

We know that all of you are experiencing the impact of this unprecedented pandemic in one way or another. Some of you may be feeling out-of-sorts or inconvenienced. Some of you may be suffering because you or someone you care about is ill, at-risk, or experiencing serious disruption and challenges in their lives. Our hearts go out to you.

In response to the critical needs arising here, and indeed around the world, many organizations and groups are providing opportunities to help those in need. Here at Mary Queen of Peace, our Saint Vincent de Paul (SVdP) ministry is in a unique position to have an immediate and dramatic impact on the lives of our Sammamish neighbors who, because of unexpected loss of income, are suddenly unable to pay bills and put food on the table.

The number of calls we received in the last two weeks was four times the number received during the same period last year. Many of the neighbors we are now helping express distress at having to ask for help, as they had always prided themselves in their self-sufficiency. Some need a bridge to when they can receive government assistance, and still others need help because they will not share fully in the benefits of those programs. No matter the circumstances, SVdP is here to help, and we want to make sure any parishioner who finds themselves in need during this challenging time knows they have a place to turn. If you are a parishioner who needs financial assistance, please call the parish office at, 425-391-1178, extension 194, and leave a message and SVdP will promptly return your call.

We also know that many of you want to do something to alleviate the suffering of those around you. You want to offer your help and be a source of comfort and of hope in your community. St. Vincent de Paul offers you a pathway to immediately impact your neighbors in distress. Our volunteers are working every single day to assist Sammamish residents in need. If you'd like to help, you can do so by going to [mqp.org](http://mqp.org), clicking the Give tab, selecting Stewardship of Treasure, and clicking on the St. Vincent de Paul logo. Once there, you will see Events and Collections; click on the St. Vincent de Paul logo on the left side of the screen to make a donation. You can also mail a check to the parish office made out to St. Vincent de Paul.

We feel humbled and blessed to be part of a parish that has responded time and time again with incredible generosity. We want you to know that when we help someone, we always give credit to you, the parishioners. Through our work, on your behalf, we express the solidarity of the Mary Queen of Peace community with those in the larger community. On behalf of all those who have benefitted, we thank you.