

# St. Vincent de Paul Church

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June 1, 2012

Dear Members of St. Vincent de Paul,

I am writing to you to ask you to be a part of our parish campaign for the Financial Aid Endowment at St. James & John School.

Over the 39 years of my ministry here at St. Vincent's, we have worked together to establish a Community of Word, Sacrament and Service, and to ensure its future. We have managed to achieve a lot together. Our parish, though it remains small, is thriving, and its ministries are many. To guarantee the future of our church, we have established our Historic Trust Fund, and have built it up to a little over three million dollars, so that we do not have to fear for the future of our building, and can concentrate on our ministries.

But one of our most effective ministries, our parish school, St. James and John, has to this point remained without a means to guarantee its future. Because so many of the families we serve are poor and need financial aid to match the financial sacrifices they are making for their children, and because we have been unable to raise enough money on an annual basis to meet this need, there is a grave need for a Financial Aid Endowment.

The Archdiocese recognizes this need, and has allowed us to run a campaign for this endowment instead of participating in their current major capital campaign.

I see this as a great opportunity to safeguard the future of this school. If we are successful, I can semi-retire next year secure in the knowledge that we have established the future of both our parish and our school.

I ask you to read and consider carefully all the material in our case statement, and to join me (yes, I am making my own gift, though I am unable to endow more than one scholarship myself) in making this effort a success. Whatever sacrifice you can make, Thank You, and God bless you for all that you do,

Peace and love,

Pastor