



About Us

PROJECT STARFISH:

Our annual Lenten service project assists St. Vincent de Paul and Catholic Community Services in helping the homeless of our area. Our school community joins together to raise money to facilitate getting families into housing, paying a month or two for rent, and helping to stock their new homes with basic necessities.

Project Starfish is a plan to provide something beyond shelter as a way to help families break out of the cycle of homelessness by working through problems that contribute to homelessness with the support of our local social service agencies. The families are also being asked to contribute something in return by doing volunteer work.

"Once upon a time, there was a wise man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work.

One day, as he was walking along the shore, he looked down the beach and saw a human figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself at the thought of someone who would dance to the day, and so, he walked faster to catch up.

As he got closer, he noticed that the figure was that of a young man, and that what he was doing was not dancing at all. The young man was reaching down to the shore, picking up small objects, and throwing them into the ocean.

He came closer still and called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young man paused, looked up, and replied, "Throwing starfish into the ocean."

"I must ask, then, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" asked the somewhat startled wise man.

To this, the young man replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die."

Upon hearing this, the wise man commented, "But, young man, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile? You can't possibly make a difference!"

At this, the young man bent down, picked up yet another starfish, and threw it into the ocean. As it met the water, he said, "It made a difference for that one."

One Home, One Family at a Time. . .



About Us

We invite our St. Paul Parish School community to join together in support of Project Starfish, our annual Lenten outreach project. With support of trained SVDP social service workers, our donations assist area families with emergency housing needs and ongoing support services. Recipient families are asked to contribute something in return by doing volunteer work.

School Starfish Events:

Ash Wednesday through Easter: Classroom donations

March 6: Pancake Breakfast
Sunday after 8 am and 10:30 am Mass
(coordinated by the 7th graders)

March 8, 9, 10: Book Sale
(coordinated by the 5th graders)

March 16: Spaghetti Dinner and art sale in the Parish Hall
(coordinated by Preschool through 4th and 8th graders)

March 30: Roaring Rapids Pizza Night
5 pm - 9 pm

April 19: Papa's Pizza Night (bring your flyer!)

Annual Bird-a-thon:

For the 11th consecutive year, seeing a lot of different birds in one day by the Cornwell-Bricher family can add up to a BIG donation to Project Starfish! We invite you to make a pledge and sponsor this project as we see how many different species of birds can be seen on one long day of birdwatching. Last year, just over 100 species were spotted and raised over \$1,000 for Project Starfish! Over the past 10 years, more than \$13,000 in pledges have been raised due to generous and enthusiastic donors - please help make this year another great success! Make a pledge at mariebricher@gmail.com or call Marie or her sons Jacob Cornwell or David Cornwell at 541-302-8024 (no calls after 9 pm please).