



Society of St.Vincent de Paul Scotland

Annual Report 2018/2019



Serving in Hope

Communication, prayers and deeds

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am delighted to have this opportunity to write the introduction to this year's Annual Report.

The report highlights the wide range of activities achieved throughout the Dioceses in Scotland.

I encourage all Members to take the time to read about the different services provided for others.

In 2020, next year, we will reach the 175th milestone in the historical journey of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Scotland).

How wonderful it would be if we were able to mark this occasion by increasing our membership through perseverance, prayer and guidance of the Holy Spirit, whose constant intercession inspires us, to continue to serve in hope.

I believe that through communication, prayer, deeds and interaction with one another, we can ensure that the St. Vincent de Paul Society will continue to serve others for many more years to come.

Yours in St. Vincent and Blessed
Frédéric Ozanam,

Danny Collins
National President



Danny Collins

SSVP Scotland National President

Prayer for the Society

We thank You Lord, because You inspired the foundation of our Society to help overcome suffering. Grant the Society of St Vincent de Paul the grace of continual growth and renewal and we pray that many others will be drawn to seek membership of this Society and share in its work.

Daily Prayer For Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Loving Father, help me
through the guidance
of your Holy Spirit
to be a true Vincentian today
- to see and reverence Christ
in all the people I meet
especially the lonely,
the troubled and the poor.
Inspire me to serve them
with love and generosity.
Through Jesus Christ
Your Son, Our Lord
Amen

How do you measure a year?

The aim of the Society is to provide a means whereby Members can practice Christianity by loving their neighbours in the person of the needy.

Vincentians show this love, compassion and understanding by giving themselves- their concern, their friendship, their time, their talents- to help people, regardless of creed, colour or political belief.

Help may be in the form of counselling, moral support, relief from loneliness, or in referring people to other agencies or specialist organisations. Help may also be in the form of food, clothing, furniture or other practical support. People are visited wherever they are- in their homes, hospitals or in prison for example. In fact, Members regularly visit prisoners in Shotts, Barlinnie and Perth working closely with chaplaincies and visitor centres.

Working together in Conferences, Members respond to peoples needs in the best way that they can. This translates to tons of food being distributed and thousands of hours being spent in companionship with people in need.

“Charity is the cement which binds Communities to God and persons to one another”

St Vincent de Paul

1,841 Members
946 Women 895 Men
275 Conferences
8 Dioceses
40,875
Home Visits
10,453
Hospital Visits
5,124
Families Assisted Financially
3,870
Families Assisted with Furniture etc.
35,261
People transported to Mass
95,583
Total Acts of Service
672
Outings/Socials
190
Caravan holidays
60
Mini Vinnies Groups
19
Youth SSVP Groups

Council of Scotland News

The National Council of Scotland is made up of Arch/Diocesan Presidents from across 7 Dioceses. In addition, there are two Conferences in Argyll & the Isles. Diocesan Presidents are elected by Members from their Diocese. The National President leads the Council, and is elected by its Members. The National President may then appoint additional office bearers. They meet 6 times per year.

Changes in representation

The National Council of Scotland were pleased to announce the election of Danny Collins of St John's Barrhead as National President earlier this year. He succeeds Jim McKendrick to whom the Council wish to extend their thanks and good wishes. Joe Hendry of St Thomas's in Neilston succeeds Danny Collins as Paisley Diocesan President.

Together with the Council, the National President was pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Steinbach of St John and St Columba's parish in Rosyth as National Vice-President earlier this year. In addition to these appointments, the continued appointments of Sister Agnes McGarvie as Spiritual Director; Jim Heneaghan of St John's, Barrhead as National Treasurer; and Patricia McCartney of St Peters, Partick as Social Justice Coordinator were confirmed.

Ian Tierney stepped down after over 15 years as National Twinning Officer. In appreciation, staff invited Ian to the office for lunch, and were joined by Danny Collins, National President and James Heneaghan, National Treasurer.



*Office staff members pictured with
Danny Collins (National President) and
Ian Tierney*

National Office– All work and some play

At the National Office staff members, Elaine Gorman, Jim Gibson, & Margaret Thomson continue to service the administrative and financial responsibilities. Recently appointed Youth Development Co-ordinator, Lucy Mason has already brought renewed impetus and creativity to our SSVP Youth work. See SSVP Youth News for more detail.

The office team also includes volunteers, Liz Strachan, Esther Hutcheson and Caroline O'Neil, each offer invaluable support including assistance with mailings, archiving and resource distribution.



SSVP Scotland

www.ssvpscotland.com



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Coming together in friendship and prayer

Vincentians from across Scotland met for their Annual meeting in September 2018 under the banner “Act justly, Love tenderly, Walk humbly with your God”. Following Mass, celebrated by Bishop Toal, Bishop of Motherwell, Members heard from Peter Kelly, Director Poverty Alliance. Social Justice is at the heart of what Vincentians do week in week out. Members come face to face with those who frequently have nowhere else to go for help. For some they need practical support, perhaps starting off in a new home; others need financial support to provide basics like food & fuel for their families; for others simply being taken to Mass every Sunday is a life line. Members were particularly inspired by presentations given by young people from primary and secondary schools telling their Vincentian story. Members felt enriched by all the presentation and left the meeting motivated to do more.



Annual National Meeting 2018

Archbishop Leo Cushley joined Members of the Society at the 2019 Annual National Mass in Edinburgh. He encouraged Members to continue their good work in helping the poor. Following Mass, Members had the opportunity to venerate the relic of St Vincent de Paul before enjoying a buffet together.



SSVP Members from across Scotland pictured at the Annual Mass in St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, Edinburgh



(L-R) Seminarian Bobby Taylor, Richard Steinbach, Archbishop Leo Cushley and Danny Collins pictured at the Annual Mass in St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, Edinburgh

Richard Steinbach, Diocesan President for St Andrews & Edinburgh explained that “Our national Mass reminds us that the work of the Society is rooted in following Christ and His message to help our neighbour and anyone in need.”

Home Visits	11,688
Hospital Visits	2,329
Families Assisted	
Financially	925
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	2,084
People Transported	
to Mass	3,994
Outings / Socials	69

Links to schools and young people

Many Conferences in the Archdiocese assist and work closely with young people in their communities and schools. Our Lady and St Ninian Conference in Bannockburn assist at every school Mass. The Holy Spirit and St Margaret Conference in Stirling also work closely with three primary schools in the area supplying clothing, shoes and toys specifically to autistic and additional support needs pupils.

Continued work with the Missionaries of Charity

The Archdiocese continues to work in partnership with The Missionaries of Charity, in the quest to alleviate poverty in our area. We have many Members from different Conferences assisting several nights a week for example at soup kitchens.

Archdiocese of St Andrew's & Edinburgh

Our work in the Archdiocese of St. Andrews & Edinburgh continues to grow, and with that, we need to attract new Members, to help share the workload. We have been working hard behind the scenes to get the recruitment material in place. We hope to launch the campaign in Autumn 2019.

Caravan holidays and Furniture Project

Bob Murdoch ensures that the Caravans are running to almost full capacity over the summer. The caravans, and the Furniture Project van, continue to be our biggest outlay. The Furniture Project has acquired a new premises to help with storage which should enable us to respond to more requests for assistance. We are grateful to all our Conferences who work on a rota to maintain the caravans.

Foodbank and support

The "Fareshare" project in Fife continues to gather pace, as more supermarket's are signing up to help us by giving out more food that they can't move on. We're now helping upwards of 40 families a week. Our Lady and St Andrews Conference in Galashiels work in conjunction with other churches at a local foodbank to provide for their local community. The Conference President is currently the Foodbank Co-ordinator.

Celebrations

Members attended a celebratory Mass, for Jim Healy of St. Margaret's, Dunfermline, and Tom Canning of Holy Name, Oakley, for their dedication to the Church and SSVP, which in both cases, has exceeded fifty years. In addition, congratulations to Margaret Hall, Treasurer of Our Lady of Lourdes Conference on her award of a BEM in the Queen's Honours list. Margaret was awarded a BEM for services to the community in Dunfermline and the Kuvela Othandweni Charity. Members of the Conference knit and send baby clothes to Africa.



Tom Canning pictured following his celebratory Mass

Archdiocese of Glasgow

At Conference level there continues to be a wide range of activity across the Archdiocese. We have a cafe operating in Partick for the local homeless, a Conference in Milton working with the local foodbank and clothing centre, bus runs supporting school children and the elderly, Christmas parties and theatre trips and visits to HM prisons in Glasgow.

Ozanam Centre

Outside of parish activity there is the Special Work Conference of Our Lady of the Wayside in the city centre running the Ozanam Centre which provides clothing on Wednesdays and Thursdays and meals on Sundays.



The new Mini Vinnies group at St Anne's Primary School in Glasgow hosted afternoon tea for local elderly people

A team effort!

St. Vincent's Conference for the Deaf brings together a small group, whose membership come from Blantyre, Baillieston, Bishopbriggs and Glasgow, who meet every fortnight in St Mary's, Calton. They organise bus trips throughout the year and Christmas dinner for elderly deaf Catholics.

"Christianity is not about ideas but about deeds inspired by love."

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

Home Visits	6,278
Hospital Visits	2,125
Families Assisted	
Financially	1,099
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	184
People Transported	
to Mass	10,463
Outings / Socials	116

A bright future

To meet the challenge of new membership a small group of three or four Members have instigated a recruitment drive with visits to those parishes who have no SSVP presence with a view to increasing membership.

A snapshot of the year

includes our annual flag day every August and our annual concert every May. Alongside our Ozanam lecture early in the year, these are regular occurrences.

Spirituality is at the heart of our work and reflecting this are our annual Masses. Firstly the canonisation of Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, secondly our remembrance Mass in November for former Members and finally in December our Festival meeting in honour of Our Lady.

Home Visits	4,534
Hospital Visits	1,025
Families Assisted	
Financially	225
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	134
People Transported	
to Mass	4,275
Outings / Socials	65

Mini Vinnie's hard work!

The Mini Vinnies group at St. Thomas', Neilston have a Mini Vinnie Bin in the school and collect groceries, clothes and toiletries for distribution to the homeless and general community. They have also helped prepare the vegetables for soup which is served in the soup kitchen. Every couple of months the Mini Vinnie's entertain the local senior citizens at a fish tea which is held in the church hall.

New Members...

Fourteen individuals are at various recruitment stages at six Conferences within the Paisley area. The campaign is still ongoing and existing Members are invited to join the Recruitment Team to assist in this invaluable work.

Diocese of Paisley

Christmas Dinner

The Holy Spirit Conference held a Christmas dinner in St. John the Baptist Church hall, Port Glasgow, on 28th December. Brother Farren reported that the dinner was a great success. 50 people attended, each of whom was fed and given a gift bag and clothing before leaving the hall. Transport was arranged to bring attendees to and from the Inverclyde Homeless Forum to the venue.

Working with the local community

Every Sunday in the church hall at St. Fergus, Paisley the Ferguslie Café is in action. Conference Members volunteer and provide a three course meal for visitors after the 11:30am Mass. The Café was originally set up for children and families but now they see more single people coming along. In partnership with Tesco, Conference Members are able to pick up food on a Friday evening to give out to visitors. At the end of school terms, St. Fergus Conference provide a donation to St. Fergus' Primary School to assist with necessities such as school uniforms.

Young at heart



*John Millar, Bernard Lafferty, Andy Morrow ,
Ilona Geddes, Fr. Laurent Bahati and Phil McKenna.
Members of St John's Conference, Barrhead.*

St John's Conference, Barrhead welcomed their new young member, Ilona Geddes (18 years of age). Alongside welcoming their young member, they acknowledged the three longest serving active Members in the Conference; Bernard Lafferty, John Millar and Phil McKenna. Ilona was a Caritas student who continued as a volunteer and expressed an interest in joining SSVP.

Diocese of Galloway

Working with schools

Sacred Heart Conference in Girvan have worked closely with the Headteacher of Sacred Heart Primary School to assist pupils in need. The Conference supported an initiative in the school to provide meals for immigrant pupils who do not qualify for free school meals.

St Mary's, Irvine also responded to a need for help from St Mark's Primary School. Some of the Conference Members assist with the Breakfast Club and at the start of the year the Conference donated stock to the school for the Breakfast Club.

Home Visits	3,562
Hospital Visits	637
Families Assisted	
Financially	715
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	246
People Transported	
to Mass	1,461
Outings / Socials	90



Lucy Mason (Youth Development Co-ordinator) and Alistair Thomson St Joseph's, Kilmarnock

SSVP Youth were invited to attend a Leadership Market for pupils at St Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock. This event provided an opportunity to highlight the work SSVP do in the local area and encourage young people to get involved.

A warm welcome

St Bride's Conference in West Kilbride are part of CHANA (Churches Homeless Action North Ayrshire) and work closely with vulnerable people in the local community who are homeless and commonly living in temporary accommodation. Every Friday, Members volunteer at a lunch club at Kirkgate Parish Church. The lunch club provides a hot meal and offers other services such as hairdressing and opportunities to talk to housing officers and other agencies.

155 years of SSVP in Kilmarnock

In June St. Joseph's Conference, Kilmarnock, celebrated their 155th anniversary. Only ,after going through old records, did they realise they were 5 years older than they thought. A Mass concelebrated by Bishop William Nolan and Fr. Stephen McGrattan was dedicated to the celebration.



St Joseph's Conference and visiting Conference Members

Diocese of Motherwell

Diocesan projects

The Members of the Diocesan Council carried out a review of our furniture and caravan projects and have now put in place administration systems. North Lanarkshire Council provided the Diocese with a supervisor and five men who are on the Community Payback project. They did an excellent job helping our drivers and Members of the Council in clearing out the furniture unit. A special thanks must go to the caravan convenor on the continued good work.

Youth SSVP

Rosaleen Steele has been working closely with schools to set up Mini Vinnie groups and develop links to Youth SSVP groups. New Mini Vinnie groups have been established in Carfin and Newarthill this year. The enthusiasm of all involved with the Mini Vinnies across the Diocese almost matches the enthusiasm of the children. Rosaleen welcomed Lucy Mason (Youth Development Co-ordinator) to meet her Mini Vinnies group at St. Athanasius' Primary School, Carluke to find out more about how they were helping their local community. During Advent, they took part in a reverse Advent calendar and collected food for a local foodbank and during Lent, they organised '40 challenges'. This involved the Mini Vinnies doing something nice for somebody else everyday. St Mary's Conference in Larkhall also worked closely with their Mini Vinnies to issue 96 Easter eggs to their local community.



St Athanasius' Primary School Mini Vinnies and Members of St Athanasius' Conference, Carluke

Home Visits	10,525
Hospital Visits	3,320
Families Assisted	
Financially	1,979
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	994
People Transported	
to Mass	13,299
Outings / Socials	307

Ozanam Clubs

The Ozanam clubs in Viewpark and Carfin continue to provide a night of entertainment for adults and children, as well as respite for carers and families when needed. Members enjoy a range of activities including bingo, karaoke, arts and crafts and a weekly disco!

Recruitment

As a Diocese, we have produced a handout which is designed to make people more aware of SSVP and the work we do. Copies of this handout were sent out and distributed by parishes.

Festive food

Many Conferences provide food parcels at Christmas and this year St Edward's Conference in Airdrie partnered up with Aldi UK to give food to those in need in their local area during the 2018 festive season.

Home Visits	3,187
Hospital Visits	614
Families Assisted	
Financially	122
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	18
People Transported	
to Mass	1,215
Outings / Socials	10

Diocese of Dunkeld

Conferences across Dunkeld continue to give valuable support to people in need in their local areas. Our Lady of Sorrow's Parish in Dundee have continued to assist at a lunch club for people in the community.

Working with young people

St Stephen's Conference in Blairgowrie have a close relationship with the local children and Young People's Social Work Department in Blairgowrie. The Conference continues to provide financial help to unfunded situations. This has included providing funding to decorate a child's bedroom to enable the child to return from care.

Guidance from SSVP Rule & Manual

"No work of charity is foreign to the Society. It includes any form of help that alleviates suffering or depression and promotes human dignity and personal integrity in all their dimensions."

Rule 1.3

SSVP Manual & Rule

In addition, the Conference funds taxis for some children to attend the daily St Stephen's Primary School Rise and Shine Breakfast Club. Children are invited to attend for a period of time throughout the year and eat breakfast in a small nurturing environment with their peers and staff from the school. During this time they work on developing social and literacy skills.

Argyll & the Isles

We have two Conferences in Argyll & the Isles located in Oban and Campbeltown. These Conferences continue to give their time, energy and love to people in need in the Diocese, often covering large distances to do so. St Kieran's Parish in Campbeltown have been assisting at a local foodbank this year and providing home visits to those in needs. Whilst St Columba's Cathedral Conference Members in Oban have been assisting those in need financially and providing furniture.

Home Visits	8
Hospital Visits	0
Families Assisted	
Financially	31
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	10
People Transported	
to Mass	0
Outings / Socials	4

Diocese of Aberdeen

Nairn caravan

St Mary's Conference in Nairn is very active with enthusiastic Members. The national caravan is located in Lochloy Park, Nairn at a beautiful site and some of the Conference Members look after it. We would like to encourage all Conferences to make more use of this excellent facility for those families in need of a holiday. Last year the caravan hosted 79 guests over 23 visits. During school holidays it is reserved for families with children.

More food parcels

Holy Family Conference in Mastrick have joined CFINE (Community Food Initiatives North East) who provide large amounts of food for food parcels and subsequently the Conference has been able to help more people in need. They gave out 498 more parcels than last year.

Musical afternoons

The latest project at St Mary's, Nairn involves visiting care homes in the town to provide an afternoon of music. They have enlisted the help of 2 musicians, Andy and Jeannie, who play songs well loved by the care home residents on keyboard and guitar. These afternoon sessions are very well received by all.

Christmas gifts

St Mary's Conference, Stonehaven organised a Parish giving tree at Christmas. People gave generously and 92 gifts were collected for children, teenagers and adults within the local community and Aberdeen city centre.

Help from local students

Students from Aberdeen University have been assisting St Mary's Conference, Aberdeen with the distribution of clothes over the past year. In addition, the Conference gives out 95 food parcels each week alongside hot food for those in need in their local community.

Home Visits	1,093
Hospital Visits	403
Families Assisted	
Financially	28
Families Assisted	
Furniture etc.	200
People Transported	
to Mass	554
Outings / Socials	11



Andy and Jeannie with St Mary's, Nairn Conference Members together with some residents, staff and parishioner at a recent visit to a care home

Guidance from SSVP Rule & Manual

"The Conferences, through the appropriate Councils, can and should seek collaboration with other organisations, agencies or institutions that could assist their work, with benefit to the most deprived".

Rule 6.7

SSVP Manual & Rule

Special Works Conferences

The SSVP is committed to helping the poor and those in need in any way we can. Sometimes this takes the form of addressing a particular need, we would call this a 'Special Work'.

A highly enjoyable time!

The Paisley Ozanam Club recently organised a trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park. 36 club Members along with SSVP volunteers and carers left St Mirin's Cathedral to embark on the day out. When they arrived one group went to watch the sea lion display whilst the other watched a bird of prey display. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Paisley Ozanam Club trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park

Ozanam Centre

The Ozanam Centre in Glasgow welcomed Mini Vinnies groups on numerous occasions this year. This gave the Mini Vinnies an opportunity to learn and see how faith is put into action. The Ozanam Centre SSVP Members and volunteers offer two servings of hot food on a Sunday and open on a Wednesday evening for women and Thursday evening for men to collect clothing and toiletries. This year they have provided outfits for weddings, court appearances and job interviews.

Families Assisted with	
Furniture	735
Meals Served	3489
Food Parcels Given	920
Clothing Served to Men and Women	1650
Attendance at Adult and Youth (additional support needs) Clubs	3104
Excess Food Deliveries	1000

Furniture Projects

This year the Paisley Furniture Project has assisted 102 clients by donating furniture. In addition, the Fife Furniture Project has made 630 trips to deliver furniture to families and people in need as well as deliveries of weekly bread and excess food.

Supper Club

This year the St Mathew's Supper Club in Bishopbriggs have provided relief for homeless people in the form of a hot meal every Sunday. The meal is cooked and served in the St Mathew's Centre, Possilpark by St Mathew's and St Dominic's SSVP Members. At Christmas and Easter Conference Members also organise a special party.



Youth News



ssvp.youth.scotland



Youth SSVP
Scotland



@youthSSVP

National Youth Day

The National Youth Day is a great opportunity for Youth SSVP Members from secondary schools to gather, share ideas and learn from each other and guest speakers. The day was facilitated by Danny Sweeney, Justice & Peace Scotland, who invited guests to focus on the theme 'To take the side of the poor and outcast' Apostolic Exhortation Christus Vivit 37. The day looked at both Pope Francis' call to young people, and putting faith into action. In the morning we were joined by Chris from Synod Fruits and in the afternoon, guest speakers from The Space, Glasgow Catholic Worker and Encounter: Calais demonstrated the ways in which groups across Scotland are putting faith into action. The day ended with a chance to think, pray for our intentions and reflect.

School visits:

Since starting my new role as Youth Development Co-ordinator in May 2019, it has been a pleasure to visit some primary and secondary schools. I am grateful to the Conference Members who have accompanied these visits and provided our young people with an insight into valuable work that SSVP Members do.



National Youth Day 2019

Beyond the Walls:

In September 2018 and June 2019 we attended Justice & Peace Scotland's Beyond the Walls events. As well as a short presentation about SSVP we conducted an interactive workshop. Our workshop focused on the requests for assistance and how our Conference Members make decisions on helping people. It was beneficial to be supported on the day by Julie Hayes President of Corpus Christi, Scotstounhill and Patricia McCartney, Social Justice Coordinator.

Mini Vinnies Assemble 2019

Nearly 50 young people, along with their teachers, represented primary schools from across Glasgow at SSVP's annual Mini Vinnies Assemble. Also in attendance were Members from local Conferences who work closely with our primary schools. It was inspiring to hear about the impact our young people are having on their local communities and the pride they take in being a Mini Vinnie. The theme for this year's event was 'The Beatitudes'. The day ended with a period of meditation and guided reflection, which allowed the Mini Vinnies to reflect individually on what being a Mini Vinnie means to them and their connection to putting faith into action.



Mini Vinnies Assemble 2019

Twinning News



Members of Mt. Carmel Conference, India

Council General International (CGI) Appeals

The CGI appealed to National Councils globally to help with disaster relief efforts around the world. The CGI sent emergency aid to India, Indonesia and other countries suffering from disasters. SSVP Scotland made appeals following an earthquake on the island of Lombok in Indonesia and severe flooding in Kerala, India in August 2018.

CGI Disaster Relief Appeals	Total Amount (Scotland)
India	£ 46,316.00
Indonesia	£ 44,438.00
	£ 90,754.00

CGI Solidarity Fund

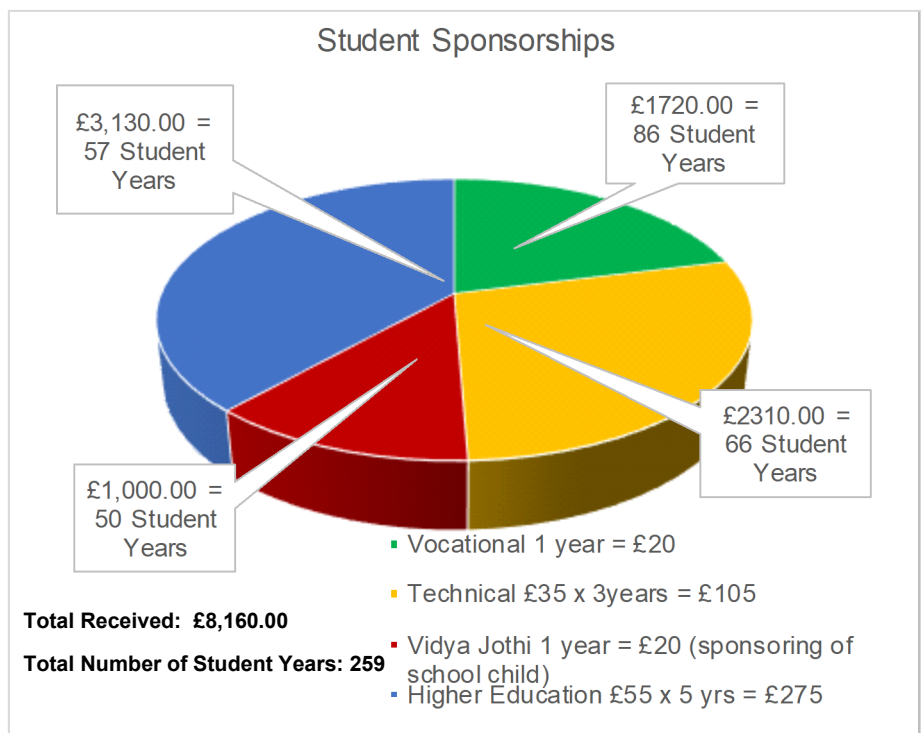
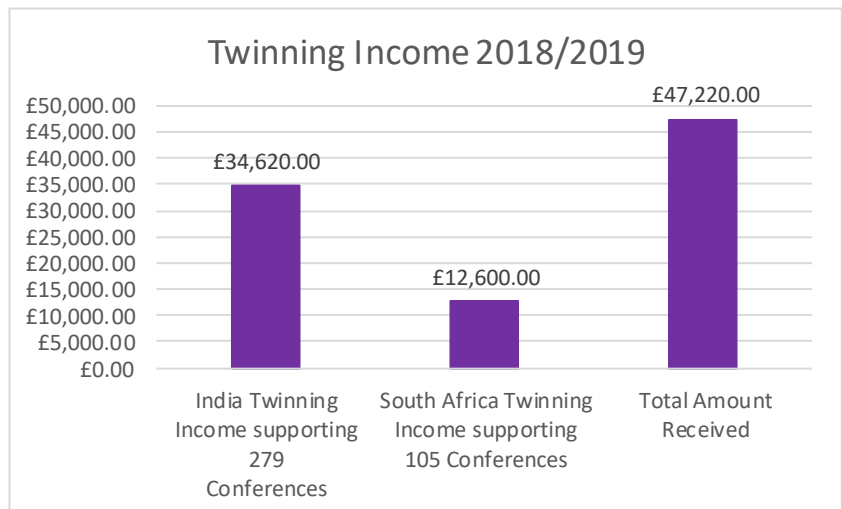
Established in 2017, this fund was set up to respond to the requests of the SSVP Commission for International Aid and Development (CIAD). To date, SSVP Scotland has contributed £54,465.00.

Project Income received 2018/2019: £19,155.00

In 2018/2019 SSVP Scotland funded 9 projects in India by contributing £7,553.00. Pictured on the left, are Members of the Mt. Carmel Conference in India, who used a grant from SSVP Scotland towards 5 sewing machines as part of a self help project. They are twinned with St. John the Baptist, Edinburgh.

St Anthony's Conference, India have also used a grant to assist 14 families. They have been given business loans, without interest, as long as the full amount is repaid within a time frame. New business projects include vegetable and fish vending and petty shops. St Michael's in Dumbarton are twinned with St Anthony's.

In June 2019 a further £10,257.00 was granted to support 11 additional projects in India, including goat farming and a drinking water project.



International News

180th Anniversary of the Council General International

2019 marks the 180th anniversary of the Council General International (CGI). With this in mind in the January 2019 Circular Letter, four strategic areas of the Society were discussed: training, youth, communication and expansion of the organisation.

The CGI website has been redesigned and now has a more educational and informative approach. Training resources on the CGI website have been updated with Christian training and Vincentian training now available alongside a Vincentian Tool box with useful resources. The training available ensures that the pillars set by our founders are not forgotten.

To enhance communication, the CGI launched a “Translators Club” project in the hope that Vincentians who have skills in different languages can help the CGI to reduce expenses. All information published by the CGI must be simultaneously published in French (official language) and in other office languages of SSVP: English, Spanish, Portuguese and Mandarin.

Youth continues to be a focus internationally. The CGI gives its full support to Vincentian children, teenagers and young people, because they believe that they are a source of renewal for the Society. In 2018, the CGI held the 2nd International SSVP Youth Meeting. During the event 12 new Members joined the international team to support the CGI in defining strategies for youth.

Cyprus and the Cayman Islands join the Vincentian family!

As part of the expansion, the SSVP Plus Project has been restructured, with a new manager assigned and an annual budget approved. The aim is to add at least five new countries per year to the international charity network.

In 2018 the CGI announced to the worldwide Vincentian community that two Conferences had been founded in Cyprus. The Conference St. Joseph of the Apparition was created in the city of Larnaka, and the Conference Holy Mary was founded in the town of Nicosia. At the start of 2019, CGI were able to announce that the Society has an active presence in 155 territories with the formation of a Conference in the Cayman Islands. The CGI intends to reach new areas like Gabon, Morocco, Cape Verde and Greece to mention just a few countries.



175th Anniversary of SSVP in England

At the start of 2019, England celebrated their 175th Anniversary of SSVP. After the Society's foundation in Paris in 1833, Conferences were formed in Italy (1836), Belgium (1842). Ireland followed England in 1844 with Scotland a year later. We look forward to 2020 and the 175th Anniversary celebrations here in Scotland.

Vincentian Mission and Values

SSVP is a network of friends seeking to deepen their faith by serving the vulnerable and people in need with respect, love, justice and joy. As a Vincentian charity, our values are inspired by our founders, the Catholic saints St Vincent de Paul and St Louise de Marillac.

Charity: SSVP is characterised by concrete action in communities. The SSVP's Members maintain the Vincentian spirit via the vision of its co-founder Frédéric Ozanam: "I would like to embrace the world in a network of charity."

Empathy: Since Vincentians are called to visit the poor in their homes via a long-term relationship, they must have empathy and listening skills. This enables them to understand the difficulties of people they help and provide the most appropriate response. Empathy also enables Members to work as a team within Conferences.

Simplicity: Simplicity and humility are essential values to help the poorest and regard them as our equals in a fraternal relationship. Humility also implies spiritual maturity, which leads the Society's Members to serve the poor in sometimes very lowly tasks.

Justice: The Society's Members do not limit their action to simply giving; above all, they want to help people regain their autonomy and dignity, while respecting their convictions and beliefs. More generally, the SSVP throughout the world combats the root causes of poverty and promotes the all-round development of human beings. It initiates action to help poor people become self-reliant in the long-term and fulfilled in a more dignified life.

Spirituality: The SSVP's Members live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor. This is the basis of their commitment. Inspired by the spirituality of St Vincent de Paul, Members strive to deepen their faith via action meeting real needs.

Source: Missions and Values (2019), Association Confédération Internationale Société de Saint-Vincent-de-Paul (CCVP), Conseil Général (CGI).

FamVin



The Vincentian Family is a living and growing community of more than 2 million people from all walks of life. The Vincentian Family is a global network connected through FamVin. Together in the heritage of St Vincent de Paul, Louise de Marillac, Frédéric Ozanam and so many others we seek to coordinate our efforts for systematic change.

FamVin supports connections between the global network of Vincentians. It provides a network of people with news, information and reference materials amongst a variety of social networks.

www.famvin.org

Social Justice

Patricia McCartney, Social Justice Coordinator

The past year has been a busy period with useful and pertinent information being gained by participating in /attending various seminars and workshops on topics relevant to our Vincentian work e.g. Living Wage Campaign; 'Austerity in the UK and Europe'; 'The Poverty and Inequality Commission Open Public Meeting'. Plus for first time we promoted and supported Challenge Poverty Week at a National level. This year's week is 7th – 13th October 2019 and participation is strongly encouraged whether at a Conference, Group or Diocesan level or all three!

National Office Statistics / Records

An analysis of the 2017 /2018 requests made to the National Office by Archdiocesan Groups and themes was undertaken. This data plus the annual statistical information returns from Conferences are a very rich source of information for feeding into consultation reports or other discussion documents or even just providing anecdotal facts.



Patricia McCartney
Annual General Meeting 2018

Solidarity and One Big Picnic

We continue our membership of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum and are now a member of The Poverty Alliance. This year we further developed our collaboration with the Scottish Catholic Justice and Peace Commission and hosted a stall at Interfaith Food Justice Networks One Big Picnic in George Square, Glasgow. The event brought people from the city together regardless of background, cultural, religious, social or educational status, homelessness or wealth. Highlighting Glasgow as a city of caring people – people make Glasgow!



One Big Picnic 2019

Social Media

We continue to increase the profile of social justice through the SSVP Social Justice Twitter account @SocJustSSVPScot We would strongly encourage Members who haven't already signed up to do so.



Guidance from SSVP Rule & Manual

"The phenomenon of justice is seen not merely in the economic but also in the social, cultural and religious spheres. Charity deals with effects. It responds to immediate needs and does not ask questions. Justice wants to trace the causes of evil events to their source, and to stop the evil effects by eliminating their causes."

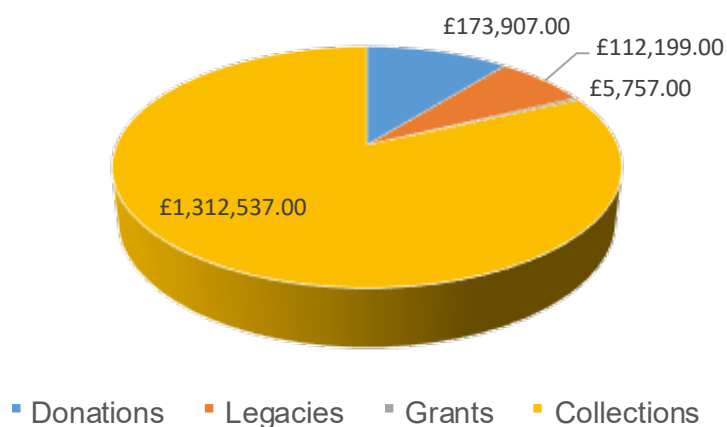
11. Statement on Justice and Charity for the SSVP in Scotland

SSVP Manual & Rule

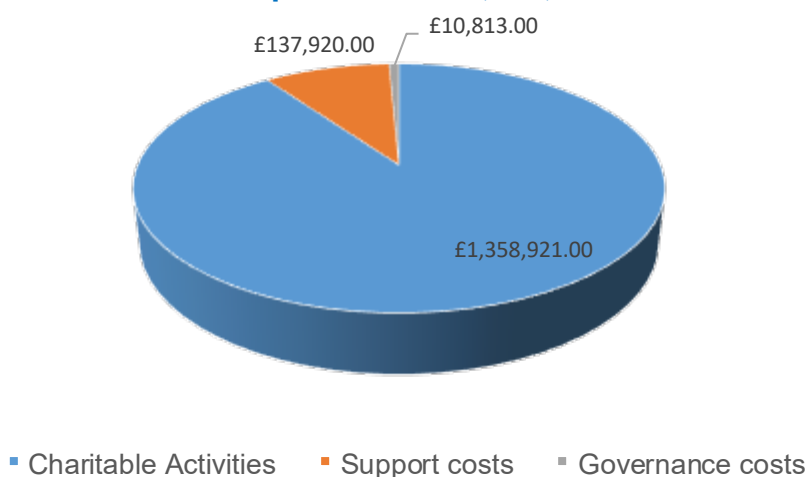
Society of St Vincent de Paul (Scotland) Income and Expenditure Report 2019

Summary Accounts 2018-2019

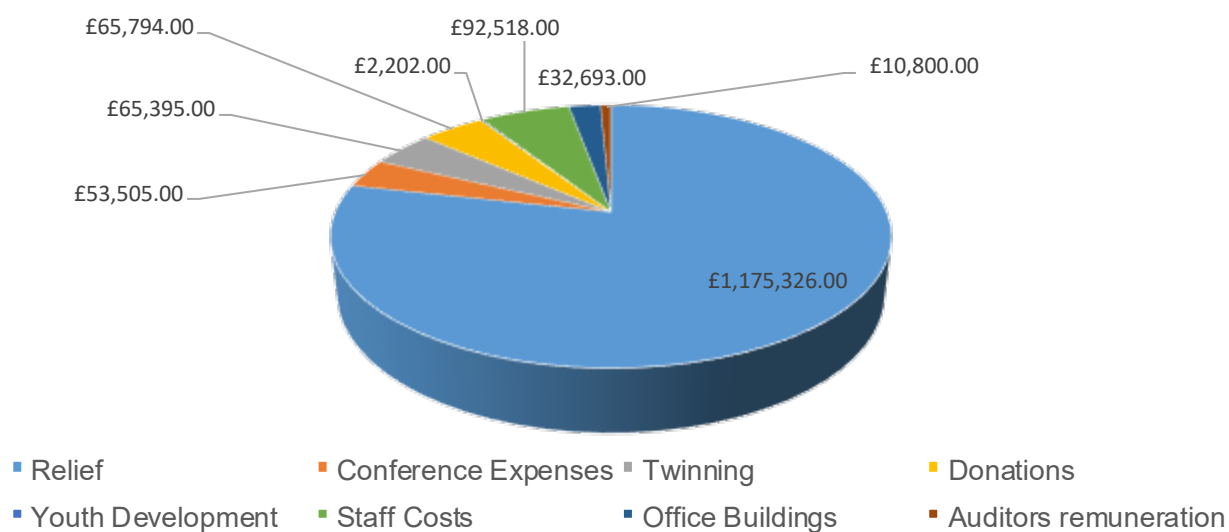
Total Income: £1,604,400.00



Total Expenditure: £1,507,654.00



Expenditure Items



Contact the National Office for a copy of the audited accounts.

Vincentians

Working Together In Scotland



**Society of
St. Vincent de Paul
Scotland**

