Who We Are

In its 182nd year, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is the largest lay Catholic charitable organization in the world. The Society today has more than 750,000 members operating in 150 countries.

Last year, the Society served more than 47,000 of your neighbors in the Twin Cities area, offering tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person basis. We operate two thrift stores here in the Twin Cities, providing food, clothing and household items to those less fortunate.

“Lord, help me to make time today to serve you in those who are most in need of encouragement or assistance.”

- St. Vincent de Paul
Our Mission
St. Vincent de Paul’s Religious Articles Ministry redistributes religious goods to those in need—free of charge. It can be difficult to part with these items as many of them are blessed and hold spiritual value. We are here to preserve these items.

Our story
After a funeral last year, a local Deacon was approached by a woman whose husband had just passed away. After talking for a while, the woman realized she didn’t have a Rosary of her own, and asked the Deacon if she could have his.

Without a second thought, he handed over his Rosary to someone who needed it more than him.

Upon arriving home, the Deacon told his wife the story. She left the room and returned with a shoe-box full of replacements. It was at this point that the Deacon realized the need to preserve these items and redistribute to those who need them.

He partnered with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, as they specialize in recycling and repurposing items, and the Religious Articles Ministry was born.

Religious Articles
We collect religious articles and blessed items that you no longer have use for. We will refurbish those that need it and redistribute them at various Catholic community events. Some articles we collect are:

- Rosaries
- Crucifixes
- Paintings or portraits
- Statues
- Prayer Chains
- Patron Saint Medals
- Bibles and other religious books
- Necklaces, rings & bracelets
- Other Blessed items

Refurbishing
For those items that have weathered years of use and devotion, we pledge to restore them to the best of our ability. If you have questions on article refurbishing, please contact Ed Koerner at eekoerner@svdpmpls.org.

Collections
St. Vincent de Paul has a long history of working alongside parishes in this community. Whether it’s assisting in service projects or collecting donations after a garage sale, we are proud to service the Twin Cities community.

We ask that you announce to your parish community that SVdP will be holding ongoing collections of these articles and they can drop their donations off in a specific area.

Redistribution
Please consider opening your doors to us and allowing the Society to set up a table and give these precious keepsakes away.

Whether at a parish festival or community gathering, we’d like the opportunity to give these items away to members of your community. There is no charge for the items. We will also be accepting religious article donations at these events.

If you’re interested in preserving these symbols of our faith, please contact St. Vincent de Paul at religiousarticles@svdpmpls.org. Thank you!

Contact Us
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