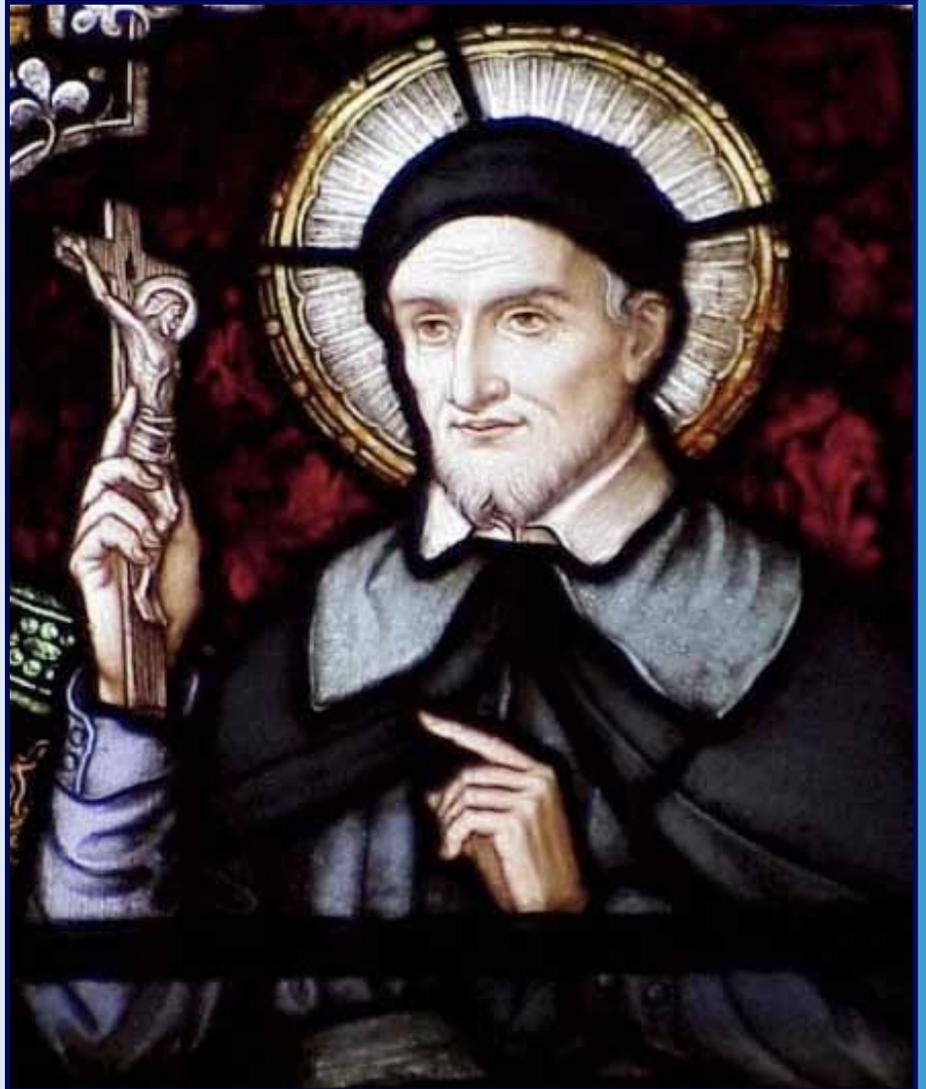


Vincenpaul-Canada

THE MAGAZINE OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CANADA

VOLUME 37 NO. 1 - WINTER 2011

“VINCENTIAN DISCIPLESHIP - HE HAS ANOINTED ME”



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Mission

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organisation whose mission is:

To live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

Values

The Mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians we:

- see Christ is anyone who suffers
- come together as a family
- have personal contact with the poor
- help in all possible ways



Photograph of the Saint Vincent de Paul stained glass window at the Saint Joseph Cathedral, Macon, Georgia, USA

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Penny's Piece

GREETINGS TO ALL!

I do hope that everyone has enjoyed a very happy and holy Christmas season and that 2011 will be a happy and prosperous New Year for all.

Each of the past years we have declared Vincentian family celebrations for the year. In 2008 we celebrated 175 years of the birth of the Society; in 2009 we celebrated 160 years of the Society in Canada and in 2010 we celebrated the 350th anniversary of the death of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac. Each of which are very real reasons to celebrate who we are as Vincentians.

So, let us celebrate 2011 as the “Year of the Spiritual Advisor in Canada.”

One of the most important aspects of our Vincentian life is our spiritual life. As we know through our faith we bear witness to Christ. The more active and sincere we are about our faith, the more we are filled with the light of the Holy Spirit and the more Gospel-based we become in our decisions and activities.

Accordingly, as Vincentians, we should strive to foster, develop and savour all means of spiritual development by which this fundamental virtue of faith can be kept alive within us and around us, and most importantly as a visible sign to those whom we serve. That is why we join the Society!

If we view the Conference or Council meeting, as a spiritual gathering we all know that it is truly enhanced by the presence of a Spiritual Advisor. The Spiritual Advisor's role is to help the development of the spiritual life of members, and to enable them to better understand the meaning of charity and its practical applications. The presence of the Spiritual Advisor strengthens the bond between the spiritual and apostolic activities of the Conference or Council, and the apostolic activity of the Church.

As we convey in our Vincentian prayer, the aim of the Society is to convey God's love to the 'suffering or the deprived' through effective help, sharing with them also the life of faith. Without growth in holiness and love, our work is impoverished or hollow. Through this impoverishment we become unaware of the depths of our own need, and as such, other members. It is impor-



*Penny Craig, President
National Council of Canada*

tant therefore, to encourage each other to depend on Christ whom we receive in the Holy Eucharist, and 'see to Christ' in those we visit.

Hence, the main role of the Spiritual Advisor is to deepen the quality and understanding of faith and relationship with Christ of each member. This deepening of the spiritual life of members in itself will lead to what we achieve with, and for, other members and those whom we serve.

Having a priest as Spiritual Advisor may not be practical in every instance. In many cases a deacon or a member of a religious order, or someone trained and or interested in religious studies may serve as Spiritual Advisor.

The role of the Spiritual Advisor is not to preside or vote at Conference or Council meetings, but rather, to guide its members along the paths to personal holiness, to encourage their charitable works, assist them toward Gospel-based decision making --- and to counsel and befriend all members.

Penny's Piece

Of particular significance is the role the Spiritual Advisor plays in advising the president of the Conference or Council regarding certain questions or topics that may require counsel. It is part of the President's duty to create a climate in which the Spiritual Advisor can perform related tasks and to work with him or her in building a spirit of warm friendship, simplicity and Christian "joy."

The Spiritual Advisor animates the National Council Spiritual Theme at all Conference and Council levels. A different theme is chosen annually. An annual retreat for Vincentians on the annual theme is most beneficial. The Spiritual Advisor's role can be further enhanced by asking him or her to give short talks on specific topics or questions and of the need for spiritual advice to the members; assisting in the preparations for festival days and other Society celebrations.

Certainly, it can be said that these individuals act as Spiritual Advisors not for recognition, but simply because it is what they want to do for the members of their Conferences and Councils. However, it will be wonderful to dedicate a year to these Spiritual Advisors to thank them for their contributions and recognize them as valuable assets of the Society. But truly, it is about just saying "thanks" for their commitment of time and energy to the Society.

The National Council of Canada Spirituality Committee has been asked to develop an installation ceremony especially for Spiritual Advisors. This ceremony will be inaugurated at the 2011 AGA for all Spiritual Advisors in attendance in Victoria, BC. Further, the ceremony will be shared with all presidents for use back home. Please encourage as many Spiritual Advisors to attend the AGA as is feasible for your Conferences or Councils. We will truly look forward to welcoming and acknowledging them.

If we forget for a moment that the poor are the members of the body of Jesus Christ, we will inevitably serve them with less gentleness and love. St. Vincent de Paul

New Annual Reports

As previously mentioned, the National Council of Canada has inaugurated the new annual reports for

Conferences and Councils in Canada. These are available on the web-site. This new report will better reflect a realistic profile of what the Society looks like in Canada. As many of you may remember, some time ago, in our strategic planning process we identified that we were concerned about the age of our membership and that we had to lower the age of the members we recruit into the Society. We really had no way to measure any success in that regard. This report will start us on our way. It will be very interesting to capture some sort of baseline data.

A final audit report was sent to the International Council General regarding the number of Conferences and Councils in Canada. We are at 726 aggregated Conferences with another 88 non aggregated Conferences. We realize 123 instituted Councils. These Councils are comprised of 5 regional Councils, 12 central Councils and 105 particular Councils. The challenge of course is to get the non aggregated Conferences aggregated.

AGA 2011 – Victoria British Columbia

It will be wonderful to welcome everyone to the Annual General Assembly in Victoria in June. What makes the AGA so interesting is the information shared in workshops that are available for members to attend, learn and bring home to local Conference and Council members. Please, consider presenting a workshop of interest to the Society. Presenting workshop does not solely rest with the host Council; the AGA belongs to all of us.

President Mary Spencer and her 2011 AGA planning committee have been working very hard to make us truly welcome, comfortable, as well as, making it an enjoyable experience.

I beg you to be an example... who is given to God for the service of the poor and who, therefore, must be more with the poor than with the rich... St. Vincent de Paul

"all one in truth and charity!"

Penny Craig
President

Listening to Silence

Our modern world is full of noise that cuts off silence, of means of communication that isolate us and confine us to our own interior. Silence screams to be heard, especially if it comes from the poor.

Vincetians do not escape from it. They must find the pause, the discernment, the true contact in their relation with the person living in poverty. It is the same as silently approaching a growing leaf, when only its rustle in the wind and its simple beauty attract our admiring look. We look at Jesus when we contemplate nature, when we notice the poor, voiceless on the street.

The poor suffer from the cacophony created by a perturbed and anxious interior self, and keep a profound silence. Their outside appearance and their home reveal their human condition. It is our duty to break that silence with a smile, daring to shake hands on a street corner, or when entering a shabby apartment.

The poor want to tell their story and their suffering, but too often remain muted. Who will listen? Poverty is ashamed and remains silent. Suffering searches for an identity. Who will help them find it? There are many people around them, but no one to confide in. Those living in poverty do not want others to look down on their misery. The Vincentian sits on the ground with him and they will rise together. Both will exit the experience a different person, standing, and taller.

Do you hear me? My glance is talking to you. Their phone call is not only for a food voucher. They want to say: come visit me and warm me inside. I would so much like to be different, to be somewhere else. On my way I pray silently, my soul rising up towards Jesus, my God. The meeting is not what I expect. The atmosphere is cold. It is cold and yet, I behave warmly. All my senses are alert, except speech. I want to listen in order to hear, and understand. I wish to serve him. I am in a hurry as always, but I must take my time. Undress his heart; open up to the stranger who appeals to Jesus, who tells about his weaknesses, his failures and his distress. It is not easy.

The silence weighs on me; we talk but nothing meaningful is said. He wants to talk about himself, but is unable to do so. Then, there is no more conversation between us, only a monologue. At the end, words turn to silence.

We share a moment of reflection, it is getting warmer, we feel better.

I take my leave, richer and happier, even though he gave me nothing. He thanks me, he feels better although he is still as poor materially. I will see to that. I must go grocery shopping, and take care of a few things, with him. Our second meeting.

What is happening to me? Me, always too talkative, trying to enhance their "ego". Could it be that Vincetian spirit and prayer brought me to the silence that allows the soul to talk?

**Clermont Fortin, 1st Vice-President
National Council**



Spirituality

THE IMPORTANCE OF HARMONY

The following text is from Isidore of Seville, where he was Bishop. He died in 636. It has influenced people ever since it was written around the year 600. By the way, Isidore was an outstanding Bishop who did much to establish the roots of Spanish Christianity.

It is fitting for you to run together in harmony with the mind of the bishop which is exactly what you are doing. For your presbytery, which is both worthy of the name and worthy of God, is attuned to the Bishop as strings to the lyre. Therefore Jesus Christ is sung in your harmonious and symphonic love (sumphonoï agapei). And each of you should join the chorus, that by being symphonic in your harmony, taking up the divine inflection (chroma) together you may sing in one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father, that he may both hear and recognize you through the things that you do well, since you are members (mele meaning melodies) of his Son. Therefore it is useful for you to be in flawless unison, that you may partake of God at all times.

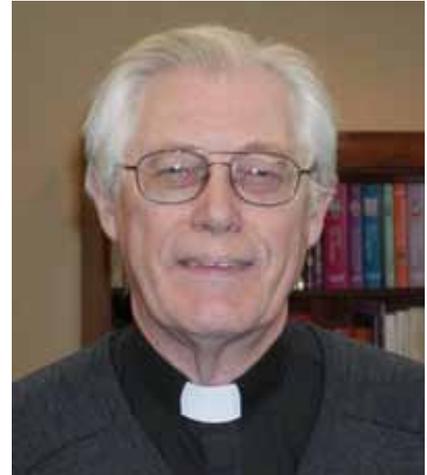
As you can see, the great idea delivered by the text is the notion of harmony: the voices of many blending into something new and beautiful. Here we have the essential ingredient of community as well as team. Each one strives:

- to know himself
- to know the ones around him
- to bring to the common undertaking his best and at the same time, allowing the best of the others to shine.

Perfect harmony is the ideal but even the beginnings of harmony lead to wonderful results; specifically regarding the operation of a Conference the idea of harmony is important. Scheduling work to keep everyone's needs in mind takes a bit of effort, but in the long run pays off in smooth and harmonious operation. To preserve harmony, the courage and charity to confront problems and not to let them fester, is an imperative.

May our Conferences, Councils, Parishes, Dioceses, all endeavour to be as harmonious as possible. In a secular world where harmony is a distant memory, the example of Christian institutions striving for harmonious existence becomes a potent sign and efficacious evangelisation.

Msgr Peter Schonenbach
Spiritual Advisor



Msgr Peter Schonenbach

*"The most ancient
and effective
wireless
connection:
a prayer to God."*

Spirituality

I was re-reading the American poet, Robert Frost, a few days ago, and I came across MENDING WALL, the first line of which is "Something there is that doesn't love a wall..." which caused me to reflect on the fact that we live in a society which seems to be obsessed with building walls, not tearing them down.

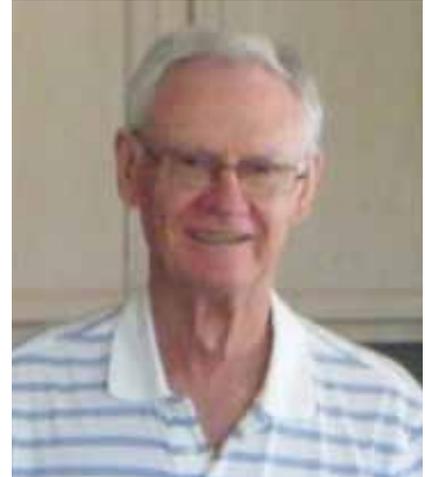
The walls are often built in an attempt to keep others out, as a form of security, but too often they only imprison and isolate those who have built them. To me this attitude is very anti-gospel. Jesus was one who did not love walls; he spent his life trying to tear them down. Jesus' message was inclusivity, not exclusivity. He horrified the Pharisees by eating and drinking with the sinners and outcasts of his time and place.

So, as Vincentians, it is important that we reflect on the walls which we have built. Those walls take many forms: cultural, religious, political, economic, life-style. How often do we refer to people as "they", usually in a pejorative tone of voice? I believe as Christians and Vincentians we have to take quite seriously St. Paul's words to the Ephesians when he points out that the Jews and the Gentiles are one in Christ, "in his flesh he has made both groups into one, and has broken down the dividing wall." Ephesians 2:14

Let me share a story with you. This is a story I heard several years ago, so I do not remember all the details, but this is the gist of the tale. In a certain village many years ago, a stranger came to live among the villagers. The village was a Catholic one, and the stranger was not a Catholic, in fact he was not even baptized. At first he kept to himself, and was distrusted by his neighbours because he was not one of them. After several years they became accustomed to his presence, and the stranger began to do the villagers little acts of kindness. As the years passed, the stranger helped the villagers more and more, helping the sick, the aged, the infirm, those in distress. By now the villagers no longer considered him a stranger, but fully accepted him as a neighbour, though he never came to church with them. Eventually the stranger died, and the villagers gathered to prepare the body for burial. They brought the body of the onetime stranger, a man they had come to love and respect over the years, to the village priest, and asked him to bury the body with full solemnity. The priest said he could not bury the body in the church cemetery as that was consecrated ground, and the man had not been baptized. Eventually the priest compromised with the villagers, and announced that he would bury the body outside the fence that enclosed the village cemetery. And so it was done. The next morning when the priest went to the church, he discovered that the villagers had moved the fence to include the new grave.

Let us be like the villagers, and expand the boundaries of what we consider sacred so as to exclude no one. I will conclude with a quotation from St. Vincent de Paul. He wrote: "With renewed devotion, then, we must serve the poor, especially outcasts and beggars. They have been given to us as our masters and patrons." God help us to do so.

Fr. Joe Quinn
Member of the Spirituality Committee



Fr. Joe Quinn

"Charity is the cement that unites communities to God and individuals to each other, so that he who contributes to the union of hearts in a community binds it indissolubly to God".

St Vincent de Paul

Spirituality

SPEECH OF FATHER YVON LAROCHE, GIVEN AT THE 2010 AGA, IN TORONTO

Ozanam disciples in Canada, friends of Christ, or philanthropists in a horizontal position?

In these times of globalization, while we celebrate the 350th anniversary of the death of Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Louise de Marillac, what do we have to say about the spirituality of Christian laypersons engaged in their path?

I come to you in joy and humility



In joy, because you are for me men and women of good will, who commit as best you can to relieve Jesus, who is hungry, who is thirsty, who is naked, abandoned, alone and in prison. You serve Christ. The spirituality of the Vincentian layperson, in a time of globalization, means to love the Risen Lord, and serve Him in the poor, and also to serve Him in your spouse, your children, your grand-children, your colleagues at work. It is a joy for me to meet brothers and sisters who were baptized as I was.

I come back to you with humility. There is only one true Good Shepherd, and it is the Risen Lord. I dare say that I am His friend. I wish to live for Him, and to die for Him. And when I serve, I do it in His name. How can I be Jesus' disciple, servant, or friend, if I do not seek everyday to live through Him, for Him and in Him? I know now that to act by myself, for myself, and in myself does not really open doors to a true becoming. Prestige and sensationalism are always non-essential. To serve the poor with Jesus' heart requires constant effort in keeping one's heart free and detached. The old selfish core always present within me leads me, often hypocritically, to serve myself abundantly. And yet, Jesus gently and clearly tells us, "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) I must often ask my brothers and sisters, and Jesus, to forgive me.

God's silence in front of evil can lead us to lose faith

In today's world, can we still talk about the spirituality of the layperson socially committed within the society? Yes, and more than ever! God is within us. The Risen Lord lives in the conscience of men, women, youths, and that is why conscience is an absolute. "Man must make silence (in his conscience) because God became the Word", says St. Benedict.

If I am a Vincentian, it does not feel right to say that my social commitment is philanthropic, as do the atheists. Philanthropy is certainly commendable. Committing to help a man become a free man is a noble thing. But Vincentians are called to go farther than that. Ozanam's disciples, and those of Rosalie Rendu, Jean-Léon le Prévost, and even more Saint Vincent de Paul, are more than philanthropists. They are friends of the Lord Risen, and they heard His message: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." (Mat 25:35), and who, in all humility, want to love Christ in the poor.

In this present world, there is so much suffering, cataclysms, scandals, and corruption, that we are sometimes tempted to hold God accountable. If you exist, why do you let all that happen without intervening?

God is the first victim of evil. Zundel has expressed that reality admirably, "How can tribulation give birth to joy, and can we, in this world torn apart, abandon ourselves to Easter joy? It is because behind every ordeal there is Love. If God is suffering, then at the core of that suffering there is the Love that will never cease to accompany us. Moreover, he will be stricken before us, within us and for us. To understand that somewhat, we must think about motherly love. A healthy mother can suffer more from her child's disease than the child himself, because of that identification of love that her love is capable of. How can we imagine that the love of God would be less motherly? That is why no one is stricken without God being stricken in him, before him, more than him and

Spirituality

for him. However, if evil has such dimension, then there is a divine wound that keeps asking for our generosity.”

We are here this morning because we are people of good will and we wish to transform our world. And we know that God does not do anything in our place. God does not do anything that we can do ourselves. But kike you, I have difficulty communicating with the Risen Lord through real faith. We could wonder: when did we last have an intimate conversation with Christ Risen? I do not talk about a superficial meeting that could look like the verger’s genuflexions in my parish, when he walked in front of the tabernacle. He would walk by so quickly that he made us, choirboys, laugh. I am talking about a conversation that is as intimate as the one you would have with the person that you love the most.

Who is God for Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac?

Who is God? All He is, is Love.

Let me talk to you about an experiment with youths. I ask them what comes to their mind when I say God. Usually, they say words such as almighty, infinite, wise, cognizant, love. I put an X to indicate that it is false. I remove “love” from the list: God is only love. He is not almighty. He is only love almighty. He is not infinite. He is only infinite love. He is not wise. He is only wise love. He is not cognizant. He is only cognizant love. It is fortunate that it is so; otherwise, think about the American comic book Mandrake, a magician with extraordinary powers. He is almighty. But when he gets up on the wrong side of the bed, beware! God is only love.

True love implies:

Poverty: empty on its own, others fill it.

Dependence: that of the mother towards her child, not the baby’s.

Humility: God does not look down on us, when He washes feet; He looks up towards us.

Who is God?

For Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac, God lives in every human being. The great discovery of my life is that God lives within me. He lives in the human body.

The true cathedral of God is the living human body. Saint Augustine took a lot of time to discover that: he was looking elsewhere, as among the Emmaus disciples. Faith is not sentimentalism. We are aware that false gods swarm under the cover of truth, and that sects play considerably on people’s feelings. Only charity can cure us from idolatry, charity leads us towards men and women.

Why is He among us?

“God became man so that we might become God.” We will share God’s life eternally. Sharing God’s life means to become God by participation. Let us add that we do not earn our way to heaven. We welcome it. We do not make ourselves become God; it is Christ who transforms us, who makes us more divine.

God dreams of a marriage: He is the spouse, and humanity, men, women, and children of yesterday, today and tomorrow are as united in only one body, the body of a spouse. We must go beyond the picture and see in that a true reality. During Eucharist, we say, “In all humility, we ask that by partaking of the body of Christ, we are joined by the Holy Spirit in one sole body”.

How will that happen?

We are free beings. The Lord cannot make us more divine if we do not want Him to. It happens through our decisions, whether they are small or major, and that is the specificity of the Vincentian spirituality. Christ makes us divine from our own decisions.

Selfish decisions lead to sin. Jesus can only forgive us. However, when we make humanitarian decisions, He takes them in His hands and uses them to transform us, to make us more divine.

Does our situation as sinners prevent the accomplishment of the mission?

But God is only love. If God breathes, if there is breathing, it is a forgiving breathing. He loves us too much to abandon us to our selfishness. The following story about a Jewish rabbi is delicious and enlightening at the same time.

Spirituality

Everything is grace! An old rabbi was telling the following: Everyone of us is linked to God by a thread. When we commit a sin, the thread is broken. But when we regret that sin, God makes a knot in the thread, and right away, the thread gets shorter than it was, and the sinner is closer to God! Thus, from sin to repentance, from knot to knot, we get closer to God. Finally, everyone of our sins is an occasion to shorten the thread a bit more, and to get closer to God's heart. Everything is grace, even sins!

There is one central truth in the Gospel: God became man to save the poor. Poverty and weakness are never an obstacle. God did not come for the healthy, but for the sick. As soon as we are ready to stop negating poverty and anguish, and welcome freely, Jesus may become what His name means: the one who saves.

Perhaps you know Father Daniel-Ange. He says, "Yes, we have entered the era of sanctity of the poor, the poor who lack love, the poor who lack affection, the poor who lack culture, even the poor who lack religious life. I believe that the heavier the burden and the wound that a person has, the more rapidly that person is precipitated to the Heart of God. There will always be an infinite relationship between man's distress and God's tenderness."

One day, a young man sees Saint Francis of Assisi approaching. He says aloud, "Here is the saint." And Francis replies as quickly, "You think that I am a saint? But do you not know that even tonight, I could sleep with a prostitute if God would not support me?" That is the real spirit of humility of the true saint, Saint Vincent de Paul, Saint Louise de Marillac, the Blessed Frederic Ozanam, which has nothing to do with the spirit of the Pharisees. They know that they belong to the world of sinners and that is why, at some point, there is no difference between the sinner and the saint. Because the saint always thinks of himself as a sinner ready to be converted, and any sinner, however weak he is, must consider himself as a possible saint. It is Jesus who sanctifies us, who transforms the redness of sin into pure snow white. We do not gain heaven through accounting practices. We welcome it. And there is as much love in welcoming as in giving.

Your mission is not spectacular, but efficient.

Yes, how will this happen? By letting Christ take His place within ourselves. That is why the key of the Vincentian spirituality is: listening to the Word of God, Eucharist, and service to the poor. That is where we learn to leave space for Him.

For that, let the poor evangelize us.

Benedict XVI, in his encyclical "Veritas in Caritatis":

Looks at the world

Is not nostalgic, or pessimistic

Does not condemn capitalism

He says:

God does nothing that man can do himself

Man has all he needs to transform the world

God places man at the center of the world to be transformed

Man has a key in each hand to transform the world

The first key is a deep respect of men, women, and youth. "The dignity of man may never be disparaged or called into question, even with good intentions, whatever the difficulties involved." Splendor Veritatis #92

The second key is communication between human beings: an honest and true dialogue. That is essential to the capacity of man to transform the world.

Zundel expresses our mission admirably:

"Christianity does not ask us to leave earth to look at an imaginary heaven, but rather to become that heaven ourselves, transfiguring our life by letting all the light and joy of God shine through us. This is not about turning away from life, but about entering life, because we may be dead before death if we refuse to make our life a continuous creation of grace and beauty. So, let us not learn to die, but rather learn to defeat death and become a flowing source of eternal life at the heart of each day. To be Christian is to make every flower bloom in the certainty that love will have the last word! That is how we will ascertain the reign of grace, by being graceful, by trying to listen to others as much as they need to be listened to, so that they feel loved and discover

the value of life, the hidden treasure at the bottom of their heart, who is the living God. If God is truly the life of our life, it must be apparent, we must become a friend for everyone without boundaries. Then, we carry God in ourselves and communicate our joy by singing, since as Saint Augustine said, "The one who loves sings." Because God is always already there. It is we who are sometimes absent.

Conclusion

I conclude with a typically Vincentian slogan:

Keep a hand on the beauty of the world

Keep a hand on the suffering of man

Keep both feet in the work to do at this very moment

The beauty of the world is there to admire. I love sunsets; I admire ingenious architecture, the oldest as well as the newest.

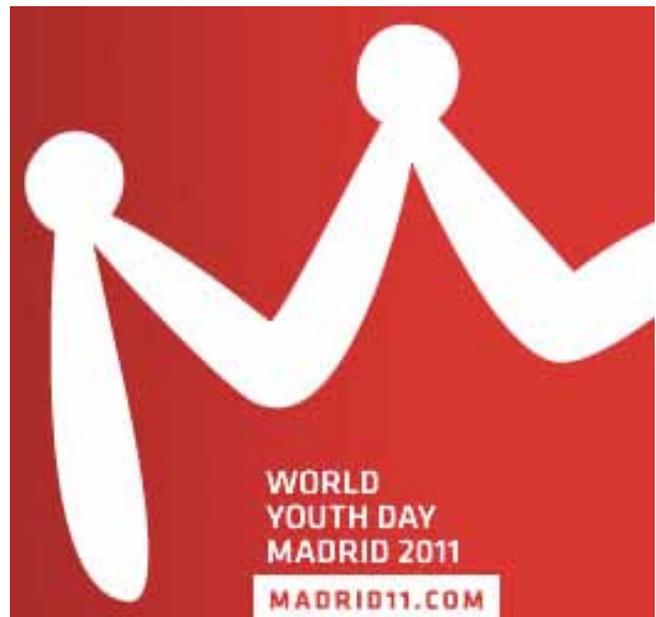
However, a hand on the suffering of man is absolutely essential. I cannot admire what is beautiful and good, without thinking that there are millions of people who suffer and do not participate in that beauty. Do not think just about refugee camps...

World suffering is unfathomable. It is difficult even talking about it. One hand on the suffering of man must be a continuous gesture, without it being morbid. That is why both hands are precious. One hand on the beauty and one hand on the suffering.

I add, both feet in the work to be done at this very moment. Simply because God is in the present, and I have work to do, and the work to be done is here and now. I add, cultivate kindness. God is when you are kind. Be too kind, to be sure you are kind enough.

I leave you with a thought from Father Pierre, "When we get to the end of our life, we will not be asked if we were believers, but rather if we were CREDIBLE."

Father Yvon Laroche
Former Spiritual Advisor of the Council general
International



CANADIAN VINCENTIANS AT THE WYD 2011

The World Youth Days that take place every three years will be held in Madrid, Spain, from August 16 to 21, 2011. They will follow the international Young Vincentians Meeting that will take place from August 12. WYD and YVM are special events for participants, allowing them to gather as Church groups, but also as members of the Vincentian Family, to strengthen unity and a sense of belonging to a group.

Several young Canadians - aged 16 to 35 - are already preparing to attend the event. Mrs. Penny Craig, President of the National Council, will participate as well, as she did for the 2008 WYD in Sidney, Australia. She was then accompanied by five young Vincentians from Ontario. Any group interested in participating in the international event will have to start saving money early in order to pay the 280 EUR registration fee. A walk will be organized during the 2011 SSVP AGA in Victoria, to collect part of the required funds. You will receive more information in advance of the activity.

I invite young Vincentians wishing to participate in the WYD to let me know about it, in order to better organize the Canadian participation.

Caroline Gilbert, Youth rep
carolinegilbert@live.fr

Twining

Following are excerpts from the new Canadian Twining Manual, recently reviewed by the National Board. This will indicate the way that this manual can help you with your questions. The manual will be circulated at the next AGA in Victoria in June 2011.

2A WHO CAN TWIN?

Aggregated Conferences and Instituted Councils are eligible to twin with other Aggregated Conferences and Instituted Councils, which from this point on will be referred to as Conferences and Councils. They must also have a Business Number, which allows them to write charitable organization receipts. Assistance with obtaining a Business Number is available from the National Office.

Vincetians would violate their duty of accountability owed to the donors of the Society if they were to twin with a person, group, or organization that was not a member of the Society. (8.)

2B INITIATING TWINNING WITHIN A CONFERENCE/COUNCIL

The decision by a conference/council to engage in twinning begins with a discussion at a conference/council meeting. The conference/council chooses to be a Donating or Receiving Twin. A motion is introduced. If passed, the conference/council seeks a Twining Contact Person, who will conduct twinning activities. It is preferable that the twinning contact person not be the president of a conference/council.

Refer to Appendix D for the role and responsibilities of the Twining Contact Person. (6.)

2E SUBMITTING A TWINNING APPLICATION

TO BE A DONATING CONFERENCE/COUNCIL (EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL)

To submit a twinning application, the Twining Contact Person obtains and completes an application form that asks for the type of twinning (i.e. Internal or External), preferred language and country (if external), and the conference/council's Date of Aggregation and Revenue Canada Business Number (BN). The application form is available from the National Twining website at www.ssvp.ca/en/national_council/twinning or your Regional Twining Chairperson. Completed application forms can be emailed to twinning@ssvp.ca or mailed to the address on the bottom of the form. (6.)

TO BE A RECEIVING CONFERENCE/COUNCIL (INTERNAL)

The Twining Contact Person obtains and completes an application form, on which they indicate that their conference/council wishes to be a Recipient Twin (internal only) and provide the conference/council's Date of Aggregation and Revenue Canada Business Number (BN). The application form is available from the National Twining website at www.ssvp.ca/en/national_council/twinning or your Regional Twining Chairperson. Completed application forms can be emailed to twinning@ssvp.ca or mailed to the address on the bottom of the form. (2.)

WE HAVE CONFERENCES WAITING TO BE TWINNED WITH CANADIAN CONFERENCES AND COUNCILS, FROM:

Peru - Dominican Republic - Nicaragua - Haiti - Colombia - Guatemala - El Salvador

If your conference is interested, please fill in the application form available on our website: www.ssvp.ca or by our administrative assistant: twinning@ssvp.ca.

If you have an interest in a particular country with whom I hold application forms, please indicate it on your application form.

Kathy Weswick at twinning-chair@ssvp.ca

Canada's Councils in Action

ATLANTIC REGIONAL COUNCIL

Cape Breton

Our Cape Breton Conferences have been working very actively with Sisters of Charity and their associates coming up with lists of problems in the community. One Vincentian, Edna Lee, has been working to help the homeless, meeting the local Housing Authority, helping families pay for home heating and power bills. Edna wrote directly to the NS minister of Community Services in hope some answers will be forthcoming. Since then, local University professors (Political Science) have come forth to join in raising affordable housing as an issue. Vincentians met on September 25 for Day of Spirituality with Fr. Greg MacLeod, the director of New Dawn, an investment organization in the long-term care industry as guest speaker. On September 27 members commemorated the Feast Day of Saint Vincent de Paul with a Mass and a "get together" with songs and dancing. (See photo)

Nova Scotia Mainland

Halifax Particular Council has agreed to host the AGA 2010.

Valerie Getson, Outreach Office Coordinator, has agreed to attend the Systemic Change Workshop in Chicago representing the Halifax Particular Council.

Prince Edward Island

Vincentians have had a tremendous year including the addition of St. Paul's Conference in Summerside, several clothing and small appliances drives, food vouchers, assisting in transportation for medical needs and utility bills to friends in need.

St. Pius X Conference invited all Conferences to a Mass and potluck to celebrate the feast day, September 27.

Holy Redeemer Conference had a used clothing and supplies drive to help school children returning in September in a wide area. The increase in energy costs and low wages are causing more requests for assistance in paying utility bills and furnace oil. We have also assisted in payment of drug costs and transportation costs to Halifax for medical reasons.

Several Advocacy initiatives have been completed, including representations to local politicians. There is a great deal of interest in Advocacy and a Regional representative came forward, Mr. John Gallie. Unfortunately, John was unable to attend the Chicago Systemic Change Workshop as all seats had been booked.

Newfoundland

In honor of the September 27th St. Vincent de Paul Feast Day, Father Leo English, St. Teresa's Conference invited all members of St. John's Particular Council to join with the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women's League in a Mass of celebration. We were also graced with a beautiful Baptism at the Mass. The evening ended with refreshments and conversation with fellow Vincentians in the area.

Hurricane Igor wreaked havoc province-wide and in particular with many of our rural communities. Some areas are still grappling with their loss and waiting for assistance from the province. Some local residents were assisted where needed by local Conferences.

David Grant, President



Canada's Councils in Action

QUEBEC REGIONAL COUNCIL

Pleasant visitors... in Montreal

On September 27 of this year, a solemn Mass to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the death of Saint Vincent de Paul, our patron saint took place, at the Maire-Reine-du-Monde Cathedral. It was a wonderful celebration officiated by MGR André Gazaille, parish priest at the cathedral. Several representatives of religious orders affiliated to Saint Vincent de Paul and Sainte Louise de Marillac attended the liturgy.

After the celebration, everyone was invited to the basement of the cathedral for the Annual General Assembly of the Montreal Central Council. His Excellency Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte always honours us with his presence because, as he says, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a work of the Church, and Mr. Vincent is somewhat an inspiration for him and for the Church of yesterday and today. He reminds us of a text by Mr. Vincent, who exhorts the religious sisters to consider charity as their first Christian obligation, even if in order to do so, they must sacrifice prayer and meditation.

On that occasion, we also received Mrs. Penny Craig, National President of the Society, as well as Mr. Jean-Claude Bienvenue, Regional President. In the presence of all those important people, as well as about 100 members, Mr. Pierre Portelance, President of the Montreal Central Council, had the pleasure of presenting well deserved awards to three distinguished members of Montreal's great Vincentian Family. The Expression award was presented to Mr. Jean-Yves Brault for his work as Director of the "LeJaseur" newspaper, of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul de Repentigny (the Ozanam Conference and the Repentigny Conference), for the past 12 years. The Hubert-Paré award was presented to Mrs. Jeannine Chaussé, of the Mont-Royal Particular Council, and to Mr. Jean-Marie Roy, of the Sainte-Louise-de-Marillac Conference, in recognition of their continuous service to the poor of their respective community. In conclusion, the 27th of September was a wonderful day for attending members and for our dignified invited guests.

**Pierre Portelance, President
Montreal Central Council**



Members of the Sainte-Angèle Conference (Montreal QC), during the visit of the National President. Penny took the opportunity to officially present the Conference's certificate of aggregation.

Canada's Councils in Action



Members of the Saint-Denys-du-Plateau Conference, Sainte-Foy QC



The 2010 Guignolée – A Great Success

All in all, our fellow-citizens were once again very generous during the 2010 Guignolée. Today, we have collected \$ 2,315, and we are still expecting donations by mail”, says Mr. Réal Camiré, in charge of the Guignolée in Saint-Denys.

Let us recall that during the Guignolée, teams of volunteers (two people, one of them a “veteran”) go up and down the streets to collect donations in houses and apartment buildings. This year, there was an impressive number of volunteers: indeed, about twenty “collectors” contributed to the success of the Guignolée.

“In dire economic times such as we are experiencing” says Grant Regalbuto, President of the Saint Vincent-de-Paul in Saint-Denys-du-Plateau, “people who have the means to do so tend to share with people who are in need. Unemployment is decreasing in the area, but a few “pockets” of poverty still remain.”

The Guignolée is the main source of public financing for the Saint Vincent-de-Paul. Thanks to the public generosity, we can provide assistance to more than 60 low-income families year after year, in that district of old Sainte-Foy.

**Grant Regalbuto, President
Saint-Denys-du-Plateau Conference**



*Penny Craig, Cardinal Turcotte,
Jean-Claude Bienvenue,
Jeannine Chaussé, Pierre Portelance*

Canada's Councils in Action

ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Ontario SSVP at the U.S.-Canada Vincentian Family Systemic Change Meeting

As Chair of the Ontario Regional Council's Voice of the Poor committee I was selected to attend the recent US-Canada Systemic Change meeting in Belleville, IL. (near St. Louis, Mo) from Nov. 4th to Nov. 7th, 2010. The Vincentian Family consists of the Congregation of the Mission (1625), the Ladies of Charity (1617), the Daughters of Charity (1633), the Sisters of Charity (1809), the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (1833), Missionary Cenacle Apostolate (1909), Vincentian Marian youth (1835) and the Vincentian Service Corps (1985). In total there were 112 participants. The Canadian contingent included me, Clermont Fortin of our National Council, Valerie Getson from Halifax and several Sisters of Charity from the Maritimes.

The Goals of this meeting were:

To introduce and/or deepen the understanding of the process of systemic change as a way of promoting ongoing development of persons living in poverty.

To equip participants with necessary tools (knowledge, convictions, and skills) to promote systemic change within the VinFam US-Canada.

To develop regional strategies for continued training in systemic change

To provide opportunities for inter-Family exchange of experience and plans for future collaboration.

Our working definition:

Systemic change among those living in poverty aims beyond providing food, clothing and shelter, and to alleviate immediate needs. It enables people themselves to engage in the identification of the root causes of their poverty and to create strategies, including advocacy, to change those structures which keep them in poverty. Systemic Change requires transforming attitudes.

I found the entire experience humbling and inspiring as well as energizing.

Now, as we all return home, we must decide what is next. First and foremost is our own transformation so that we

can embrace the notion of systemic change. While this may sound complicated, I'm sure every Vincentian has wondered, especially after having helped one of our friends in need, "Why can't we do something to break the cycle of poverty? Why can't we do more to help our friends?"

We now have the resources and direction to make that difference. It is Systemic Change.

We need to address poverty in a holistic way. In other words, we must look after the welfare of the individual, not just provide material needs. We also need to increase our efforts to find ways to include those living in poverty to be active in developing programs or actions we might try that are aimed at changing the system. As I quickly discovered, advocacy, while being very important, is only one part of the solution.

Where do we start? In the coming weeks and months, I shall communicate with our current network of members dedicated to dealing with the causes of poverty, our Ontario Voice of the Poor committee, the Toronto Central Council advocacy committee and other Vincentians who have expressed a desire to be part of this issue. We will develop strategies on a systemic change program for Ontario that will be part of a Strategic Plan for Ontario to be presented next spring. There is no doubt formation within the systemic change framework will be needed. It must begin with our own attitudinal transformation.

As Father Robert Maloney, one of the presenters at our meeting said, we must first change our attitudes, then those around us, and then the entire organization. If we can achieve this change, we will succeed.

There are also some immediate opportunities to implement various projects that address systemic change about which we shall provide information to all councils.

We shall also develop a program of formation in regards to systemic change. I believe our current roster of trainers who are working on presentation of the National

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Council modules provides us with the perfect format to present the systemic change concept.

In closing, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the most important part of the meeting. It would be the family aspect of all these various Vincentian groups coming together as one in Christ with one singular goal....to serve Christ in the poor.

The spirituality of every meeting, workshop, meal and casual conversation with brothers and sisters from across the US and Canada was something you always felt and enjoyed. The humility of each participant resulted in a very open dialogue on the issues and contributed to a worthwhile meeting.

There is a wealth of information about the meeting and our Vincentian family at www.Famvin.org. I recommend you check it out regularly. May God bless us and our friends in need.

Jim Paddon, Chair
Voice of the Poor
Ontario Regional Council



*Sister Claudette Gallant-Sr. of St. Martha
CSM-Antigonish, NS
Sr. Agnes Leger-Sr. of Charity-Moncton, NB
Valerie Getson-SSVP-Halifax
Clermont Fortin-SSVP National Council Canada
Sr. Aurea Cormier-Sr. of Charity-Moncton NB
Sr. Joan O'Keefe-Sr. of Charity-Halifax, NS
Roma DeRobertis-SCIC-St. John's NB
Jim Paddon, SSVP Ontario Regional Council*

STREET SCENE

Father Daniel, Trinity priest since 1997, was our guest speaker at the training session organized by the Jésus-Marie-Joseph d'Orléans (Ottawa) Conference, last October. Father Daniel has worked with street youths for many years.

He told us that there was a myth about persons only having the street as their home, particularly the youth: to give them money only helps feed their addiction to drugs and alcohol. It is true in some cases, but we must avoid judging and oversimplifying, the small coffee tastes good as well.

For Father Daniel, such a gesture means something else for the homeless, especially the young ones. That simple gesture means "I exist", someone saw me, and cared enough to stop and acknowledged me by giving me a small present, a *loony*, or a *twoony*. He or she also appreciated the smile, even the one lingering distractedly on the lips. When one comes from a dysfunctional or violent family environment, and was told repeatedly "you're no good", "you can't do anything", "you're one too many round here", when running away is the only way out of rejection, when self confidence is non existent and you are alone on the street, that type of attention from an unknown passerby is a spark of light in an otherwise loveless existence.

As a Vincentian, we should remember that every time we pass by a nameless youth who is wondering who he or she is, because he or she needs us.

Will you stop?

Clermont Fortin, 1st VP
National Council

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WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL



Reflections from Tuktoyaktuk

Some members of St. Joseph's Conference gathered over tea to discuss their 3 years as members of the SSVP. Reflective and wide-ranging, their conversation made it clear that the presence of a Saint Vincent de Paul group in Tuktoyaktuk is significant in the lives of its members and, increasingly, in the larger community.

"It's a blessing!" asserts Conference president Catherine Katigakyok, her assessment immediately affirmed by other group members present: Lucy Dillon, Catherine Mangelana, Millie Gruben, Charles Gruben and Sr. Fay Trombley.

"Food is so expensive here. People are very happy to be able to get emergency food and they really appreciate the dried foods sent from the South", says Catherine. "Having fabric here to sell is also very good. It is difficult for people to get as it cannot be purchased in Tuk."

Lucy Dillon notes that it is good to see people happy to receive enough food for 2 or 3 days. "It helps a lot." And seeing the society offer food to those in need provides an example for the larger community. "People are learning to give to others", she concludes. "Individuals are bringing food and clothing to us for those who need it." And a local grocery, Stanton, has begun donating excess and outdated goods for the use of the patrons of

Saint Vincent de Paul. Lucy also appreciates the group for personal reasons. On sick leave from her job, she says being a member of the group has been a real boost to her self-esteem. "The group members support me, and even though I can't work, I can help by doing things for the community."

Charles Gruben, Catherine Katigayok and Catherine Mangelana draw attention to the actual building used by the group as a thrift shop and food distribution centre. It has a rich history in the community as a former rectory where many went as children after Mass or on special occasions...as a home to Oblates, such as Fr. Franche, remembered for his medical skills and his use of a windmill to generate power...and the iconic Fr. Robert Le Meur, operator of radio Tuktoyaktuk, a man close to the people for decades, who is now buried within sight of the current church and mission house. An old building heated by a wood-stove, "it is a nice place to sit", says Charles, "a space that settles your mind". The atmosphere is "homey, pleasurable, relaxed for people to come to." It is a place that generates many, many memories, many stories.

"People like shopping", says Millie Gruben, "but there is a limited selection of retail goods available in Tuk, often at prices people can't afford." So people are happy to peruse the thrift shop. "Even though most of the clothing we have isn't new, people are happy to have it." The spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul is renewing community traditions. "People were sharing long ago," she recalls, "If you went door to door, the people you visited would feed you. That stopped for awhile, but now it is coming back." "The old spirit of community, of sharing is being revived." Lucy echoes.

Catherine Mangelana notes an increased consciousness among group members of needs within the community. "When we're sorting goods, we see things that would be really good for this person or that one, so we can put things aside for them," she says. Saint Vincent de Paul is running smoothly, she thinks. The Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon opening times are becoming routine for people so the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul centre is becoming a meeting place in the community. The occasional special sales the centre holds

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are also helpful: "People are thankful. It helps them put things away for times of need."

Each member speaks of their own formation in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul. Charles' expression of gratitude to Sr. Fay Trombley for her role in helping foster growth through spiritual direction is quickly affirmed by other group members. They have become a community themselves, they feel, and are able to use the gifts of each member. Each is grateful for the others, for the team. "I couldn't have done this by myself", says Catherine clearly speaking for each member.

As individuals interact, the energy of the group increases...as does the awareness of just how rich these last three years have been:

In building community

In becoming another visible and active Christian presence in Tuk

In increasing communal awareness of the various faces of poverty here

And in inviting practical, compassionate responses to need.

That donations from the community are increasing suggests that the society is seen by others as effective in responding to need. "Saint Vincent de Paul really helps a lot of families", Millie comments. "Hopefully it will continue, that we can be like Arctic flowers!"

Several dreams for the future emerge from the conversation, from the communal reflection. "Single mothers have a really hard time with their children. I wonder if we could meet them, talk in private, help with advice and resources", Millie wonders. Perhaps home visiting is something the group will initiate, suggests another. And maybe a private space can be created at the centre for people to speak confidentially when they come.

Not only does the society make a lot of connections within the community, the group notes, but its presence has also proven a way of bringing people together. There is a strong spirit of sharing, of giving and receiving. Many who benefit from the society return the gift with donations of fish, meat, geese, and dried fish, for example, to go to community members who run short

of local foods. Those on income assistance are required to contribute hours of community service monthly and offer time to fish, to collect wood, to be a hospitable presence at the thrift store.

Maybe other ways of bringing people together can grow from what is, the members suggest. "Perhaps we can use the centre to gather groups for quilt making...begin a support group for women...sponsor groups teaching sled-making...traditional skills...a cooking group with the food produced passed on to elders...a group preparing baskets for new mothers" are a few of the possibilities named.

St. Joseph's Conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is truly a blessing, its members alive with hope, compassion, with vision and energy for its future.

Respectfully,

Ella Allen SCIC

Note from The Western Region President: Sister Ella goes up to Tuktoyaktuk in the summer to help Sister Faye with the Mission. Below is a picture of the Rectory, which is now the home of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. This year the specially commissioned Northern Committee applied for and received a government grant to refurbish the building to make it safe and more hospitable for the use of the elders of Tuktoyaktuk as a meeting place. One of our Vincentians from Edmonton has gone up for a few months to do the renovations along with some local help. After reading this article you can easily imagine how blessed I feel to know all the people involved with the life of this Conference.



Canada's Councils in Action

BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Christ the Redeemer Conference

West Vancouver

From the Stewardship, Volume 2, Issue 1

Financial Stewardship: your support in action

As the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at Christ the Redeemer enters its second year of operation, we wanted to provide the wider parish community a report of our activities and, in particular, how we have put to use the generous financial and material support we have received to date.

The parish has provided the Society with seed money using funds from Project Advance. This has been augmented with donations from members and parishioners through the use of the Society's poor box. In total, the support for the year has totalled in excess of \$5,000.

We have used these funds principally in four ways:

Support to Sancta Maria House (monthly purchase of laundry soap and toiletries for use by persons recovering from addiction).

Support for the monthly distribution of sandwiches, fruit and hot coffee to homeless persons at Main and Hastings (over 150 people being fed each evening) and free distribution of emergency lunches monthly through the Society's retail shop in downtown Vancouver.

Volunteer support: Society members (Vincentians) have also been active in assisting the Sisters of Atonement one Saturday each month, in visiting elderly shut-ins at Inglewood home and in volunteer support to the Harvest Project in North Vancouver.

Sandwiches for Street Kids

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society has taken over a parish initiative, started by a group of school mothers, to make lunches for homeless youth.

On the second Sunday of each month, Society volunteers (Vincentians) join forces with other parish volunteers to make sandwiches for Directions Youth Services, a provincial resource centre for homeless youth in downtown Vancouver.

Society volunteers (Vincentians) make 60 sandwiches, using meats donated by Black Forest Deli at Park Royal (South). The sandwiches are supplemented with parishioners' donations of drinks, granola bars, and other lunch items, and delivered to Directions for them to distribute.

Directions' social workers are grateful to our parish for helping to feed their young clients, and for our commitment in providing lunches on a regular basis.



God loves a cheerful giver. Special thanks to Black Forest Deli at Park Royal for its ongoing donation of luncheon meats.

Inglewood Outreach

Inglewood is an assisted living multi level seniors care home. It is home to over 200 residents.

Four volunteers from Saint Vincent de Paul (Vincentians) visit the Centre every three to four weeks to visit with residents.

"Often it is simply being present, spending time chatting", says Diedre Bickford of the parish, "bringing them a book or magazine".

"What I find incredible with volunteering is that you always receive more than you give", she adds.

Canada's Councils in Action

Packed Lunches

Many chapters of the Society across Canada operate retail outlets where donations of used furniture, clothing and other household items are sold and the funds used to support other Society outreach.

Here in Vancouver, the Society operated two retail shops. In response to a request by the diocesan level of the Society, our parish has committed to providing 60 non-perishable bagged lunches monthly. The lunches are packed and delivered for free distribution through these shops to those in need.

Saturdays with the Sisters

One of the first activities the Society undertook was regular volunteer work with the Sisters of the Atonement.

The Sisters have a long-standing outreach program to assist the homeless from their facility on Cordova Street.

The Sisters offer a range of services, including regular free lunches and the "Bread Jardin", an outlet for donated bakery items offered free to those in need.

Once a month, a group from our Society (Conference) carpools down to the Sisters to sort, portion, and package hundreds of bakery items for distribution later in the day.

The Society values this opportunity to assist the Sisters, who work tirelessly to better the conditions of their neighbours on the Downtown East Side.

Always welcome at the Door is Open

The Door is Open (373 East Cordova) is a drop-in centre that continues the work of the church under the mandate of the Archdiocese's Catholic Charities.

The Center supports the needs of hundreds of less fortunate people, many of whom have compounding difficulties such as drug and alcohol addiction, aging, physical and mental handicaps.

The Center provides shelter during the day where its drop-in centre provides visitors a place to relax, socialize and have a light meal and safe respite. It provides an outlet for the Elizabeth Fry Society where offenders undertake community service as a partial means of compensation for their victims.

Chili con carne

Our parish Society (Conference) now prepares a hot lunch for about 250 persons at the Archdiocese's the Door is Open drop-in centre on Cordova Street, one Saturday each month.

It began with a handful of parishioners visiting the centre in early August to see how to prepare a menu and serve this number of people. We were greeted by an enthusiastic group of students from Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School. They not only showed us the ropes (and gave us an excellent recipe for chili) but also provided a living lesson in how to host the less fortunate in our community.

The students showed a tremendous respect for the people, who came for lunch, by their cheerful demeanour, willingness to listen and chat.

We welcome parishioners to join us for these Saturdays. It involves preparing the chili on Friday evening and then finishing it at the centre on the Saturday.



Volunteers mix it up making Chili a la Carney.



Volunteers help distribute a hot lunch at the Door is Open.

Canada's Councils in Action

BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Dedication of Plaque to honour Judge Barry Grannary at Ozanam House in Kelowna



The Honorable Judge Barry Grannary who passed away in 2005 was honoured with the unveiling of a special plaque at Ozanam House on Sept 7 this year. His wife Eileen and their son Ian were present, as well as Vincentians, members of the legal community and media. It was a beautiful sunny day and everyone was there to pay tribute to Barry and his accomplishments as one of the founders of Ozanam House.

Dana Webster gave a short speech on Barry's life and involvement in the Society. As many Vincentians will remember, he was also very involved in establishing the Rule of the Society and served on the National Committee to help create the new Rule. It was interesting to note that many of Barry's former colleagues were not aware of his work within the Society and were amazed to learn about the depth of his commitment. He was a humble man and managed to accomplish much in his quiet and steady way.

Following the unveiling of the plaque, Eileen Grannary spoke words of gratitude to the group and let everyone know how much her husband Barry would have appreciated this day. The words on the plaque read "Barry Grannary, Ozanam House, a reflection of his vision, commitment and leadership". The dedication was followed by a tour of Ozanam House and of course snacks so everyone could mingle afterward.

Ozanam House opened in 2007 in Kelowna and has been operating very successfully ever since. It is home to 18 men who are recovering from the negative effects of drug or alcohol abuse. It is staffed 24 hours a day and offers many programs to assist these men who are in transition and trying to better their lives.

**Dana Webster, President
Particular Council of the Okanagan Valley**

I would also like to add the names of Vincentians who helped organize the dedication. They are long time Vincentians and serve on the board of Ozanam House. Bob Scherer, Board President and Master of Ceremonies, Reg Humphries, Vice President, Les Atwell, and Peggy Salaberry Directors.



Eileen and Ian Grannary and Dana Webster



Eileen Grannary, Bob Scherer - President of Ozanam House Board, Ian Grannary

Honorary Doctor of Laws degree

At its colourful 51st Convocation on October 15, 2010, Assumption University, Windsor, Ontario, conferred on Penny Craig an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in recognition of her distinguished humanitarian contributions in the service of society. In the citation leading up to the awarding of the degree, Rev. Dr. Joseph Quinn, csb, reviewed a few of Penny's many accomplishments.

This evening Assumption University honours Penny Craig, a woman who personifies the ideals of family, leadership, generosity, and devoted service to her community.

It is somewhat unusual for a Basilian to quote St. Ignatius of Loyola the founder of the Jesuits, but one of his comments is very appropriate in relation to Penny. St. Ignatius said that deeds, not words, are the measure of a person. Penny exemplifies the truth of Ignatius's statement. She has spent her professional life in the areas of health care and education. Over the years she has received various awards such as the Queen's Jubilee Medal in 2002 and the Scouting Anniversary Medal in 2008 for her contributions in these areas,

Penny was born and raised in the Ottawa area and it was there, while she was working at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, that she met her husband Bill. They were married in February, 1963. Penny continued to work at the hospital, be a wife to Bill and within the next few years to be a mother to her two sons: Billy and Brian. Now she is not only wife and mother, but also grandmother to her two grand-daughters Katie and Carrie and to her grandson Tanner. In 2007, she and Bill experienced what every parent dreads, the death of their child. Brian died after a painful illness.

In 1967 the family moved to Windsor, where they had neither family nor friends. They both worked at Metropolitan Hospital, working separate shifts so they could take care of their young sons. Penny worked as an RNA in the psychiatric unit, and was very instrumental in starting the CUPE union among the RNAs. In 1971 she completed the OR technicians course while working full time, and for the next 12 years she worked in the OR as a scrub nurse. During that time, Penny being Penny, she enrolled in the Nursing program at the University of Windsor, receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in 1978. Penny's involvement with the University of Windsor continued. In 1991 she obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree, and in 1999 she was awarded the degree of Master of Arts in Religious Studies, specializing in the field of ethics. While working in the operating room at

Met, Penny also served as the staff educator from 1980 until 1990, at which time at the invitation and urging of Carol Derbyshire she moved to the Hospice of Windsor and Essex County, where she assumed the position of clinical director. As usual, Penny gave of herself generously, never asking anyone to do something she would not do herself. During these busy days, Penny also used her administrative skill in developing strategic plans for the various departments of the Hospice. Penny was always concerned for the welfare of the staff and patients, and worked tirelessly to make their condition as good as possible. During this time she was also working on her Master's degree. In 1993 she became the Assistant Executive Director at the Hospice, a position she held until her retirement in 2008.

As if this was not enough to keep her busy, Penny was also involved in Scouts Canada. From 1996 until the present she has served in an executive position with the Tri-shores Regional Council, from 1972- 2001 she was on the executive of the Windsor District Council: she is presently acting as the Group Commissioner of Belle River.

Penny began her involvement with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in 1982 at the Parish of Atonement, where she continues to be a member. She was president of the conference from 1984 – 1988. In 1987 she joined the Executive Board of the Windsor- Essex Central Council; in 2001 she became a member of the National Board of Canada, and was elected National Council President in 2006, a position she still holds.

Believe me when I say that I have left many of her accomplishments unmentioned, but I think I have given you an idea of how generously she has given of herself. In each of these endeavours she has been not only a doer, but also a teacher and mentor so that others could continue what she began.

Mr. Chancellor, it is with great pleasure that I present to you Penny Craig, so that you may confer on her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, on the grounds of her distinguished humanitarian contributions in the service of society.

Honorary Doctor of Laws degree

After receiving her degree, Penny was invited to address convocation. Her talk follows.

President Rennick, President Wildeman; Honoured Guests, Members of the platform party, ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to Dr. Ralph Johnson for putting my name forward, and to the Senate of Assumption University for bestowing this Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree on me this evening. I am truly humbled and yet deeply grateful for this profound honour.

I understand this honour is being given me in recognition of my work in many facets of “service” with “charitable” organizations such as the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County Inc and Scouts Canada. All of which I have been involved with for over 30 years. A life’s work to be sure.

I am reminded of the words of St. Vincent de Paul: “Do not rest content with doing good, but do it in the way God wishes; that is to say, as perfectly as you can, making yourselves worthy Servants of the poor.”

These words present quite a challenge when one acknowledges that to achieve that type of perfection in God’s eyes, means a lifetime of practice. “The works of God are not accomplished when we wish them, but whenever it pleases Him,” says St. Vincent de Paul. As we all know, it requires creativity and teamwork. It requires steadfastness in purpose that will assist in bringing about a change for the better for those with whom we come into contact.

As Christians, we are challenged to look deeper into our selves and our faith. Through this introspection, we learn what it truly means to be a follower of Christ. We learn to become more aware of “others” and their “needs”. We learn to move beyond ourselves and move into community to see those people on the fringes or margins of society. Through our Christian Spirit, we learn to see these people as being the same dignified persons before the Lord, as we consider ourselves to be. We are called to action, the kind of action that spills from love and compassion.

As Christians, we recognize and understand those who are marginalized to be our brothers and sisters in

Christ. In fact, our Vincentian mandate is “to see Christ in all who suffer”. With that understanding comes the recognition of our obligation as Christians to assist the vulnerable and the oppressed to live out their lives in their innate dignity in community.

We have an obligation to act out of our compassion and provide them with a measure of hope. To leave them on the fringes is to walk away from our response and responsibilities as Christians.

However, charity must never be allowed to be the only thing. What we do in the name of Christian love must move those in need to realize a greater dignity of life in community, and before God.

It must be pointed out that charity alone can lull us into the attitude that we have done our bit to help those in need; or, that we have done what we can, and the poor ought to be grateful. Altruistic as these actions may be, this attitude would be a true injustice, and one that could stunt our spiritual growth and journey.

St. Vincent de Paul himself exhorted us when he pointed out, that if we look to the poor and the oppressed to be thankful and grateful to us for our charity, we are in grave danger of abusing the vulnerable and feeding our own pride. Our charity must be given because it is the right of everyone to have all the essentials of life.



Rev. Dr. Joseph Quinn CSB, Dr. Penny Craig

Honorary Doctor of Laws degree

It is never enough to just feed the hungry, provide shelter, clothe the naked, but as well we must ask why these people are hungry, homeless, or naked. As Christians we cannot look the other way but rather, we must identify the root causes of their poverty and seek ways to address these issues.

Social justice and charity walk hand in hand. Charity will assist in meeting the basic needs for the moment. Social justice works to provide people and their families with access to opportunities – such as creative ways to develop education, provide for skill development, discover employment opportunities, support services, making people in need aware of what is available in their own community network that may assist them. For many, it is about breaking down barriers and such structures that deprive and prevent them from fulfilling their lives.

Addressing root causes is really all about systemic change. It is about gaining a wider angle of view about the needs of those in need. Basically, it is about each one of us putting on “new glasses” that will enable us to see more clearly, and identify ways in which we can bring the Gospel message into focus, thus making it real and concrete, and of course, life-giving for both those in need and for us as Christians.

It was interesting for me to note that in the organizations in which I serve, there exists a very special, yet common bond that is woven into the mission and work of these organizations. That bond and mission is all about caring, education and development of people. The golden thread woven into the fabric of the commitment in each mission is to assist individuals physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually. Thus, serving the “whole” person, as it should be, out of compassion and with care and love.

Who we all are is such a gift, and it is by sharing that gift that we do indeed become more of who we are. So many family, friends and colleagues have joined me in my journey. They have all assisted me and continue to assist me in becoming more of who I am.

As we all know, no one can accomplish any of this work alone. I would like to pay tribute and thank my family, my husband Bill, my son Bill and his wife Brenda; of course our late son Brian and his son, my grandson, Tanner, my dear sister in-law Jean who has joined us from Calgary, my Hospice co workers, other colleagues and my Vincentian and Scouting family members. All of who have supported me and my efforts throughout the years.

My dear friends I thank you for your continued support and contribution to my growth and ability to continue to serve. You are all very special to me. I would never be here if it were not for your kindness, your faith, your love, and for your support.

Finally, I would like to close by sharing three short quotes from Saint Vincent de Paul that have served me and moved me into action:

We should strive to reciprocate the marks of confidence and kindness we receive.

Say little, do much.

May the radiance of your charity be a beaming light!

Thank You

Penny Craig



Dr. Alan Wideman, President of the University of Windsor, Rev. Dr. Joseph Quinn CSB, Dr. Penny Craig, Rev. Dr. Paul Rennick CSB, President of Assumption University.

Emmanuel Bailly Scholarship

Emmanuel Bailly was forty years old when he met Frederic Ozanam. Bailly was an intellectual, well known for his wisdom and support to various social causes. He was president of the first conference of charity in 1833.

Scholarship

The Emmanuel Bailly Scholarship is an initiative of the National Council of Canada of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. It was created to reward young Vincentians who have to combine their studies and volunteer work. In addition to attending school and often working part time, young Vincentians find time and energy to help the less privileged of their community. The National Council of Canada wishes to reward them, for exceptional contribution, by offering a bursary of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) in Canadian currency and a merit certificate.

The scholarship is awarded to a Vincentian student who clearly stood out during the year. The bursary is to help the recipient pursue his/her studies and fulfill professional ambitions.

Candidates

Candidates must be students (high school, vocational school, CEGEP, college, or university) and aged 35 or under. They must be volunteering for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada within a conference, a council or a thrift store. They shall have demonstrated their fidelity to the Vincentian spirituality and the Catholic Church.

Candidates will be nominated for their commendable accomplishments serving the poor during the past year, or even before.

Nominations

Conferences are invited to submit nominations to the National Council of Canada, by filing the Application Form (on the next page) and sending it to the regional council president. Each conference may recommend a maximum of two candidates, who can be members of the local conference, or another conference. A narrative describing the candidate's accomplishments, according to established criteria, must accompany each nomination.

The regional council president shall receive applications forms before March 15. The regional council president shall forward recommended applicants to the Youth Representative of the National Council by April 1st. A Selection Committee will study all applications received and select the recipient. Under exceptional circumstances, the Committee may award the bursary to two recipients.

Awarding

The scholarship will be awarded at the National Council of Canada Annual General Assembly. If the recipient is unable to attend, the scholarship can be awarded at another Vincentian event.

Vincentians and friends of the Society will be informed of the name and accomplishments of the recipient by an article in the VincenPaul magazine and a posting on the web site.

Information

For any additional information about the scholarship, please contact the Canadian Youth Representative:

Address:

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

2463, Innes road, Ottawa, ON, K1B 3K3

Email: carolinegilbert@live.fr or national@ssvp.ca

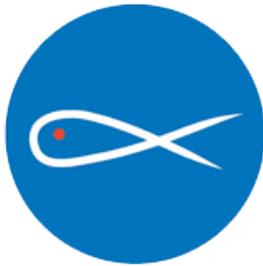
Phone: (613) 837-4363

Free: 1-866-997-7787

Fax: (613) 837-7375



AGA 2011 - Invitation



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
National Council of Canada

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Victoria, British Columbia
JUNE 15 – 19, 2011

“UNITY IN DIVERSITY”

Dear Brother/Sister Vincentian,

Our theme for the 2011 AGA is “Unity in Diversity”. Just before his arrest, Jesus prayed: “That all may be one as you, Father, are in me, and I in you. I pray that they may be one in us.” Pope John Paul II explained to us that “Legitimate diversity is in no way opposed to the Church’s unity, but rather enhances her splendor and contributes greatly to the fulfillment of her mission.” Thus, not unity in similarity, but UNITY IN DIVERSITY. We Vincentians are ourselves a diverse group, called to work for this unity through our service of the poor, who are even more diverse than we are. We accept them as they are, and don’t try to make them similar to us. This theme will be explored as we assemble to pray, deliberate, and work together.

We are pleased to invite you to the upcoming National Annual General Assembly of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, to be held in Victoria, British Columbia, June 15 – 19, 2011.

You will find information for registration in this magazine:

- AGA registration form, including information on the accommodation at UVIC
- Program
- Potential Workshops

Accommodation for the AGA is booked directly through the University of Victoria. If you intend to extend your stay in Victoria, you may make arrangements with the University at the time of booking your accommodation.

Should you need more information, please contact our office at 250-727-0007, email at info@svdpvictoria.com or visit our website at www.svdpvictoria.com. We will send confirmation of your registration.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Yours in Christ,

Sister Mary Spencer, President
Victoria Particular Council

AGA 2011 - Workshops

PROPOSED WORKSHOPS

Individual Advocacy: Where to Begin; Where to End; Embracing the Vincentian Spirit

Budgeting: Right Here; Right Now

Woman's Day Program: I Had a Dream a Song to Sing (Abba)

Choose Life: Naming the Whirlwind; from Chaos to Survival to Life

A Christian Response: Companions on Their Journey

Volunteers: Here Comes the Church

Youth: Here I am Lord Send Me

Systemic Change: The One Constant in Life is Change

Vincentian Spirituality: It Bind Us Together & Defines Our Mission

Retail Program: Some Money is Better Than no Money

Housing Workshop: The Homeless; a Shelter or a Home?

Looking Thru the Eyes of Jesus: Ministering to Persons with Disabilities

Serving Across Generations: How Generational Demographics Influences Societies

Social Media and the Non-Profit: To Tweet or Not to Tweet?

Meetin the Needs of the Professional Volunteer: The Recruitment and Care of our most Vital Resource

Prison Ministry: Caring for Offenders, Ex-Offenders & Their Families

Cultural Diversity and our Vincentian Mission: Our Mission Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Fundraising & Grant Applications: How to ask for funds

Bed Bugs: Good Night, Sleep Tight, Don't Let The Bed Bugs Bite!

Beyond Financial Poverty: Rule Article 1.2 & Appendix 5.11

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS RESPONSE

Title of Workshop: _____

Length: _____

Presenter Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Biographical Data: : _____

Topic Content Summary: _____

How does the topic tie into the AGA theme?

Handout Materials:

Required Room size/type

Required AV Materials

Associated Costs if any

Approved by National Council Education Committee:
Date: _____

Notification Sent Date: _____

Please send to National Office in Ottawa, to the attention of the National Education Committee.

Several workshop titles are presented on this page. We would like to know your preferences. Which workshops would you attend?

Please take the survey via our website: www.ssvp.ca, you will find the link in the "Upcoming events" section. Thank you!

AGA 2011 - Program

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011

1:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Registrations Tours of Saint Vincent de Paul Programs:
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Early Tour: Housing, Ozanam, Retail, SCO, Archives, Administration
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Later Tour: Housing, Ozanam, Retail, SCO, Archives, Administration Evening on Your Own

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	***Breakfast
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration and Hospitality
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	National Council Board Meeting
8:45 AM - 10:15 AM	Workshops
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Workshops
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	***Lunch
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Workshops
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	National Council Committee Meetings
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Break
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	Workshops
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	National Council Committee Meetings
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Rosary
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Mass
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	***Dinner
6:30 PM	Double Decker Buses Leave for Opening Reception
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Wine and Cheese Reception
7:30 PM	Official Welcoming
9:00 PM	City Tour and Buses return to University

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2011

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	***Breakfast
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration and Hospitality
8:45 AM - 9:30 AM	Parade of the banners and official opening by the National President
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Keynote Speaker - Most Reverend Gary Gordon, DD Bishop of Whitehorse
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Workshops
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Plenary session - Youth Presentation - John Staley
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	***Lunch
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Spiritual Advisors' Luncheon
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Regional Meetings
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Workshops
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Break

AGA 2011 - Program

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	President's Round Table with voting members
4:00 PM	Rosary
4:15 PM - 4:45 PM	Mass
5:15 PM	Buses leave for Quw'utsun' Cultural and Conference Center
6:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Dinner and Entertainment at Quw'utsun'
9:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Buses leave for University

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2011

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	***Breakfast
7:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Hospitality and Sales Table
8:45 AM - 9:15 AM	Spiritual Reflection on the theme
9:15 AM - 10:15 AM	Regional Council Reports/National Committee Reports
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	National Committee Reports
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	***Lunch
12:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Statutory Meeting Address by National President Presentation by the 2012 AGA Committee
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Free time
4:30 PM	Buses leave University for Mass
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Mass - Celebrant: Most Rev. Richard Gagnon Commissioning Ceremony
6:30 PM	Buses to University Club
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Closing Banquet
9:00 PM	Transportation back to residences begins

SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2011

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	***Breakfast
7:30 AM - 12:00 AM	Hospitality desk open
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Conference Members leave by bus, plane, ferry, car, etc.

*** These meals are available by voucher or pay as you go.



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CANADA 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 CONSEIL NATIONAL DU CANADA 40^E ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE

Wednesday, June 15 to Sunday, June 19, 2011 / Mercredi 15 juin au dimanche 19 juin, 2011 -Victoria, BC

Early Registration deadline: April 15, 2011 / Date limite pour inscription à tarif préférentiel : 15 avril 2011

Correspondence in English / Correspondance en Français

Please print clearly / Prière d'écrire en lettres moulées

Name / Nom:		Tel / Tél:
Address/ Adresse:	Apt / App:	Email / Courriel:
City/Ville:	Prov:	Postal code / Code postal:
Conference / Conférence:	Council / Conseil:	
Contact in case of emergency / Personne à contacter en cas d'urgence:		Tel / Tél:
Spiritual Advisor/Conseiller Spirituel:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / Oui <input type="checkbox"/> No / Non	
Arrival date & time / Date et heure d'arrivé:	Departure date & time / Date et heure de départ:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bus / Autocar	<input type="checkbox"/> Car / Auto	<input type="checkbox"/> Plane / Avion
Arrival number / Numéro d'arrivée:	Airport and Carrier / Aéroport et transporteur:	
Departure number / Numéro de départ:	Airport and Carrier / Aéroport et transporteur:	

Would you like a volunteer to meet you at the airport or Victoria bus station? Yes / Oui

Souhaitez-vous qu'un bénévole vous rencontre à l'aéroport ou au terminus d'autobus? No / Non

Wednesday, June 15 and Thursday, June 16 only / Mercredi le 15 et jeudi le 16 juin seulement.

Do you require transportation back to the airport or bus on **Sunday, June 19**? Yes / Oui

Dimanche le 19 juin, voulez-vous être conduit à l'aéroport ou au terminus d'autobus? No / Non

Do you have any special mobility needs? _____

Avez-vous des besoins spéciaux en matière de mobilité? _____

Registration Fee / Frais d'inscription

Before April 15, 2011 / Avant le 15 avril 2011 \$ 235 Student rate / Taux étudiant : \$ 150

After April 15, 2011 / Après le 15 avril 2011 \$ 260 Student rate / Taux étudiant : \$ 175

This amount covers conference registration, Welcome Reception, Quw'utsun' BBQ and Saturday Banquet.

Ces frais couvrent l'inscription au congrès, la réception de bienvenue, BBQ Quw'utsun et le banquet du samedi.

Registration fee, per person / Frais d'inscription, par personne: _____ x \$235 / \$ 260 = \$ _____

Youth Registration fee, per person / Frais d'inscription jeune, par personne: _____ x \$150 / \$ 175 = \$ _____

Additional welcome tickets / Billets supplémentaires réception bienvenue : _____ x \$ 30 = \$ _____

Additional Quw'utsun BBQ tickets / Billets supplémentaires pour BBQ Quw'utsun: _____ x \$ 40 = \$ _____

Additional banquet tickets / Billets supplémentaires pour banquet: _____ x \$ 50 = \$ _____

Total A \$ _____

One Day Registration Fee / Frais d'inscription d'un jour

Registration fee, per person, per day / Frais d'inscription, par personne, par jour: \$ 55

_____ days/jours x _____ person/personne x \$ 55 day/jour= **Total B \$ _____**

Meals / Repas

Do you have any dietary concerns or allergies? Please specify. _____
Avez-vous des allergies ou intolérances alimentaires ? Prière de spécifier. _____

Breakfast vouchers are included as part of the cost of staying in the single or twin rooms. If staying in the Cluster Units, breakfast vouchers must be purchased.

Des bons de déjeuners sont inclus dans les frais de séjour dans les chambres simple ou double. Si vous séjournez dans les appartements, les bons de déjeuners doivent être achetées à part.

Select desired meals / Sélectionnez les repas désirés:

	Thu/Jeu	Fri/Ven	Sat/Sam	Sun/Dim	Number of meals / Nombre de repas			
Breakfast/Déjeuner	\$ 9	\$ 9	\$ 9	\$ 9	_____ x	\$ 9	=	\$ _____
Lunch/Dîner	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	_____ x	\$ 15	=	\$ _____
Dinner/Souper	\$ 18	N/A	N/A		_____ x	\$ 18	=	\$ _____
						Total C		\$ _____

Lodging on Campus / Hébergement sur le campus

Room Type / Type de chambre

Single Room / Chambre pour une personne: \$50/room/night, bed and breakfast / \$50/chambre/nuit, déjeuner inclus.

1 single bed and desk, shared washroom facilities / 1 lit simple et bureau de travail, salles de bains à l'étage.

Twin Room / Chambre double: \$60/room/night, bed and Breakfast (need 2 people) / \$60/chambre/nuit, déjeuner inclus (besoin de 2 personnes).

2 single beds and desk, shared washroom facilities / 2 lits simples et un bureau de travail, salles de bains à l'étage.

Cluster Unit / Appartement: \$160/unit/night (need 4 people to book a quad) / \$160/appartement/nuit (besoin de 4 personnes pour réserver un appartement).

4 bedroom apartment: each bedroom has 1 single bed, sharing a kitchen, living room and 2 private washrooms. Appartement 4 chambres: un lit simple par chambre, vous partagez une cuisine, un salon et 2 salles de bains privées.

Prices based on 2010 - subject to change in January 2011. / Prix basés sur 2010 - sous réserve de modification en Janvier 2011.

For more information and to book accomodation / Pour plus d'information et pour réserver un logement:

<http://housing.uvic.ca/visitor/visitoraccom.php>, 250-721-8395, or email/ou par courriel bookings@uvic.ca.

Total payment / Total des frais: (A + B + C) = \$ _____

Payment must be sent with completed application. / Le paiement doit accompagner l'inscription.

Make cheque payable to / Faire le chèque à l'ordre de: SSVP AGA 2011

Or to pay by VISA, contact the information below / Ou pour payer par VISA, veuillez contacter:

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

4349 West Saanich Road, Victoria BC V8Z 3E8

Tel: 250-727-0007 - Fax: 250-727-0771 - Email / Courriel: info@ssvdpvictoria.com

PLEASE NOTE: Refunds will be made for cancellations received 30 days prior to arrival date. Refund, less \$50 will be made for cancellations received up to 24 hours prior to arrival. No refunds will be made for same day registration or for any unused meal tickets. A confirmation of registration will be sent to you by email (or regular mail if no email address given).

VEUILLEZ NOTER: Toute annulation signifiée plus de 30 jours avant l'arrivée donnera droit au plein remboursement. Pour une annulation de moins de 30 jours et plus de 24 heures de la date d'arrivée, vous avez droit au plein remboursement, moins 50\$. Aucun remboursement ne sera consenti pour une annulation signifiée le jour même de l'inscription, ni pour les billets de repas non utilisés. Vous recevrez la confirmation de votre inscription au cours du mois par courriel (ou par la poste si vous ne donnez pas d'adresse courriel).