

2018 St. Vincent de Paul Ozanam Humanitarian Recipient

ST. BERNARD CONFERENCE was formed in 2007 when a few St. Bernard parishioners saw the need for a Saint Vincent De Paul conference in Hastings. The parishioners met every Friday after Mass with two critical elements established. First, they would pray at every meeting. Not just a brief opening, closing prayer but Morning Prayer and prayers for the sick, and needy. Second, they would do no fundraising. Their philosophy, “If we serve the needs of the less fortunate, support will come.”



With the gift of the Spirit guiding them to be Vincentians others began to give the financial resources needed. They were able to provide help with rent, utilities, special needs, and some transportation assistance.

In January 2017 the need came to reorganize the SVDP Carrolltown Pantry. Fearing over 140 families would no longer have food assistance the SVDP St. Bernard Conference took the lead and kept the pantry operating at the thrift store.

They then began the project to build a new facility to serve even more people in the area. Nearly two years later, the St Bernard food pantry is operating out of their new building.

Then when the need arose to reorganize the Prince of Peace Conference, St. Bernard’s Conference, again, stepped up and assumed the task of serving those in need in the Northern Cambria area providing home visits and financial assistance. They continue to mentor the members of the Prince of Peace/St. Nicholas Conference.

Sandy Inzana, Holy Name Church and St. Mark’s Kitchen Committee in Altoona were also recipients this year.