



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

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Christmas shopping spree set for Palomino Elementary Students

St. Vincent de Paul invites more than 1,200 children to North Phoenix store

PHOENIX – Getting the right Christmas gifts for family members can be a challenging task for most children. It's even tougher when the family funds are limited to the basic necessities.

On Thursday, Dec. 20, St. Vincent de Paul will help ease this problem for Palomino Elementary School students when it hosts its annual Christmas Shopping Spree at its North Phoenix Thrift Store, 2945 E. Bell Road. More than 1,200 children will walk to the store in groups where they can buy gifts for their loved ones. To ensure the affordability of gifts, everything in the store will be priced at 50 cents.

At the store, Santa Claus will be handing out candy canes and additional gifts to the children. The store will be closed to the public to ensure the children's safety. Members of the Phoenix Fire Department Station No. 37 are joining the event as an extra safety net as they give away stickers to the children while showing one of the department's fire trucks.

"My students can't wait for the Christmas sale," said Patricia Diaz-Rodriguez, who teaches first grade at Palomino Elementary School. "Many of these children don't have much, and this is their chance to get something for their family."

WHO: Palomino Elementary School children (grades kindergarten through 6th)

WHAT: Thrift Store Shopping Spree with St. Vincent de Paul

WHEN: Thursday, Dec. 20 from 9:30 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, medical/dental care for the working poor, five charity dining rooms, six thrift stores, a transitional housing shelter and general assistance for individuals in need.