

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Conference SVDP Report 2023

Since Frederick Ozanam founded the society in 1833, it has changed to meet the needs of modern society but visiting the poor in their home remains the basic function of the local conference. The State Council of SVDP has expanded its work into aged and community care and housing in response to needs and these activities engage many permanent highly qualified staff. The Vinnies Stores provide recycled clothing and furniture and earn funds to support the charitable works as well as providing affordable clothing and furniture.

Mt Carmel parish has a St Vincent de Paul Conference of eighteen members and the conference is blessed with very generous parishioners.

On behalf of the people who have benefitted from your generosity, the Conference at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel thanks you for your support over the past year. Your conference made 367 calls to 121 people from 83 families and individuals for the year to 30/11/2023. All of the calls were from Mt Carmel Parish and parts of Regina Caeli Parish.

Financial Report

Receipts		Expenditure	
Opening Balance 1/12/2022	\$37,197.52		

Catholic Leader	\$840.00	Catholic Leader	\$684.00
Pious Stall	\$285.00	Pious Stall	\$230.44
Secret Collection (SVDP members)	\$1,221.60	Australian Catholic Magazine	\$520.00
Poor Box	\$1,121.90	Twinned Conferences Assistance	Nil
Donations including Christmas		Coles Gift Cards (food)	\$31,485.00
Collection	\$20,331.18	Other Assistance - Rent	\$4,244.20
Bank Interest	\$760.89	- Electricity and gas	\$1,175.29
Children's Education fund		- White goods	\$2,125.00
(from SVDP State Council)	\$2,524.00	- Car registration etc.	\$1581.40
		- Education costs	\$1620.00
		- Other expenses	\$1773.18

Total Receipts	\$27,084.57	Total Expenditure	\$45,448.51
		Closing Balance	\$18,833.58
\$64,282.09		\$64,282.09	

In addition, the SVDP Conference gave vouchers from the Vinnies and furniture stores:

- Clothing to 31 families valued at \$1200
- Furniture to 21 families for a store value of \$4606.

The "Other expenses" include cash totaling \$569 given to several families by visiting members to relieve immediate needs such as cash for "go cards" and track travelers who continue to arrive after evening mass and request emergency relief, medical expenses and telephone costs.

The funds held by the conference includes \$1605.80 donated by the parish in 2015 for assistance to refugees from Syria. So far there has not been any call on these funds.

Assistance provided this year was \$18,000 more than what the conference received this year and much more than previous years, which reflected the increased number of people seeking help and increases in the cost of living. We expect this trend will continue into next year.

From the Christmas food donations from the church and the school, 50 Christmas hampers of washing baskets filled with goodies were distributed to needy families. The hampers were well received. Thank you to the mothers at the school who assembled these hampers.

We trust that you will continue to support the SVDP Conference so it can continue to assist our companions on your behalf.

Duncan Stuart,
Member, Our Lady of Mt Carmel Conference.