



September 2018

Ozanam

News

It is our vocation to set people's hearts ablaze, to do what the Son of God did, who came to light a fire on earth in order to set it ablaze with His love.

-Frederic Ozanam



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GET INVOLVED! We want to know what your conference is up to. If you have a story, share it. The *Ozanam News* relies on your contributions. Send articles and images (jpg or png format only, no PDFs) to **communication@ssvpscotland.com**. Put the name of your conference in the subject

bar and your full contact details. Please provide full caption details for photos. We do not accept paper submissions. Articles should be written by email or attached as a Word document. If you need help please contact the SSVP national office on 0141 226 8833.

Next publication deadline is Thursday 1 November 2018.

Publishing Policy

1. The objective is to publish a new *Ozanam News*, which will be issued three times per year, May, September and November. To facilitate this, a publications committee has been formed and a member of the National Council has been made responsible for its operation. The publications committee will normally meet two months before going to the printer. As at present, the actual putting together of the magazine will be the responsibility of the National Office staff, who will select the printer and liaise and coordinate with all preproduction functions. 2. In accordance with National Council requirements, the intention will be not to feature 'editorial' pieces. Any material deemed to detract from the Society's broader aims will be approved by the National Council prior to publication. Hopefully these arrangements will help the new *Ozanam News* develop into a more humorous, educational and spiritual publication which will concentrate on bringing the Society, its Members and Associates closer together. With this Togetherness in mind, National Council Agenda business could well become a regular feature in the magazine. In the main, letters for publication will normally be from twinning parties - regarded as reports. Other letters will be accepted for publication with an added footnote or returned for discussion by the respective council and/or president if thought to be more appropriate.

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National President's opening words

Following the national meeting, Jim McKendrick calls for canonisation prayer push



ON August 22, 2018, the international Vincentian community celebrated the 21st anniversary of the beatification ceremony of our beloved co-founder Antoine Frederic Ozanam.

Blessed Frederic Ozanam, apostle of charity, husband and exemplary father, a great figure of the Catholic laity of the nineteenth century, was an intellectual and fervent Catholic, dedicating all his life and faith to the service of the truth and the most

disadvantaged. Deeply committed to justice and human dignity, he is considered a precursor to the Social Doctrine of the Church.

The 16th President General, brother Renato Lima de Oliveira is making every effort to accelerate the procedures for the canonisation of Frederic Ozanam, and requests us to pray earnestly for the canonisation of Ozanam.

“To reach the grace

of a new miracle, we need to be faithful devotees of Ozanam, trust in his intercession and include him in our daily prayers,” recommends the President General.

Canonisation prayer

WE thank You Lord, for all the blessings that You have given to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and to its members. By Your Divine will, You have given our founder Frederic Ozanam that wondrous title of Blessed. May we be inspired by his example of love and service to follow You more closely. Lord, continue to bless the Society, its work and its members and grant that one day, Blessed Frederic Ozanam will be raised to the altars of Your saints.

- Blessed Frederic Ozanam
- Pray for us

News from Social Justice Co-ordinator, Patricia McCartney

poverty .

Challenge Poverty Week is an opportunity for us as individuals and Vincentians to raise our voice against poverty and to show what is being done to tackle poverty across Scotland. Everyone is strongly encouraged to get involved by organising activities or by taking part in activities organised either with or by others.

Activities can include almost anything that helps

raise awareness about poverty and demonstrates what can be done about it. Most of what we do as Vincentians fits the bill, so, getting behind this week is not a big ask.

The Poverty Alliance is asking that you let them know what you are doing so that they can promote it. Therefore registering any activity with them not only raises the profile of the SSVP in Scotland but also serves as a superb

opportunity to showcase what we do.

- For more information on how to get involved:

www.challengepoverty.net

cpw@povertyalliance.org

0141 353 0440

@CPW_Scotland

- Check the SSVP website
www.ssvpscotland.com

CHALLENGE

Poverty Week will run 1 – 7 October and is a Poverty Alliance initiative.

The main aims of the week are to:

- Highlight the reality of poverty and challenge the stereotypes that exist about it.

- Demonstrate what is being done across Scotland to address poverty.

- Increase public support for more action to solve



Aye we can



'AYE we can' — that was the message on tackling poverty heard by hundreds of Vincentians at the St Vincent de Paul national meeting on Saturday September 1.

The meeting highlighted the incredible work of different SSVP conferences, councils and age groups from across Scotland.

Society members heard reports from Social Justice Co-ordinator Patricia McCartney, National Twinning Officer Ian Tierney, and a showcase on youth projects.

Peter Kelly, director of Poverty Alliance, was the keynote speaker on the day and explained why he believed that poverty could be eradicated in Scotland and how the SSVP can assist in that mission.

Mr Kelly began his talk by asking for a show of hands of those who believed that 'poverty will always be with us.' He will have his work cut out for him judging by the room of full pockets, but he optimistically asserted that poverty could be overcome.

"Poverty is something which we have created. Through our decisions as a society collectively, we have ended up with our current state of affairs. It needn't be that

way. There is much that we can do," Mr Kelly said.

"A very simple message for us is that poverty can be solved by boosting people's incomes and by reducing their costs and I think when we put it in that way, it makes the task perhaps a little more simple than we imagine it to be."

The Poverty Alliance will be running Challenge Poverty Week from October 1-7, and as part of that event Mr Kelly highlighted three of their aims: to increase recognition that poverty exists in Scotland; to illustrate that, by boosting incomes and reducing people's costs, a lot can be done to tackle poverty; and to argue that 'solving poverty is also about allowing people to participate in society.'

Mr Kelly noted that we treat the poor as 'the other, not us' and that we need to recognise our common humanity if we want to rid society of poverty.

He said that there are many areas in which the SSVP can help combat poverty, including housing, the attainment gap, foodbanks, payday loans, loneliness and isolation, work, and changes in

social security.

To really make a difference, he said, changes had to take place at the policy level to address child poverty, reduce the attainment gap and to ensure that those people who have a right to social security are having those rights fulfilled.

He also noted that at a local level St Vincent de Paul are already heavily involved with the fight against poverty, and he urged the society members to keep up their work in foodbanks, work he emphasised as 'really needed.'

SSVP members were also asked to look into Poverty Alliance Campaigns such as the Living Wage Campaign and the Give Me Five campaign to top-up child benefit.

Bishop Joseph Toal of Motherwell Diocese celebrated Mass at the conference and attended the entire day in support of the charitable organisation. The liturgy held in the auditorium of the Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel served as the spiritual foundation for a day of reflection and coming together to allow the society to move forward in its missionary endeavours.



Twinning Officer Ian Tierney



Poverty Alliance Director Peter Kelly delivers his keynote address

Frederic Ozanam Scholarship

Glasgow Archdiocesan Council announce project to help pupils



GLASGOW Archdiocesan Council have announced plans to pilot a project that will allow pupils in financial hardship to enter higher education. The project was announced in anticipation of the centenary year of the 1918 Education Act which celebrates the ways in which Catholic schools have been good not just for Catholics, but good for Scotland.

The Glasgow Council made the decision to initiate a project whereby pupils of Catholic schools in the Glasgow Archdiocese would be assisted financially to undertake further education at university. The project will be for the benefit of pupils who, because of financial hardship, would not be likely to embark on a university education.

The project, in its first year, has pulled together SSVF members, teachers and representatives of SCES to make the idea a reality. Drawing on different areas of expertise the Society members will rely confidently on the professional judgement of the teachers

who know the pupils best in the application process. This will allow pupils to demonstrate that they would be able to go to university if they were to be financially assisted.

The pilot year of the project will allow the Council to gauge how it can move forward. Mr Jim O'Hagan, Vice President of the Archdiocesan Council, said that the first year funding of 8 pupils will be used to ask 'many questions' about the number of pupils they could help in the future, what schools could be involved and how to progress if the pilot is a success.

The scheme is being piloted with 2 pupils from each of the following 4 schools in the academic year 2019/20:

- St. Andrew's Secondary, Carntyne
- St. Margaret Mary's Secondary, Castlemilk
- St. Mungo's' Academy, Gallowgate
- St. Paul's High School, Pollok.

For the pilot, the sum of £1,500 per successful

applicant will be payable in each year of their chosen degree course, dependent upon the applicant's acceptance onto the next year of the course. Payments will be in 3 stages, £700 prior to the start of the first term, and £400 prior to the start of the second and third terms.

Commenting on the idea behind the project Mr O'Hagan accepted the appeal to other Councils who might want to assist their young people in making a better future for themselves. "I wouldn't be surprised if other dioceses learning about it would be interested in it themselves. It would be nice to see if it could be a national endeavour," said Mr O'Hagan adding that the pilot will be a learning process for all involved.



Outstanding Vincentians

AMONGST many submissions to the Ozanam news we receive details of outstanding Vincentians.

Below are some of those members who have been recognised in some way for their work, either within the Society or in the wider community. They are a testament to themselves but also represent the work of SSVV as a whole, we thank and congratulate them.

RIGHT: Alex Smith and James Mackin of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kilmarnock receive recognition of 50 years of Society membership.



LEFT: 50 years service recognition for Bobby Pope of St Fergus', Paisley (L-R Joe Hendry, Bobby Pope and Fr John Morrison).

RIGHT: Mr David Hunter of Ss John & Columba, Rosyth awarded Citizen of the year in his home town Rosyth, August 2018



LEFT: 50 years service recognition for Eddie Boyle of St Michael's, Linlithgow (Pictured centre).

RIGHT: Paul Rodgers and Molly Brown of Our Lady and St Patrick's School, Dumbarton were awarded the SSVV award in recognition of work done.



LEFT: Olivia Stark is awarded with St Edward's SSVV Taylor Panton Memorial Award. The Award is named in memoriam after Taylor Panton - a St Edward's, Airdrie Conference member, Caritas Award winner and parishioner of St Edward's who sadly passed away three years ago at a very young age.

The Award was developed in partnership with parish primary schools St Edward's and St Dominic's, and seeks to foster, develop and reward outstanding conduct and behaviour within our schools that best display the ethos, aims & objectives of the Society as a whole. Miss Stark is pictured with Taylor Panton's parents Robert and Wendy Panton. The St Dominic's award winner was Keira McInnes.

Paint the town tartan

KILTLED dog Bella and owner Molly Brown took their tartan to town at this year's Kiltwalk. Miss Brown of SSVP youth group at Our Lady and St Patrick's, Dumbarton donated the money raised to SSVP.



Mini Vinnies successful six months

SAINT Mary's, Larkhall Mini Vinnies got off to a flying start in their first six months, growing to eleven members. In the first six months the group raised £1313 to purchase sleeping bags for the homeless in the local area. They raised the money through a variety of efforts at the local Christmas light switch on and in their school. As well as raising money the children have spent time at the local nursing homes, donated to the foodbank and have sponsored



six Indian school children through the Vidya Jothi scheme.

First anniversary of Mini Vinnie group

THE Mini Vinnie group at St Margaret's RC Primary School, Cowie celebrated its first anniversary in August this year.

President of SSVP Conference Our Lady & St Ninian's, Danny Duffy (pictured) covering Bannockburn and Cowie, visited the school to meet with the Mini Vinnies and staff. Mr Duffy was very impressed by the group who meet weekly for prayers and participate in activities such as providing hats and scarves for



the elderly and supporting Strathcarron Hospice and Stirling Food Bank.



Summer fun for young club members

YOUTH members of the Ozanam Club, Viewpark were treated to some summer fun this year at their summer outing to M and D's Themepark. 'A great day was had by all' said President Sandra O'Hanlon.



MINI Vinnies take on the Vincentian spirit in their first year of formation. St Athanasius Primary School, Carlisle Mini Vinnies (above) have worked for the homeless, elderly, their local parish, the local foodbank and school all in their first year. They have adopted a new motto:

'Pray. Plan. Do it with a smile.'



Who was Charles O'Neill?

National President Jim McKendrick looks at the Glaswegian founder of Australia's Society

Charles Gordon O'Neill (1828-1900), engineer and Society member, was born in Glasgow. He trained as an engineer and graduated as a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers. For some time he was chief assistant in the Public Works Office, Glasgow. On graduation he joined the Society of St Vincent de Paul. He was Conference Secretary at Dumbarton in 1851 and by 1863 was the second President of the Superior Council of Glasgow and a member of the Council General in Paris.

He resigned in August 1863 and emigrated to New Zealand where he became in January 1864 surveyor to the Otago provincial government and later district engineer at Clutha in 1865. He became provincial engineer at Wellington. He planned and supervised the construction of Wellington's tramway system, and also the water-supply systems for the Otago goldfield and for Auckland.

In Wellington he was active in the Society of St Vincent de Paul and in 1876 founded its first conference to be aggregated in New Zealand. He is credited with establishing the Society in New Zealand. In 1881 O'Neill moved to Sydney and, with aid from the Marist Fathers, founded on 24 July the first Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Australia to be firmly established at St Patrick's, Church Hill. Recognised as head of the Society in Sydney, he became first President of the Particular Council of Sydney on 28 January 1884, and is widely regarded as the founder of the Society in Australia.

On the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Australia O'Neill was presented with an illuminated address. Aged 72 O'Neill died in St Vincent's Hospital on 8 November 1900 and was buried in Rookwood cemetery, Sydney. In 1961 his remains were removed to the Society's burial plot for the destitute at Rookwood in company of those he served so well.

The life of Charles Gordon O'Neill was

Another O'Neill - In our next edition we will hear from Hannah O'Neill who represented the Society at the 2nd SSVP Youth International Meeting, Salamanca and spoke at this year's annual meeting about her experience.

celebrated in November 2016 at the official opening of Charles O'Neill Memorial Walk at Rookwood Cemetery. Charles O'Neill Walk is positioned close to Charles' final resting place and provides a quiet contemplative place to pray and learn more about an extraordinary man who did so much for the people of Sydney in the late 19th century.

The opening of the Walk followed even more exciting news in the cause for canonisation of Charles O'Neill. Archbishop Anthony Fisher has accepted the cause and an official committee has been formed to progress it.

The celebrations finished in December with the Society's annual celebration Mass at St Patrick's Church, the home of the first St Vincent de Paul Society Conference. The Church features a stained glass window that was a gift from Charles O'Neill in recognition of the work of Blessed Frederic Ozanam.

Outgoing President, Ray Reynolds, said "Charles O'Neill was a brilliant young visionary who was torn between professional ambition and a desire to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ to serve the poor. Charles sought a more authentic Christian model of charity, one that was unobtrusive, non-judgemental and respected the dignity of the poor. It is this vision we have proudly carried forward to this day".





Five stars for St Fergus' five year sunday cafe

ST Fergus' parish, Paisley has for the last five years been running a 'Café' every Sunday afternoon serving up a 3 course meal to anyone

who drops in. The café was started by Fr Oliver Freaney five years ago and relies heavily on volunteers as well as St. Vincent de Paul

members. Pictured above are visitors to the café alongside Fr John Morrison Parish Priest of St Fergus' and volunteers to the café itself.



St Joseph's fundraising success

ST Joseph's Conference, Burntisland, held a successful St Patrick's fundraising party ahead of the 70th anniversary of SSVP in the parish. Parishioner Sarah Devlin and her family provided music to ensure 'a fantastic night was had by all'. The group hope to host some special events to celebrate their 70 years in St Joseph's.



Immaculate afternoon tea for parish seniors

IMMACULATE Conception Conference, Glasgow held an afternoon tea and dance for their parish senior citizens June 30.

"What a great day we all had," said Liz Strachan. "It was

so good to see people enjoying themselves and catching up with each other."

The Conference arranged the buffet, entertainment and transport for some of the housebound and

disabled.

"This was our third venture for our ladies and gents and something we will continue to do as this works for everyone," said Ms Strachan.

Twinning Report

By Ian Tierney



Funding sent for four recent project applications:

Our Lady of Fatima, Badvel twinned with St Winin's, Killwinning.

Holy Family, Thumpottukonam twinned with St Patrick's, Coatbridge.

All Saints, Arayathurithy twinned with St Ninian's, Knightswood.

St Joseph's, Punaloor twinned with St Patrick's, Strathaven.

SADLY we are now in the position of no longer being able to fund further projects at present due to lack of funding. It is hoped that an appeal will be made for the Project fund in September.

Several Scottish Conferences have made a request for a South African Twin. South Africa has recently appointed a new Twinning Officer. In response - there are several Conferences that have indicated a desire for a twin but have not so far sent in an application form. Hopefully, twins will be provided in the future.

I receive from time to time requests from Conferences asking to be twinned with a particular country. It should be noted that any

twinning links between countries have to be sanctioned by the Council General in Paris.

The Society in Scotland is already twinned with 3 countries, India, South Africa and Hungary. Most countries are already twinned with several others.

I draw your attention to the photo (above) we received from the Our Lady of Fatima Badvel Conference who had received funding to provide clothes for the poor in the surrounding areas. How gratifying to see that they were so happy to receive this funding that they took the trouble to publicise that they were able to do so through the help of Scottish Conferences!



Communication from Kerala

ST Michael's Conference, Dumbarton have established regular contact via email with their twin Conference, St Antony's in Kerala (pictured left).

The work the of SSVP in Kerala includes: "Caring for people suffering from major illnesses such as cancer and tuberculosis - irrespective of religion. Since we Christians are minorities here this has a great influence on society." Said Vinu the Keralese correspondent.

"We help students from families with financial difficulties to obtain higher education. In this current academic year we are sponsoring 2 girls of which one is studying engineering," said Vinu, who is also sitting an exam for a government post.

STOP PRESS: As we went to press Conferences are generously responding to appeals in response to the floods in Kerala & the earthquake in Indonesia.

Joe Maguire, Glasgow Archdiocesan President reflects on 170 anniversary Mass



L-R Joe Maguire Glasgow President, Archbishop Tartaglia, Danny Collins Paisley President, Pat Carr Motherwell President.



THE anniversary Mass marking 170 years of Vincentian work in the City and Archdiocese of Glasgow was a wonderful way to celebrate the beginning of the Society in Glasgow. In those days the archdiocese included the sister dioceses of Motherwell and Paisley and it added a special touch to the Mass to have both current diocesan presidents from Paisley and Motherwell in attendance.

Signed in BSL for three deaf members, the Mass was led by Archbishop Tartaglia and his homily paid tribute to the activities of the Society in Glasgow from early beginnings to the present. It was encouraging to see senior pupils from secondary schools in Glasgow also in attendance and hearing the Archbishop's words, words that it is hoped will produce in them a place for the Society in their futures.

Tea and coffee in the Eyre Hall afterwards provided an informal end to the mass and Archbishop Tartaglia took the time to move amongst the crowd and help deliver a fitting end to the evening. My thanks as Archdiocesan President to all those who helped organise our Mass and I know we will all take special grace to continue the Society on it's journey for today and another 170 years.

May they rest in peace

Obituaries

- **Francis Coulter**, Former Member, St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan
- **Maureen Lunney**, Active Member, Our Lady Of The Wayside, Paisley
- **Anne-Marie Buckham**, Active Member, St Stephen's, Blairgowrie
- **Jim O'Donnell**, Former President, St Brendan's, Motherwell
- **Bernadette Farquharson**, Active Member, St Ninians, Dundee
- **Deacon Hugh Mulholland**, Former Member/Treasurer, St Columba's, Dundee
- **Ann Hobbs**, Former Member, St Columbkille's, Rutherglen
- **Joe Flannigan**, Former Member, St Bernadette's, Motherwell
- **Gerry Duffin**, Former Member, St Leonard's, East Kilbride
- **Paul L. Younger**, President, Immaculate Conception, Maryhill
- **Cathie Campbell**, Former Member, St. Mary's, Stirling
- **John Mallett**, Active Member, Holy Spirit & St. Margaret's, Stirling
- **Sandra Miller**, Former Member, St Francis Xavier, Waterside
- **Kathleen Martin**, Active Member, St Kevin's, Bargeddie
- **Mary Trimmings**, Active Member, St Patrick's, Strathaven
- **Bernadette Chand**, Former member, St Peter's, Livingston
- **Betty McGuire**, Former member, St Peter's, Livingston
- **Mary Reilly**, Active Member, St Ignatius, Wishaw
- **Richard Cairney**, Former Member, St Cadoc, Newton Mearns
- **Patrick Chalmers**, Former Member, St Peter's, Partick
- **Joseph McMenaman**, Member, St Alexander's, Denny
- **Billy Aldershaw**, Former Member, St Andrew's, Livingston
- **Ann Hobbs**, Former Member, St Columbkille's, Rutherglen

- **Mary McGarrigle**, Former Member, St Columbkille's, Rutherglen
- **George Carron**, Active Member, St Colm's, Kilmacolm
- **Thomas Brennan**, Former Treasurer, St Brendan's, Salcoats
- **Neil Munro**, Member, St. Mary's, Inverness
- **Hugh Maguinness**, Member, Our Lady of Lourdes, East Kilbride
- **Alice Pakula**, Member, Our Lady of Lourdes, East Kilbride
- **Ian Stevenson**, Former Secretary, Our Lady of Lourdes, East Kilbride
- **Richard Jack**, Former Member, St Conval's, Pollock
- **Robert O'Neill**, Former Member, St Patrick's, Strathaven
- **Agnes Osborne**, Treasurer/Secretary, St Joseph's, Edinburgh
- **Betty Neeson**, Former Secretary, St Bernadette's, Motherwell
- **Eddie Morrison**, Former Member, St Joseph's, Glasgow
- **Charles McMahon**, Active Member, St Monica's, Coatbridge
- **Fr. Peter MacDonald**, Diocesan/Conference Spiritual Director, Our Lady & St. John's, Ellon
- **Bill Strawn**, Former Member, St Joseph's, Burntisland
- **Christopher Dunn**, Benefactor, Glasgow Archdiocese, Glasgow
- **Alex Frew**, Former Member, St Louise, Arden
- **Nicola McNulty**, Former Treasurer, St Joseph's, Bonnybridge
- **Chic Kerr**, Former President, St Michael's, Dumbarton
- **Eddie McComish**, Former President, St Kessog's, Balloch
- **May Keogh**, Former Member, St Louise, Arden, Glasgow
- **Pat O'Neill**, Former President, St Joseph's, Blantyre
- **Maureen Gillon**, Former Member, St Mary's Star of the Sea, Leith



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

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