

Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
Naples District Council

See the face  
of Christ.



Be the face  
of Christ.



# The Samaritan



*“No act of charity is foreign to the Society”*

## SVdP Naples Receives \$1 Million Gift to Create The McDonagh Family Life Enhancement Program

At the SVdP Naples Donor Appreciation *Breakfast in Paris 1833* (see pg. 2) SVdP Naples Council President John Javaruski, Executive Director Kim Schul, and Development Director Bill Allen announced the receipt of a \$1 million donation from the estate of Thomas P. & Gloria S. McDonagh. The gift will establish The McDonagh Family Life Enhancement Program.



SVdP Naples provides financial, food, furniture, and other assistance to Collier County working families struggling through a financial crisis. In order to help families avoid future financial struggles, SVdP Naples created the Life Skills Program in 2021. Families can attend free financial literacy, credit management, and employment skills classes; learning how to earn more, spend less, and search for more lucrative employment opportunities.

“While education often leads to higher income levels, many families cannot take time off, quit their jobs, or work part-time to pursue a certificate, degree, or training program that will qualify them for a higher-paying position” said Kim Schul. “We’ve always wanted to take Life Skills to the next level by creating a program that helps families achieve their dream of financial stability. With this generous gift, we can now offer families The McDonagh Life Enhancement Program.”

“The Life Enhancement Program (LEP) will enable Life Skills graduates to partner with SVdP Naples and receive financial assistance (food, rent, utilities, etc.), mentoring, and monitoring while working part-time and completing a certificate, degree or training program. It offers working families the opportunity to enhance their economic, financial, and career trajectory, benefiting the LEP candidate and their entire family. The McDonagh Family’s generous gift will improve countless lives in our community” said John Javaruski.

## The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Naples District Council

### Family Assistance Center & Administrative Offices

4451 Mercantile Ave  
Naples, FL 34104  
Monday—Friday  
9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

### Naples Thrift Store

3810 Tamiami Trail East  
Naples, FL 34112

### Bonita Springs Thrift Store & Boutique

3725 Bonita Beach Road  
Bonita Springs, FL 34134

### Thrift Store Hours

Monday—Saturday  
9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.  
Sunday  
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

### Meals on Wheels

239-775-0443

[www.svdpnnaples.org](http://www.svdpnnaples.org)

# What's Happening @ SVdPNaples ...



## *Breakfast in Paris 1833!*

... Thanking, Informing, Entertaining, & Inspiring our Donors!

SVdP Naples welcomed 60 donors and guests to its Donor Appreciation Breakfast on April 8<sup>th</sup> at St. John the Evangelist Church.



SVdP Naples donors were *thanked* for their financial support, *informed* of FY2023-2024 accomplishments, *entertained* by a one-act play featuring: St. Vincent de Paul, Frederic Ozanam, and Sister Rosalie Rendu; played by three aspiring actors from FSW's Theatre Program, and *inspired* by the launch of **The McDonagh Family Life Enhancement Program**.

### **The McDonagh Family Life Enhancement Program**



**Todd & Georgette McDonagh** (pictured at left) said, *"Dad was always helping families through his work at SVdP. He would have loved this new program and how it will help families increase their income ... so they will no longer need assistance."*

Thanks to a \$1 million bequest from Thomas P. & Gloria S. McDonagh, SVdP Naples can begin making the dreams of career advancement and higher income a reality for Collier County families. Prior to his passing, Tom McDonagh served as St. William SVdP Conference president and a member of the Naples Board of Directors in the early 2000s.

To qualify for the Life Enhancement Program, individuals and heads of households must successfully complete the SVdP Naples Life Skills Program and be committed to implementing, with SVdP Naples' help, a "personal success plan" that will result in a higher-paying job or position.



*Look Who Came to Breakfast!*

### **"SVdP & the Society Founders"**

Frederic Ozanam (Cooper Stone)  
Sr. Rosalie Rendu (Isabella Ginart)  
St. Vincent de Paul (Ian Buttton)

#### **Watch:**

<https://youtu.be/5GoaO0yHIZI?si=GnxOoDO-mXmBA9s2>

Listen to the Society of SVdP founders describe the unique approach that continues, after nearly 200 years, to define how SVdP helps those in need in communities around the globe, including here in Naples / Collier County

**FY2023-2024**

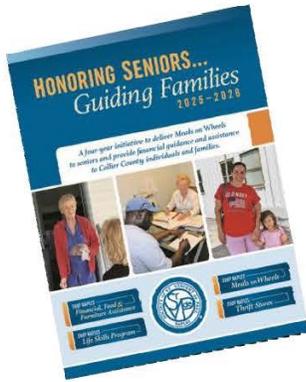
**\$2.11+ Million in Assistance**

**Impacting 42,100 Collier County  
Individuals & Children**



**Learn more!**

**Ballen@SVdPNaples.org**



**SVdP Naples' HSGF 2025-2028 four-year initiative sets performance objectives, along with matching fundraising goals, for programs serving Collier County seniors, individuals, and families.**

***Honoring Seniors ... Guiding Families 2025- 2028*** ensures that every contribution and grant dollar is spent on the following programs ...

**SVdP NAPLES**  
**Financial, Food & Furniture Assistance**

**Financial, Food, and Furniture Assistance:**

SVdP Naples turns financial, food (Choice Pantry), and furniture (Thrift Store) donations into life-changing temporary assistance for financially-struggling individuals and families. In FY2023-2024, SVdP Naples provided over \$2.1 million in Financial, Food, and Furniture Assistance directly impacting over 42,100 Collier County seniors, adults, and children.



**SVdP NAPLES**  
**Meals on Wheels**

**Meals on Wheels:**

SVdP Naples operates the largest privately-funded Meals on Wheels operation in Collier County, delivering 60,000 meals in FY2024-2025. SVdP Naples receives no government funding for its Meals on Wheels program. With your help, SVdP Naples will be able to deliver 77,000 meals to homebound seniors and disabled adults by FY2028-2029.



**SVdP NAPLES**  
**Life Skills Program**

**Life Skills Program:**

SVdP Naples equips struggling families with the knowledge & confidence to achieve financial stability through a series of free classes in financial literacy, credit management, and job search / employment skills.

**The McDonagh Family Life Enhancement Program:** Life Skills graduates may qualify to make their dreams of career advancement and higher income levels a reality through a structured partnership with SVdP Naples.



**SVdP NAPLES**  
**Thrift Stores**

**Thrift Stores—Naples & Bonita Springs**

SVdP Naples is ready to pick up your thrift store donations free of charge ... just call Joe D. @ 239.775.2907x1016.

**Our Video Series is Coming Back Soon!**

***What's Happening @ SVdP Naples!*** with Kim Schul and Bill Allen



**Call Bill Allen @ 239.775.2907 x1020 to donate, make an IRA RMD charitable gift, or just chat about SVdP Naples!**



**Pope Francis**  
**Jorge Mario Bergolio**  
**1936-2025**



*“Let us imitate the Good Samaritan, who does not turn away from suffering” - Pope Francis*



## TRIBUTES

Tributes made between October 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025

We make every effort to include and accurately publish all tributes. If you notice an omission or error, please call us at (239) 775-2907

***In Memory of Frank Brinker***  
*Frances & John Bertolie*

***In Memory of Larry Mills***  
*Geraldine Daum*

***In Honor of Jennifer & Nickolas Barris***  
*Thomas & Angela Barris*

***In Memory of J. Francis Dielenhein***  
*Geraldine Dielenhein*

***In Memory of Ann Papariello***  
*Gerald & Kathleen Papariello*

***In Honor of Scott Cookenmaster***  
*Thomas & Angela Barris*

***In Memory of Mario Gentile***  
*Jeff Buonforte*

***In Memory of Paul T. Power***  
*David T. Power*

***In Honor of Nora Gibson***  
*Randall & Sharon Tedhams*

***In Memory of Herman Lapointe***  
*Colette McKeon*

***In Memory of Sylvia E. Watkins***  
*Gerald Larsen*

***In Honor of Karl & Elizabeth Haas***  
*William DeJong*

***In Memory of Dan & Joan Mahoney***  
*Linda Mahoney*

***In Honor of Jenny & Urs***  
*Josephine Odio*

***In Honor of Dave Morehouse Sr.***  
*Morehouse Family*

***In Memory of Bill McGarry***  
*Anonymous*

***In Honor of Peter & Kathleen***  
*Josephine Odio*

***In Honor of Pedro Wasmer***  
*Josephine Odio*

**Get The Samaritan Emailed to You!**

**The Samaritan**

**Quicker Delivery for You & Less Expensive for SVdP Naples!**

SIGN UP to receive **The Samaritan** delivered directly to your email inbox.

Stay up to date on our mission, programs, and how your donations impact thousands of seniors, individuals, and families in our community.

You'll receive it sooner and save precious dollars for SVdP Naples.

To receive **The Samaritan** by email, please send an email to [Ballen@SVdPNaples.org](mailto:Ballen@SVdPNaples.org).

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR GIFT TO ST. VINCENT de PAUL, NAPLES DISTRICT COUNCIL:**

I would like to make a difference in the lives of my Collier County neighbors by supporting the mission and programs of St. Vincent de Paul: **Meals on Wheel / Financial Assistance to Struggling Families / Choice Food Pantry / SVdP Thrift Stores.**

*[All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law]*

**Credit Card:**  Visa  Master Card  
 American Express  Discover

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CV# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check:**  
 \$1,000  \$750  \$500  \$250  
 \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
St. Vincent de Paul, Naples District Council, Inc.

**Online Giving:** Make your gift online at  
[www.svdpnacles.org/donate](http://www.svdpnacles.org/donate)

**Your Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Matching Gift:** This gift will be matched by (Company): \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift in Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_ **/ In Honor of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Gift Acknowledgement to:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Me More Information:**  Planned Giving  SVdP Future Plans  Volunteering

**Questions or More Information:** Bill Allen, Director of Development  
ballen@svdpnacles.org, 239.775.2907 x1020

## ***Building Your Lasting Legacy***

As the years pass, we find ourselves wondering how we will be remembered. Is there something that a testamentary gift (or combination of lifetime and testamentary giving) could create that would constitute a “lasting legacy” of our desire to help others in Collier County?

It might be funding a Life Skills classroom, expanding an existing program like Meals on Wheels, contributing toward a new building, or funding a new creative approach to helping others in Collier County.



SVdP Naples offers a myriad of opportunities to leave a “Lasting Legacy” ... whether anchored to an existing SVdP Naples program (Meals on Wheels; Financial, Food, and Furniture Assistance; Life Skills; Life Enhancement) or a unique way of ensuring that more Collier County families achieve financial stability.

We hope you’ll consider building your lasting legacy in partnership with SVdP Naples, one of the most impactful, privately-funded nonprofits in our community.

To explore how to **Build Your Lasting Legacy**, please contact SVdP Naples’ Development Director, William J. (Bill) Allen, JD, CFRE at (239)775-2907x1020 or [BAllen@SVdPNaples.org](mailto:BAllen@SVdPNaples.org)



Helping others has been a part of Sylvia Ruiz-Byrne’s DNA since her days as an employee/student at the University of Mount St. Vincent in New York. Sylvia recalls, “One of my mentors was Sister John, a Sister of Charity, an order founded by St. Vincent de Paul, so I was thrilled in 2014 to begin volunteering at the SVdP Naples Thrift Store.”

While working at the Thrift Store, a fellow Vincentian discovered Sylvia’s Spanish-English bilingualism and suggested that Sylvia use that talent to help with casework. Following her move to casework, she soon enlisted her husband, Michael, to join SVdP Naples.

"In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma in 2017, I was recruited to SVdP Naples by Sylvia and Donna Merlin, the then-president of St. Peter’s SVdP Conference, to help with hurricane relief," Michael recounts. Since then the couple has become a dynamic team, conducting home visits and providing assistance to those in need as part of the St. Peter the Apostle SVdP Conference.

Both Sylvia and Michael come from humble beginnings and find their work to be “truly an honor and blessing to be able to help others at this stage of our lives.” When asked, Michael said, “The major issue we face as caseworkers is the magnitude of need here in Naples.” Sylvia adds, “At the same time, it is so rewarding being able to meet and assist so many wonderful and grateful people.”

Sylvia and Michael met on a St. Mary’s (Mount Vernon, NY) parish cruise in 2004, were married in 2008, and moved to Naples in 2014. In addition to their work at SVdP Naples, the couple finds time to enjoy family, friends, travel, golf, tennis, pickleball, and gardening.

# SVdP Naples welcomes and thanks our new volunteers!



## Council Caseworkers

Zoraida Barnett

## St. Agnes Conference

Douglas D'Agata

Rosemary Dresch

Michael Fader

David Smith

## St. Finbarr Conference

Bonnie Cosaletto

Laura Ruberto

Helene (Lee) Wise

## St. John the Evangelist Conference

Karen Buhs

Michael (Bill) Butler

Thomas Campbell

Frank Golden

Peter Griffin

Brian Kelly

Mary Ann LaPerch

Catherine Szczerbaniuk

## St. Peter the Apostle Conference

Terry Coyle

Florence (Flossy) Maurer

Meghan Morehouse

Jean Wheatley

## St. William Conference

Kevin Conley

Bernadette McCarthy

Walter Unit

## Bonita Store

Linda Barker

Geraldine (Geri) Brown

Karen Buhs

Samuel Edsel

Nancy Kaufmann

Frank Matteo

Ellen Menes ale

Cheri Morris

John Morris

Nancy Nowak

Jennifer Potrawski

Margaret Senge

John Steensma

Martin Thiel

Victoria (Vikki) Verno

Donna Wallin

Howard Wallin

Elaine Wenning

Helene (Lee) Wise

## Naples Store

Michaelm Gervino

Kathleen Harmeyer

Joanne Heavy

Barbara Hohman

Mary Fran Huck

Mary Ann Iommazzo

Robert Iommazzo

Kim Smith

Elizabeth Sullivan

Patricia Vasquez

John Wezner

Karen Wezner

## Food Pantry

Christina Alaimo

Linda Alaimo

Kathleen Conley

Dan Doll

Diane Doll

## Food Pantry

Catherine Donlin

Carol Glarner

Dennis and Valerie Ingui

Brian & Rhonda Kelly

Nicole Marino

Teresa Martinez

Frank Matteo

Florence (Flossy) Maurer

Chris Pawlowicz

Susan Schilling

Frank Serraro

Ruthn Stedman

Jean Strassman

Karla Van Fleet

Eugene Waight

Jordan West

Mariellen Young

Nina Zadotti

Susan Zingales

## Meals On Wheels

Sheila Argyle

Cheryl Boergsson

Magdana Bolzani

Denise & Tom Carro

Pamela Commette

Kenneth Commette

Sheila Degan

Valerie Dornema

Margaret Hunt

Mary Ann Iommazzo

Robert Iommazzo

Mary Kaple

Lauren Kuhl

John Lammers

Tim Mannix

Marguerite Manos

Kathryn Olson

Evie Packard

Julie Panson

Andrew Pince

David Pince

Meg Pince

Christy Schmitt

Tom Sukay

Kathleen Thompson

Tim Thompson

Howard Wagner

Mary Weber

Barbara Wielosinski

Don Yasek

Patricia Zdankiewicz

## SVdP Naples 2025 Golf Tournament

... *Our golfers & sponsors put the "fun" in "fundraising"!*

On April 28, golfers, sponsors and friends of SVdP Naples met at Vineyards Country Club for the 8th Annual SVdP Naples Golf Tournament. After Fr. Bob Kantor's prayer of thanksgiving for the mission of SVdP Naples (and the beautiful weather), 75+ golfers set out to have some fun raising money for the programs of SVdP Naples.



Our Event Sponsors (Redwood Partners, AMDG Naples 100, Truist Wealth, FP&L, and others) and golfers raised over \$15,000 to help fund SVdP Naples' Meals on Wheels, Financial Assistance, and other programs. At dinner, everyone was reminded that SVdP Naples is funded exclusively by individual, corporate, foundation, and community group donors. SVdP Naples receives NO direct government or Catholic Church funding.



A Special Thanks to Diane Van Parys, SVdP Naples Board member & Development Committee chair for being the "Chief Golf Organizer" for eight (8) years! Diane and the Golf Committee are asking that if you have experience planning & executing golf tournaments, please give Development Director Bill Allen a call (239.775.2907x1020).

... It's never too early to start planning next year's FUN!



## Schedule an "SVdP Naples Day" at your Community!

Residents of gated communities are often seeking a safe, reliable and convenient way to donate large and small furniture, household goods, and nonperishable food to a local charity.

SVdP Naples now offers communities a dedicated "pick up day" to make donations easy for you and your community members.

On your SVdP Naples Day, one SVdP truck will pick up large furniture donations (by appointment) while another truck, parked at your clubhouse, will accept donations of smaller household goods and nonperishable food items. Food donations stock the SVdP Naples Choice Pantry, while furniture and household goods are given to families in need or sold through SVdP Naples Thrift Stores in Naples & Bonita Springs.

Pelican Marsh, Bay Colony, and other communities have partnered with SVdP Naples to help community members in need, while also providing a convenient and reliable service to their residents.

To start the process, please connect Bill Allen of SVdP Naples with your community's GM or foundation director to plan your SVdP Naples Day. (239) 775-2907x1020 or [Ballen@SVdPNaples.org](mailto:Ballen@SVdPNaples.org)

## SVdP Naples Experiencing Record Food Pantry Activity



**In April 2025, over 1,600 families visited the SVdP Naples Food Pantry at our Family Assistance Center. SVdP Naples provided over \$136,000 in food assistance to these local families.**

Our pantry is a "choice food pantry" allowing our neighbors to receive items that they need and will use, thus, reducing the unnecessary waste of unwanted items.

We offer non-perishable foods and hygiene items, supplemented by milk, eggs, fresh vegetables, and baked goods (when donated).

To streamline operations, SVdP Naples utilizes a Card ID system that creates a faster, more efficient process.



### How can you help?

**Volunteer** to sort donations, stock shelves, and help families input their data and shop the pantry.

**Connect SVdP Naples with your HOA** for a future community food drive to help stock the shelves. Call Bill Allen at 239.775.2907x1020 with your HOA contact.

**Donate.** SVdP Naples seeks food and financial donations from individuals, foundations, residential communities, churches, community groups, and other organizations.



Go to [SVdPNaples.org/Donate](https://SVdPNaples.org/Donate) to support our Choice Pantry and Food Assistance programs, like Meals on Wheels.



### SVdP Naples Board of Directors

Deacon Hugh Muller, Spiritual Advisor

John Javaruski, President

Chuck Drago, Vice President

Alice Brady, 2nd Vice President

Fran Javaruski, Recording Secretary

Tom Bohardt, Secretary

John Goddard, Treasurer, President,

St. Agnes Conference

Tom Tette, Assistant Treasurer

Gene Carr, President, St. Ann Conference

Diane Van Parys, President,

St. Elizabeth Seton

Colleen DelDebbio, President, St. Finbarr

Robert Westenberg, President,

St. John the Evangelist Conference

Pam Black, President, St. Peter the

Apostle Conference

Joseph Hamberger, President, St. William

Anita Creamer, President Emeritus

### SVdP Naples Staff

Kim Schul, Executive Director

Samantha Maturo, Program Director

Bill Allen, Development Director

Kim Tucker, Sr. Accountant

Joe Demkosky, Dispatch/Building Mgr.

Kathleen Casey, Volunteer Coordinator

Brianna Cox, Exec. Admin Assistant

Carol Harris, MOW Coordinator

Hilda Mowbray, Intake Specialist

Berlye Derival, Intake Specialist Assistant

Jerry Fenelon, District Store Mgr.

Manuel Alcantara, Store Mgr.

Catherine Sciandra, Asst. Store Mgr.

Ida Martinez, Asst. Store Mgr.

Ethan Sawyer, Asst. Store Mgr.

Store Staff & Drivers:

Anthony Alphonse Aaron DeLeon

Leo DeLeon Alex Hernandez

Albert Hunt David Phillips

Juan Saldivar Will Sirenord



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
Naples District Council  
4451 Mercantile Avenue  
Naples, FL 34104**

**Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 192  
Naples, FL**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

SVdP NAPLES  
*Financial, Food &  
Furniture Assistance*

SVdP NAPLES  
*Thrift Stores*

SVdP NAPLES  
*Life Skills Program*

SVdP NAPLES  
*Meals on Wheels*

**SVdP Naples Calendar of Events**

**Monday, May 26**

Memorial Day Holiday Stores and FAC closed

**Thursday, June 12**

Ozanam Orientation 9:00am @ FAC

**Friday, July 4**

Independence Day Stores and FAC closed

**Friday, August 15**

Feast of the Assumption

**Monday, September 1**

Labor Day Stores and FAC closed

**Tuesday, September 9**

Feast Day of Blessed Frederick Ozanam, Founder,  
Society of SVdP