

“Making our call to one of our suffering neighbors, we tried to visualize the owner of the soft drawl calling for assistance,” the Vincentian said. The woman to whom she was speaking was a wheelchair-bound woman with multiple medical issues living in a one-bedroom apartment. A woman with a great heart and love for her family, she had been distressed when her pregnant granddaughter had been cast out of her home. She had offered her a place to stay, so the granddaughter and her baby began living with her, sleeping on a cot in an extra closet in her apartment. Providing for herself and them had drained her limited resources so she had missed her rental payments.

The granddaughter has recently secured a place for herself and her baby and is moving out, but this neighbor is now faced with a large overdue rental debt. As the Vincentians listened to the woman tell her story, in a sad, weeping voice, they were awed by the faith that was shining through her tears. “I talk with Jesus every day, asking him to help me through the day with all my aches and pains and problems, and He always comes through for me,” she told them.

The Vincentians helped the young mother find resources for help with her baby and successfully located funds to relieve the rental debt so that this generous woman herself would not end up in the streets. The Vincentians, like Jesus in the Gospel, walked with this woman and her granddaughter through the storm of poverty and distress.

If you want to get involved in or otherwise support our St. Vincent de Paul, call parishioner and SVDP Conference President Jim Doerger at 513-617-2085 or 513-378-8548.