Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

GOOD SHEPHERD Catholic Parish

# SSVP Community Impact: Parish Update

**June 2026**

Good Shepherd Conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) grounds our work in love of neighbour, compassion, sharing and service. We serve vulnerable members of our community. Many live on their own and on very low incomes. After paying housing costs, they have little left to spend on food.

## Music for the Soul Thank you

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone from the parish community who supported the Music for the Soul event. **Together we raised more than $8,400 for the Good Shepherd Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and lifted the spirits of all who participated.** Special thanks to our parish community, our very talented musical guests, our generous sponsors, friends and silent auction donors and volunteers. Proceeds will help us continue our local outreach and address the growing needs in our community.

| THE DIFFERENCE WE ARE MAKING 2026 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Home Visits (Avg. Week) | Grocery Cards (Avg. Week) | Projected Annual Support |
| 23 | $1,330 | $70,000 |

**We appreciate and welcome your support.** Donations help ensure we can continue to bring food and fellowship to those in need and build a stronger community for everyone. If you can donate financially, you can contribute with your regular collection and use the form below and/or contact the Parish office.

## Good Shepherd Conference of SSVP Donation Form

DONATION TYPE

☐ General

☐ In Memory of _____

☐ In Honour of _____

**Create lasting impact through legacy giving.** If you're interested in making a legacy gift, please contact the Parish Office: office@goodshepherdns.com

DONATION AMOUNT

$ _____

☐ e-Transfer* ☐ Cheque ☐ Cash

☐ Online Canada Helps: SSVP Good Shepherd Parish

*e-transfer to gspbooks@bellaliant.com – in the personal message box, include a note that you're directing the donation to our SSVP Conference. **Please note: tax receipts are issued for all donations.**

| DONOR NAME | DONOR ADDRESS OR ENVELOPE NUMBER |
|---|---|
| TELEPHONE | EMAIL |

**Charitable Registration Number: 132410671 RR 0377**

*"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."*

*Matthew 25:40*

The Good Shepherd Society of Saint Vincent de Paul extends our deepest gratitude to the donors and volunteers that generously support our mission. Together, we have made a meaningful impact in the lives of countless individuals and families in need.

We especially want to acknowledge the volunteers whose commitment has been the foundation for our parish work.



*Pictured above Good Shepherd SSVP Volunteers*

Today the Parish chapter is comprised of 30+ individuals who serve in different roles including:

- **Weekly Visits:** Teams of two take turns serving our neighbours in need;
- **Client Intake**: A team manages the phone messages that come in from clients each week and makes up the weekly visit lists;
- **Social Justice:** A collaborative effort where individuals work with other volunteers across HRM on Social Justice issues;
- **Communications, Events and Fundraising:** A newer component of our work is to support events like the recent Music for the Soul and other fundraising initiatives to engage the Parish community in our work.
- **Leadership:** Our President, Treasurer and other members ensure our Chapter is connected to the larger SSVP community. The leadership also manages the meeting schedule and all aspects of our funding and reporting.

## Make a Difference with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Volunteering with SSVP is a chance to transform lives, one act of kindness at a time. Within our Parish and legacy churches, we have been blessed to have individuals who have contributed a lifetime of service. We acknowledge with gratitude the long-standing support and service of:

- **Bill Bailly:** Bill began volunteering with SSVP at St. Thomas Aquinas Church nearly 20 years ago. He was a regular member of the weekly visit team until 2025.
- **Brian Church:** Brian led the SSVP mission from Canadian Martyrs participating in all aspects of the weekly visits, administration and reporting. Brian continued to be part of the weekly visit team until 2025.
- **Patricia Doyle:** Patricia led the SSVP mission from St. Agnes participating in all aspects of the weekly visits, administration and reporting.
- **Michael Murphy:** Michael led the SSVP mission from St. Thomas Acquinas participating in all aspects of the weekly visits, administration and reporting. Michael continues to serve as a member of the weekly visit team.
- **Bill Ryan:** Bill began his service with SSVP from St. Thomas Acquinas over 15 years ago and continues to serve as part of the weekly visit team.

## How can you get involved?

It only takes a small effort to make a big impact. If you're interested in getting involved and supporting those in need, we want to hear from you. We can always use extra hands with the delivery teams, help to manage the intake calls or with other service opportunities where you can contribute.

*"Volunteering with SSVP is a wonderful way to connect with fellow parishioners and make a meaningful difference in our community. With multiple teams doing home visits, the time commitment can be as little as a few hours every two months."*

To learn more about how you can help, email: societyofsvp.goodshepherd@gmail.com

**Thank you! Our deepest gratitude to the commitment and kindness of our donors and volunteers.**