

## St Vincent de Paul Report

As most parishioners are aware, our Conference of St Vincent de Paul, lost our esteemed president, Cedric Menezes, to stroke, last year and I became acting President. We continued on with our work, albeit in a Covid 19 restricted way, these last six months. However, ill health, new work requirements and other commitments, have resulted in resignations from 6 of our 8 members and Sr Karin, our inspirational Spiritual Director, has also retired. As a drive to recruit new members was unsuccessful, this effectively puts our Conference into recess. We are currently working through the steps required of us: informing Wellington National Council, closing the ASB account and tidying up loose ends.

What's next? Former members will continue on where possible with works of charity in the Vincentian way – but without the name. The donation boxes, which have been a fixture in our church for the best part of 90 years, will be relabelled “Foodbank” and the funds administered by the PPC on behalf of the Caring Committee. As stewards of donated funds, St V de P has been blessed with proficient treasurers over the years, and money has been passed on to International Appeals as well as needs nearer home. In recent times, more funds have gone into providing food for the parish foodbank which works so well, on all our behalf. In the past, whenever a call has gone out for goods and appliances for those in need, the response has been immediate and generous. We are grateful to our parish family for years and years of caring and giving and we are sure that generosity will continue to support our community.

I wish to thank our long-serving and faithful, outgoing officers: Antonia Butchard, Secretary, Maria Bing Treasurer, and members Jo Noble, Marina and Cedric Menezes, –also Sr Karin Christieson of the Marist Sisters, our Spiritual Director for more than 6 years. I also thank Owen Knock and Tony Brebner, who will remain Vincentians, perhaps as members of another Conference. Many thanks too, to Patrick Faughey and other associate members for their past practical assistance.

We thank God for the service of all former St Vincent de Paul members, living and dead, who have served the Society in St Marys, Mt Albert for more than 90 years.

Kathleen Faughey

President