



WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS CYCLE B

**1st quarter
January—February—March 2018**

The “Weekly Bulletin Announcements”, based on the Gospel of each Sunday, are suggested for your parish weekly bulletin.

The action statement can easily be adapted to fit your local needs.

This is a very effective way for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to encourage all the members in the parish:

- To have ears to hear the “cries of the poor,”
- To have eyes to “seek and find the forgotten, the suffering or the deprived,” and
- To have hearts that “bring God’s love to the poor” through their generosity and donations.

It is also very effective to use personal stories about who you have served (not using names) and how you have been able to help them.

January 7-Epiphany:

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

January 8-The Baptism of the Lord:

After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” As we give to the poor, we also can hear these same words.

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, know that you are a sign of God’s love to those who are suffering and you give them reason to believe and to trust.

January 14-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today, Jesus asks “What are you looking for?” Often we are looking for happiness in very selfish ways, but we find that when we look for ways to make others happy, it is then that we truly become happy.

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box, know that you are a sign of God’s love to those who are suffering and you give them reason to believe and to trust.

January 21-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus says: “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” As disciples, we are called to continue God’s work on earth. Taking care of God’s poor is indeed living gospel values.

Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

January 28-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today we read that because Jesus spoke with authority his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. As his disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into actions by helping the poor and suffering.

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist _____ families, providing _____ in food, _____ for utility, rent and other bills. May God Bless You!

February 4-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today, we find that Jesus would rise very early before dawn and go to a deserted place to pray and then he went out to preach and to heal.

Please pray for the poor and suffering, knowing that you are bringing the love and peace of Jesus to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.

February 11-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today Jesus moved with pity touched the leper and healed him. Let us pray today for the grace to be generous with our gifts to help those who are suffering.

By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you indeed put your faith into action as you bring healing to the poor, hungry and weeping.

February 18-First Sunday of Lent:

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Your almsgiving in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.

February 25-Second Sunday of Lent:

Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to "give something for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist _____ families, providing _____ in food, _____ for utility, rent and other bills. God Bless You!

March 4-Third Sunday of Lent:

In today's Gospel Jesus is asked "What sign can you show us?" Everyday we can see signs of how God has visited us in the blessings of our lives. Let us be a sign of God's love by being a blessing to others.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can be a sign of God's love to the suffering and poor.

March 11-Fourth Sunday of Lent:

In today's Gospel, God demonstrates great love for us by sending his Son so that we may believe in him. We demonstrate our great love for God by doing good works: reaching out to others, acting in justice and charity.

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Know that your nickel, dime, quarter or dollar is multiplied by the coins placed by others in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.

March 18-Fifth Sunday of Lent:

In the Gospel today, Jesus says "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me." When we help the poor we are truly followers of Jesus, servant of the poor.

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box, know that you are a sign of God's love to those who are suffering and you give them Easter hope and joy.

March 25-Palm Sunday:

Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life.

During Lent, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring the mercy of Jesus into the hearts of the poor, by assisting _____ families, providing _____ in food, _____ in gifts, and _____ for utility and rent bills.