



St Vincent de Paul Society

VICTORIA

good works

11th June 2020

Dear Father Hugh,

VINNIES ANNUAL WINTER APPEAL

I trust you are keeping warm, safe and well during these challenging times!

It is that time of the year again, when the Society reaches out to the community with its Annual Winter Appeal seeking assistance for the needy in our community. Winter has hit us with a real bang this year and our clients are desperately in need of assistance during these cold and freezing months. In addition, due to COVID-19 the Society's revenues have been adversely impacted by the closure of many of our stores and even those that are operating have had very little foot traffic through their doors. This has affected our ability to assist our clients to the fullest extent due to a lack of funds. Despite these setbacks and the shutdowns, our fantastic group of volunteers, continue to operate, helping the needy in our community. While we cannot conduct face to face home visits, we now speak to our clients on the phone and discuss their issues at length. Any financial aid is then dropped in the client's letter box or in the case of material aid at the client's door step.

Hence, this year we request our parishioners to donate even more generously if possible to the Winter Appeal than they have in the past.

As we cannot speak to parishioners in person at our churches due to COVID restrictions, I would be very grateful if you published this letter and its attachment in your next two weekly news letters to parishioners.

How donations can be made

The Society has introduced an online platform through which parishioners are able to make their donations. A copy of the detailed instructions on how to donate are attached. However, if there are any parishioners who wish to make a cash donation or are unable to access the online platform we can provide them with the usual winter appeal envelopes. Please contact Kathy Mount on 0437 588 855 and she will arrange to provide the envelopes.

In particular, we request parishioners when making their donations online to specify our "Port Melbourne/Middle Park conference" in the comments section. This way the funds will be allocated to our conference.

I strongly encourage parishioners to view this excellent video online which contains a message from the Society's President regarding the winter appeal.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMHjafIUkDo&feature=youtu.be>

Once again we would like to thank you for your great support and encouragement for the good works of our Society in our local community. We also thank all our parishioners for the ongoing support they have given us over the past six years that we have been operating. It means a lot to us as volunteers of the Society.

Yours sincerely,

Gerhard Correa
President – Port Melbourne/Middle Park Conference
Phone: 0400 640 611

APPEAL DONATION PROCESSES

With this appeal, we are making the transition over to digital.

There will be no cash collection for this appeal as there are currently no (or limited) church masses due to COVID-19. We have not produced parish envelopes for the same reason. If you must use envelopes you may utilise unused envelopes from previous appeals.

As such, all parishioners wanting to donate are now to be directed to donate via:

- Phone by calling **13 18 12** or
- Online at vinnies.org.au

Donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible.

PROCESSING DONATION TYPES

DONATION TYPE	PROCEDURE
PHONE DONATIONS	<p>Donate over the phone using a credit card by calling 13 18 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Donors can allocate donations to a specific conference by giving the name of the conference over the phone• Receipts will be issued by the Fundraising Team
ONLINE DONATIONS	<p>To make an online donation, direct donors to vinnies.org.au</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Donors can allocate donations to a specific conference by putting the conference name in the “comments” field• Receipts will be automatically emailed out to donors

Although we are transitioning to digital, if you do receive offline donations from parishioners, see below for instructions:

CASH DONATIONS can be banked directly into the St Vincent de Paul Society using W20 and your conference ID as the reference. The bank details are:

Account Name: St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Gift Fund

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 063 000

Account No: 106 07556

Reference: W20 + your conference ID

- Send an email to the Fundraising Team.donation@svdp-vic.org.au advising of deposit date and amount, donor name, phone and address details so receipts can be issued

CHEQUE AND CREDIT CARD DONATIONS (VISA, MasterCard, AMEX) received through the parish or conference are to be forwarded to Central Office for processing:

Fundraising Team

St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria

Locked Bag 4800

Box Hill VIC 3128

- All donors whose cards are declined will be followed up by the Fundraising Team.

Note: Please stamp all donations with your conference stamp, and funds will be allocated back to your conference in the Society's finance system, usually in the following month.