

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Minutes

March 11, 2026

Gary opened the meeting at 7pm.

Mary Merenda began with an opening prayer. We remembered loved ones, friends, and members of our community who recently passed away and prayed for family members and friends who are sick and struggling through difficult times, especially Tom O’Mara and Diane Meleshkewich.

There were two new members and 26 in all attended the meeting:

Cindy Ashworth, Gary Crispo, Joyce Pfirman, Mary Merenda, Susan Sinclair, Mary Muth, Dave Weaving, **Christina Kirschner**, James Ragnetti, Beth Ragnetti, Marie Brown, Thomas Guido Anne Cohen, Margaret Donovan, Anna Nachstein, **Lauren DeClue**, Pamela Mills, Pat Mullen, Jim Mullen, Michele Carey, Bill Carey, Linda Hunt, Robert Herberger, Jessica McMahon, Linda McMahon Diane Morrison

The Minutes of February 2026 were approved by Bob Herberger and Jim Ragnetti.

HPNAP (Hunger Prevention & Nutrition Assistance Program) Report February 2026

| | Feb 2026 | Jan 2026 | Feb 2025 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Households | 105 | 104 | 118 |
| Children | 61 | 61 | 78 |
| Adults | 158 | 152 | 198 |
| Elderly | 67 | 68 | 52 |
| Total People | 286 | 281 | 328 |

Gary summarized the February 2026 report which was relatively similar to January across all categories. Except for the Elderly, there was a decline compared to Feb. 2025.

Log Sheet reminder - Comment Section

Important Log Sheet reminder - Comment Section: Only changes in a client’s household (number of people, children, seniors, etc.), and a new Initial Visit Recertification Form must be completed to keep our records accurate.

2026 Food Bank Purchases (February)

| Date | Gross Weight (lbs.) | Total Cost | Grants | Our Cost |
|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Feb 11 | 1728 | \$1,590.74 | \$1,590.74 | \$0 |

Driving to the food bank were Bill Stickle and Bob Kavanaugh. On hand to put the food away and coordinate ordering were Michele Carey, Marie Brown, Claude Heddle, and Gary Crispo.

Treasurer’s Report

Jessica McMahon presented the February treasurer's report.

Fareground Pickups

There were five produce pickups in February (resourced by Marie Brown, Tom Guido, and Gary Crispo).

Community Sponsored Food Drives

The Pantry received groceries from the following groups in February:

- a) St. Denis/St. Columba School
- b) Fishkill Plains Elementary School
- c) Gayhead Elementary School
- d) Greenhaven Correctional

Pantry Update

Marie Brown shared that the pantry is well-stocked, noting that new items are written on the white board in the pantry.

Warehouse Update

Tom Guido noted the pantry is well-stocked. In particular, there is an abundance of canned soups.

Completed Food Drive

St. Kateri Bag Drive: Sponsored by Kof C LaGrange. Ed Davis was the coordinator. We collected > 350 shopping bags of food.

Upcoming Food Drive

Saturday, April 25th from 8am to 6pm at Stop & Shop, Rt. 9 Poughkeepsie.
Sponsored by Telemundo. Ed Davis is the Coordinator.

Easter Gift Cards – Reminder

Pick up gift cards in the Pantry.

Food Bank Workshops – Reminder

Registration link: <https://regionalfoodbank.net/agency-portal/> (SVDP Agency# 2057F)

Upcoming workshop: March 16 Food Safety (In-Person), Orange County Distribution Center, 580 Route 416, Montgomery, NY

SVDP Food Pantry Teamwork in Action

Gary highlighted the bagel team and those who make ShopRite pickups for the Pantry.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

Closing Prayer – Mary

In Memory of Masses from St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

- **Mass for Bob Pirrelli:** Sunday, 10:30am, March 15th at St. Columba
- **Mass for Carol Magnan:** Sunday, 12pm, March 29th at St. Columba,
- **Mass for Elenor Stelma:** Sunday, June 28th at St. Columba