



Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 420 W. Watkins Road, Phoenix AZ 85003

Media Advisory

Contact: Jennifer Prine, Communications Manager
602-850-6755, cell: 623-640-5048
www.stvincentdepaul.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 8, 2006

Thrift store helps students play Santa

St. Vincent de Paul welcomes Palomino Elementary School for Christmas shopping spree

PHOENIX – For children, Christmas is a time of excitement and anticipation. It means a break from school, time at home with mom, dad and friends and a countdown to the arrival of Santa Claus, but in a family that uses every cent just to get by, gifts aren't a guarantee.

One of St. Vincent de Paul's many holiday programs helps children at Palomino Elementary School show their love and appreciation for their families and friends with a Christmas Shopping Spree. On Thursday, December 21, nearly 1,300 students in grades kindergarten through sixth will walk to the nearby North Phoenix Thrift Store to buy Christmas gifts for their friends and family. The day of excitement creates wonderful memories for the children, while helping them to do something special for their parents, brothers, sisters and friends. With all items priced at 50 cents, the children can buy beautiful gifts for family members who may have been otherwise overlooked due to money constraints.

“As a teacher I look forward to the event every year because I know it is one of the few opportunities many of the students will have to find and give something to someone else,” said Leah Knaeble, who teaches fifth grade at Palomino Elementary. “The students' faces light up as they scurry around the store looking for just the right items.”

WHO: Palomino Elementary School Children (Grades Kindergarten through 6th)
WHAT: Thrift Store Shopping Spree with St. Vincent de Paul
WHEN: Thursday, December 21 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: St. Vincent de Paul's North Phoenix Thrift Store, 2945 E. Bell Road.
Photo OP: Beginning at 9:30 a.m., classes will walk to the North Phoenix Thrift Store throughout the day to purchase gifts for their family members

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. Programs include services for the homeless, the incarcerated and their families, medical/dental care for the working poor, charity dining rooms and general assistance for individual's in need.

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