families a month (on average).

Your Casserole donations are our way of providing home cooked dinners to families who are struggling in our immediate area. Lauren Palmerchuck is making desserts to go with your dinners as her Girl Scout Silver Project.

Should you be interested in working with us at any time of the year, please contact us.

OUR CROSS OF MERCY & THE JOY OF LENT

By the Baptismal Font is our Cross of Mercy.

Take a slip from the basket for a 2010 Application of one of the Spiritual or Corporal Works of Mercy and take a nail from the Cross to be with you through your Lenten journey.

Our suggestions for examples of the “Works of Mercy” will have actual ways to help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and other Ministries at St. Charles. We hope you will find time to do the example of the “Work of Mercy” sometime during Lent when it fits your schedule. We hope you will consider those you are helping when you are able to do your “Work of Mercy.” How helping others can help you to make more room for God in your life. If time allows, try another, while making room in your heart and life for Jesus on His Resurrection Day.

As the nails are removed from the Cross, we will know how we have made our community better through this Lenten Season. Consider these gifts from God as you prepare for Easter also. There is a lot of Joy during Lent.