

## VINNIES – HELPING HANDS

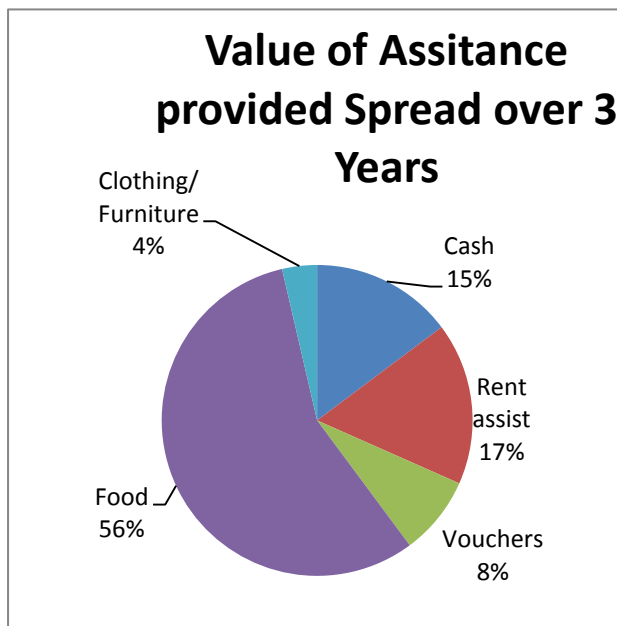
***Every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully part of society.*** (Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel)

Our OLR Vinnies Conference has consistently provided needed and tangible support to those less fortunate in our community and we are grateful for the support we have received from the parish and in particular the generous contributions by our parishioners.

The Society takes a holistic approach to those we assist. Our mission is to give people a hand-up. We, at OLR, provide both a hand – up as well as occasionally a hand out. We seek out the excluded and marginalised and approach them as equals. We sincerely commit ourselves to the deeper needs and well-being of those we assist, by listening and understanding beyond words. Even in Kenmore and surrounding areas, there are people who are enduring tragic circumstances and mostly from events beyond their control.

We interact with people with compassion and an open mind without prejudice or condemnation. We allow those in need to communicate with us and we listen to them to discern their needs. We operate within the rules and requirements of the Society as a whole and in doing so, we have a consistent approach in respecting the dignity of the individual, sharing our hope and encouraging people to take control of their own destiny, where possible.

In our parish, we have assisted those in need in many ways, not only by providing an opportunity to hear their stories but also in practical ways. The following indicates broadly the assistance we have provided over the last 3 years.



This year our expenditure has been as follows:

Assistance Provided	Expenditure
Motor Vehicle	\$2,180
Fuel	\$945
Education	\$1,505
Food Purchased	\$367
GoCards	\$90
Phone	\$100
Relocation, Fridges and other white goods	\$963
Rent	\$2,110

We also receive generous support from Food Bank and value of this food distributed is not included above.

We thank the parish for their generous support and we continue to rely on our parishioners to enable us to provide this service.

**WINTER APPEAL WEEKEND OF THE 10/11 June to be taken up in the Parish**

Pino Gigante

President OLR Vinnies Conference