



Edition
1/2018

O'ZANAM NETWORK



International General Council - Society of St Vincent de Paul



Living Africa

The 16th President General
visits Africa

The Thematic
Year of
François
Lallier

Page 3

A new meeting
with
His Holiness

Page 8

Meeting of the
International
Executive
Committee
of Famvin

Page 20

Second
International
Youth Day of
the SSVP

Page 29

Summary

EDITORIAL	2
THE THEMATIC YEAR OF FRANÇOIS LALLIER	
○ Interview with Jean-Loup de Beauvoir	3
○ International Literary Competition	5
○ Visit to the grave of François Lallier	6
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES	
○ Visit to the USA	7
○ A new meeting with His Holiness	8
○ Living Africa	9
○ IGC meetings	16
○ Activity Report 2017	17
SPIRITUALITY	19
VINCENTIAN FAMILY	
○ International meeting	20
WORLD NEWS	
○ Liberia: new country joining the SSV	22
○ SSV Francie: Mission to Vietnam	23
○ Ozanam Education Programme	25
SSVP YOUTH CONNECTIONS	
○ Mini World Youth Day in Durban, South Africa	27
○ International Meeting of Vincentian Youth	29
STRATEGIC GOALS	31

Chairman:

Carlos LAFARGA

Webmaster:

Hélène AFRIAT

Head of English Language:

Mary Whilssy CANDELARIA y Karl HILA

Head of Spanish Language:

Carlos LAFARGA

Head of Portuguese Language and Graphics:

Markinhos PERASSOLI

Head of Social Media:

Mary Whilssy CANDELARIA

SSVP Representative – Famvin Int.

Communication Department:

Karl HILA

Ozanam Network Graphics:

SSVP Spain

Editorial

Once again, Salamanca!

Renato Lima, 16th President General

In a few weeks, the International General Council will be promoting in the beautiful city of Salamanca, in close collaboration with the Superior Council of Spain, the **2nd International Youth Meeting of the SSV**, also called the “Salamanca + 10 Meeting” (since the first event took place there in 2008). The gathering will have talks, dynamics, reflections and, above all, discussions about how Vincentian youth can effectively contribute to the transformation of reality, through charity.

The priority of the General Council is (since it is part of the international strategic planning) to develop the youth within the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at all levels. The young Vincentian has a central role in the daily life of Conferences and Councils. The message of peace, joy, charity and unity that the young take everywhere, especially during the charity actions carried out at the bases, is essential to renew our organization and, above all, to keep it jovial, lively and focused on the principles of our founders, who were young as well.

Vincentian youth is very important for the General Council and for all the Superior Councils, as well as for the whole Catholic Church. The various initiatives that have been undertaken by the young in the service to the neediest, have born plenty and wonderful fruits for humanity. **To be a young Vincentian is to savour the fullness of life next to Jesus, Mary, Vincent and Ozanam, so that together, living with the principles of the Gospel, we can make the difference.**

I wish that in this year 2018, that I declared “International Thematic Year of François Lallier” (the youngest founder among the seven), the young Vincentian will be a unifying element in the daily journey of the SSV, from the home visits to the most important decision-making process, at Council level. The SSV needs them! I look forward to seeing them in Salamanca! I want to embrace all of them, personally. Thanks to all the countries that are generously cooperating with the General Council in the organization of this major event.



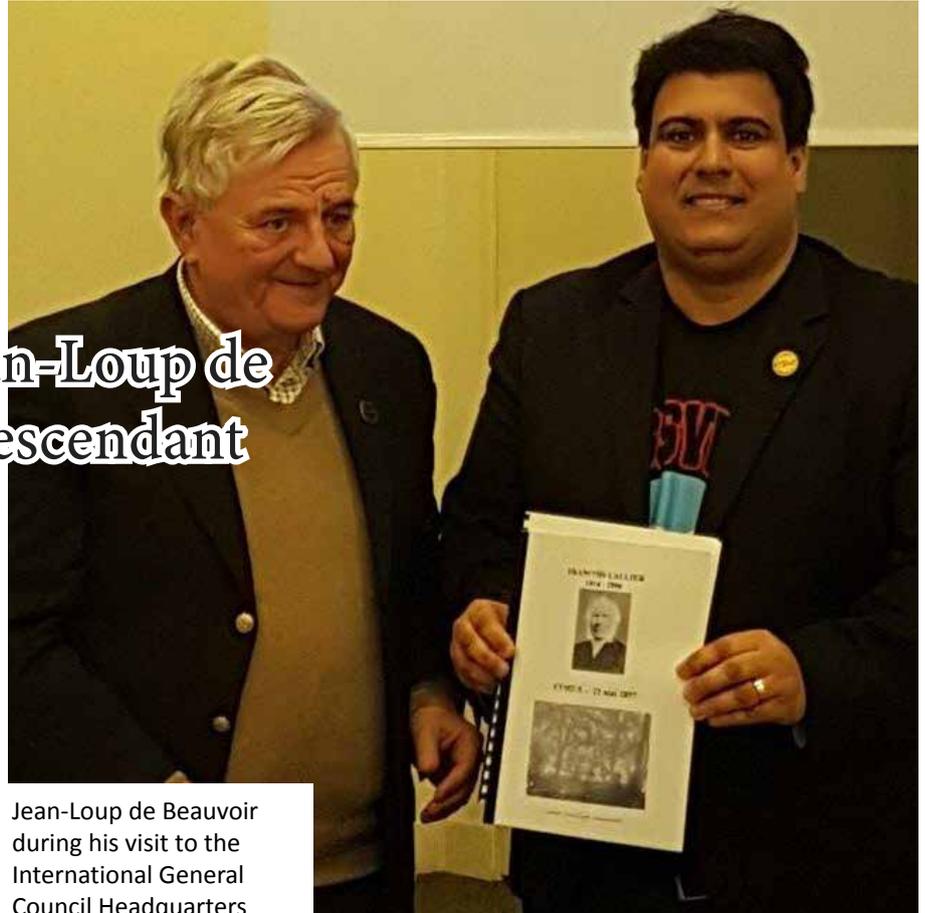
THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE “WERE FRIENDS WHO SHARED THE SAME CONVICTIONS, THE SAME JOYS, THE SAME PAINS.”

Interview with Jean-Loup de Beauvoir, direct descendant of François Lallier



February 19, 2018 was a special day for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. On the said day, the SSVP was joined, in a meeting at IGC office, by a direct descendant of François Lallier, Mr. Jean-Loup de Beauvoir. This member of Lallier’s family, moreover, have lots of information, be it personal or family inheritance of Lallier, and has even studied and collected in a few handwritten documents, the personal wealth of Lallier.

These studies are very important to the Society because it contains the distinct life profiles of one of our founders; Mr. Beauvoir describe François Lallier in many ways: in his behavior and his example in the family, as a lawyer, a man in the professional field, a man concerned with social justice, as a member of Conferences, the axis of his spiritual and charitable life and as an intimate friend of Frederic Ozanam.



Jean-Loup de Beauvoir during his visit to the International General Council Headquarters

MAKING THE MOST OF HIS STAY AT THE GENERAL INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL, AS WELL AS HIS GENEROSITY AND CLOSENESS, THE SSVP ASKED JEAN-LOUP DE BEAUVOIR INTERESTING QUESTIONS THAT ARE REFLECTED IN THIS INTERVIEW.

IGC: Could you tell us how François Lallier influence your life?

JLB: YI was born in Corus, in his house.

My youth went under the severe and vigilant eyes of the president of the civil court of Sens who, from his framework of gilded wood, one hundred years after his death, continued to observe his family.

François Lallier was for me “grandfather Lallier”, companion of Ozanam, founder of the Conferences of Saint Vincent de Paul.

IGC: When you decided to investigate the life of François Lallier, where did you obtain the information? Which were the main sources for this research?

JLB: Being retired, I started getting interested in genealogy and in my ancestors. François Lallier was one of them.

In 2007, year of the 160th anniversary of the acquisition of the Corus property by François Lallier, we decided to organize a family celebration. This is the starting point of my research.

Documents kept in drawers came out, especially a diary of François Lallier covering the periods from March to June 1834 and February and March 1835... Little by little I established contacts and quickly, with the help of Internet, I found myself in the “Vincentian” environment... the descendants of Bl. Frederic Ozanam have sent me the transcript of the extensive

correspondence between Lallier and Ozanam (1834-1852) and between him and Amélie, his widow (1853-1886).

IGC: Could you tell us about the document that you have written on F. Lallier and about the most important elements that you would like to highlight?

JLB: By writing my paper, my sole intention was to discover the man who was hiding behind the one who, for me, is and has always been the “grandfather Lallier”.

I have worked in a chronological order, putting each event of his life in perspective with the great events of his time. My goal was never been to write the history of the Conferences of Saint Vincent de Paul that, in fact, is present in the story only because they were an integral part of the life of François Lallier.

I went through the life of François Lallier from his birth in 1814, until his death in 1886, and I hope to have contributed to reveal the man he was.

IGC: What do you think about the initiative “Thematic Year of Lallier”, launched by the International General Council?

JLB: As a descendant of François Lallier, I can’t but be touched by this initiative which seems to me fortunate and justified. In my research that is far from being the research of a historian, I have never had the feeling that there is a superiority of one companion over the others. They were friends who shared the same beliefs, the same joys and sorrows.

IGC: What did you feel taking part on the last SSVP international

Board Meeting in Paris?

JLB: My father was active in the SSVP; as for me, I have not. However, during the meeting at which I participated I never had the feeling of being an outsider. In addition, several times in moments of meditation and fraternity, I thought that in 1833 it must have been like this.

IGC: - In your opinion, what are the most relevant virtues in the life of Lallier?

JLB: What can I say? I have always been surprised by the extreme youth of the protagonists... 20 year old “kids”,

- who do not hesitate to defend Catholicism and challenge university professors during their classes...
- who come to explain to an Archbishop what is appropriate to teach the young and thus move the society of their time...
- who were able to answer this question: “you’re right, if you talk about the past: Christianity once worked wonders, but today, what is it doing for humanity?” And you, that pride yourselves on being Catholic, what do you do? Where are the works that demonstrate the truth of your faith?”

IGC: From your point of view, what is the most valuable thing that we, Vincentians, can learn from the spirituality of François Lallier?

JLB: I am unable to answer this question; however, I propose a few extracted sentences of the text of a meditation written by François Lallier in 1841, on his 27th birthday:



“I imagined Jesus in the midst of his disciples breaking the bread and saying, “this is my body, and this is my blood”. How not take these divine words in their literal sense!

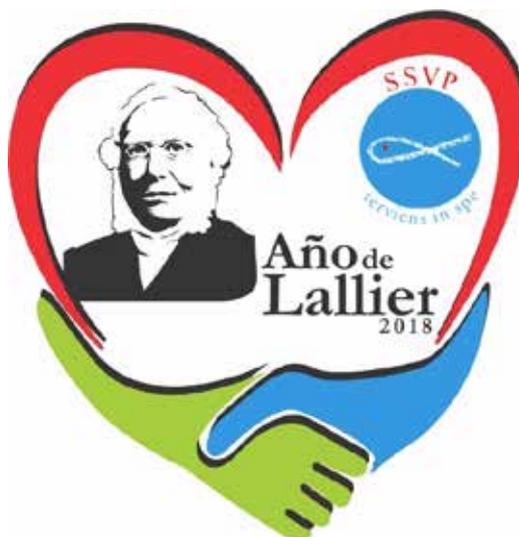
I pictured him as God and man at the same time. And this mystery of the incarnation seemed to link wonderfully with all others; the mystery of the simultaneous existence of an infinite God and a finite man; the mystery of God in three persons one of which takes on our humanity and participates in our pain; the mystery of the Eucharist where the infinite being is hidden under a limited body, and resides in all the places of the Earth at the same time.

And yet, these thoughts have not excited a momentum in my heart. How great is my dryness and how infinite my poverty! O my God, my Saviour Jesus, Mary, my sweet mother, look at me, have mercy on me. I will approach the holy table, support me and especially make me persevere. Give me the grace to love you always, more and more, and to inspire your love in the souls that you have entrusted to me.”



Council General launches the International Competition for writings on François Lallier

AS A WAY OF PROMOTING FURTHER THE “INTERNATIONAL YEAR ON THE THEME OF FRANÇOIS LALLIER”, ANNOUNCED BY THE 16TH INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT GENERAL, RENATO LIMA DE OLIVEIRA, IN HIS CIRCULAR LETTER ON 31 JANUARY, THE COUNCIL GENERAL OF THE SSVP HEREBY OPENS THE INTERNATIONAL LITERARY COMPETITION ON “THE FIRST CONFERENCE”.



The procedures, with the rules and the appendix for this competition, are available on the IGC website (www.ssvpglobal.org). The written entries must be no more than 20 pages long. Cash prizes will be awarded to the three best entries (1000, 750 and 500 euros, respectively). The SSVP Conferences to which the winners belong will also receive a cash award of the same value, to be spent on the families and individuals they help, or for Vincentian mission.

Entries may be submitted in one of five languages: Portuguese, Spanish, English, Italian and French. **The closing date for sending in dissertations / studies will be on 8 July 2018.** The organizing committee will announce **the result on 8 September 2018**, and the prizes will be sent to the winners immediately afterwards.

This competition was announced in the 16th President General’s program for his term of office, which instituted the “themed years” to spread knowledge of the life, work and legacy of the founders of the first Vincentian Conference in 1833. The Council General hopes that many Vincentians, especially young people, will take part in the Lallier competition, as they did in the Bailly competition, which was a great success. “We need to study and value the biographies of our beloved founders”, Bro. Renato Lima added.

This competition will be repeated each year, until 2022. In 2019, the subject will be “Paul Lamache”. With great enthusiasm, let us ask our Superior Councils to help IGC spread the news of this competition to the Conferences and Councils, as well as to Vincentian schools and colleges, and to Catholic universities.

For more information, log on to our website:
cgi.formation@ssvpglobal.org



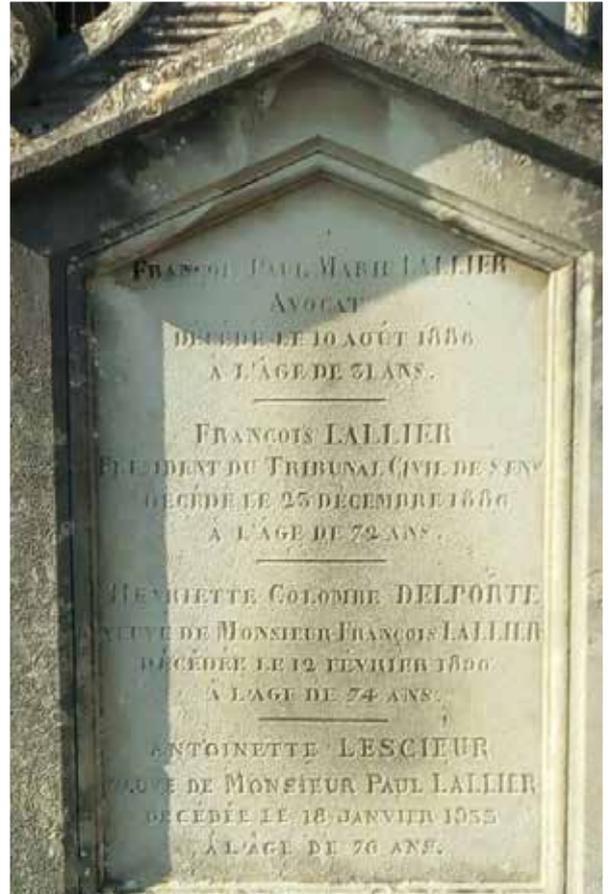
Visit to the grave of François Lallier

THE THEMATIC YEAR DEDICATED TO LALLIER HAS JUST BEGUN AND ONE OF THE FIRST ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED IS TO LOCATE AND VISIT HIS TOMB, SITUATED IN THE CEMETERY OF SENS, 130 KM SOUTHEAST OF PARIS.

This trip was organized by the Commission of Historical Research chaired by Juan M. Gómez. With him are the following: the General Vice-President, Joseph Pandian, the 1st Vice- President Deputy, Carmela Addante and the collaborator of the Commission of Historical Research, Francisco Holgado.



Grave of François Lallier in the Sens Cemetery



It is very important for the International General Council (IGC) to regain the roots, the origins of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, beginning by taking care of and protecting the legacy of the founders of the first Conference, honouring their memory and strengthening the present and future of the SSVP through their example, as models of fraternity, of community life and of helping the poorest.

On this occasion, the International General Council also scheduled an official visit this coming September 2018, which will have the presence of the President General, brother Renato Lima, and a bigger number of representatives of the SSVP IGC, as also they did for the Thematic Year 2017, dedicated to Emmanuel Bailly.

The General President's visit to the United States of America.

FOR A WHOLE WEEK, FROM THE 14TH TO THE 20TH OF JANUARY, OUR FELLOW MEMBER RENATO LIMA, 16TH GENERAL PRESIDENT OF SSVP, VISITED THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND INVITED THE LOCAL BROTHERS, AS WELL AS THE CONFERENCES AND COUNCILS, PROJECTS AND WORKS OF SSVP.

Accompanied by brother Edmund Keane, International Vice President of IGC Institutional Relations, the International General President brother Renato Lima visited Boston and Providence (on the 14th and 15th of January) and Washington (on the 19th and 20th of January). During the last visit, he was accompanied by Dave Barringer, CEO of the National Council of the United States, and Mike Nizankiewicz, ITVP America 1.

Through the General President's twitter account @RenatoLimaSSVP, we lived every moment of that trip and we were able to put faces on the names of our American fellow members, and saw their great work for the most in need. One of the examples was his visit to Our Lady Queen of the Martyr's conference in Seekonk, the meeting with the Holly Spirit Conference in Whitman and the reunions with the different members of conferences in Washington.

This trip to the United States also



included a major event which was the participation (from the 16th to the 18th of January) of SSVP's General President to the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Vincentian Family that was held in Philadelphia and held great results in this edition on the Ozanam's network.



A new meeting with His Holiness

IN THE GENERAL PRESIDENT'S INTERNATIONAL AGENDA IN ROME, A MEETING WITH THE HOLY FATHER DURING A PUBLIC AUDIENCE WAS SET. A MEETING THAT WAS ABOUT OZANAM'S CANONIZATION, ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE DICASTERY FOR THE LAITY, FAMILY AND LIFE WITH THE PREFECT OF THE EASTERN CHURCHES CONGREGATION, AND WITH THE DICASTERY FOR THE INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SERVICE WERE ORGANIZED.

On the 14th of February 2018, SSVP's 16th General President, brother **Renato Lima de Oliveira** began a new visit to the city of Rome. In the morning, **he attended the Wednesdays' Public Audience with His Holiness the Pope Francisco in the Vatican, and during which he handed his holiness a report of SSVP's activities in Africa**, as well as his travel plan starting from February the 22nd during which he will visit seven African countries.

In the evening, our Brother Renato Lima with Father Giuseppe Guerra CM (Postulator General of Bl. Frederic Ozanam's Canonization Cause), accompanied by the Brother Antonia Gianfico (SSVP's President in Italy and Administrator of Ozanam's Cause) as well as the Brother Sebastian Gramajo (CGI's general Counselor and 3rd Vice

President) held a meeting to analyze the progress of Ozanam's Canonization.

The next day (the 15th of February), the General President met with the Prefect of the **Dicastery of the Laity, Family and Life**, the Cardinal Joseph Farrell, as SSVP is included in the international institutions list already having an ecclesial recognition. Later that day, the General President met with the Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the **Eastern Churches Congregation** to look through the works done by SSVP in the eastern regions, which were very satisfying.

Our General President also met with the new **Dicastery of Integral Human Development**, and organism which through their work, is in great harmony with SSVP's mission throughout the world.



Living Africa

The 16th President General, Renato Lima de Oliveira, visited Africa.

*From February 20 to March 15, the SSVP President General travelled to Africa to experience first-hand the different realities of the Conferences in seven countries of this continent: **Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana and South Africa.***

THE COMMITMENT THAT THE SSVP INTERNATIONAL GENERAL COUNCIL AND ITS PRESIDENT GENERAL HAVE WITH THE AFRICAN CONTINENT IS CLEAR AFTER MORE THAN 28,000 KM OF TRAVEL AND THE VERY TIGHT AGENDA OF SERVICE WITH WHICH BROTHER RENATO LIMA ACCOMPLISHED IN HIS JOURNEY, AND IN WHICH SOME COUNTRIES OF THE SSVP RECEIVED, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE PRESIDENT OF OUR BELOVED SOCIETY.



With the intention of immersing himself in the situation of each country visited and being prepared to reach out in the most efficient way to the African reality, Renato Lima always had in mind a series of goals throughout his journey:

On one hand, there was **the need to hold meetings with top leaders of the various national Governments**, as well as with the Ministers having portfolios containing the SSVP works. “The political class decides about the laws and we Vincentians give a voice to the voiceless”, said Renato Lima.



Primary School in inland Mozambique, Project supported by the SSVP

On the other hand, as a Catholic entity, the President General **visited the highest representative of the Church Hierarchy in each country.** He had meetings with Cardinals, Bishops, Apostolic Nuncios, Conferences of Bishops and Vicars General, in order to strengthen the collaboration of the Church in the beautiful work of service carried out by the Vincentians, which in many cases takes place in Diocesan parishes.

Another important objective of the visit was to **strengthen the presence of Vincentian Family.** The President General visited each Branch present in each of the countries, giving special attention to the Shared Mission in the territory and to the bonds of union that make us stronger. In addition, he made it clear that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is, as member of the Vincentian Family, is an institution open to collaboration with all entities having the goal of eradication of poverty and uplifting the dignity of the human being.

Of course, in addition to the



Welcoming the International President General in Gaborone, Botswana



Meeting with the Congregation of the Mission in Maputo, Mozambique

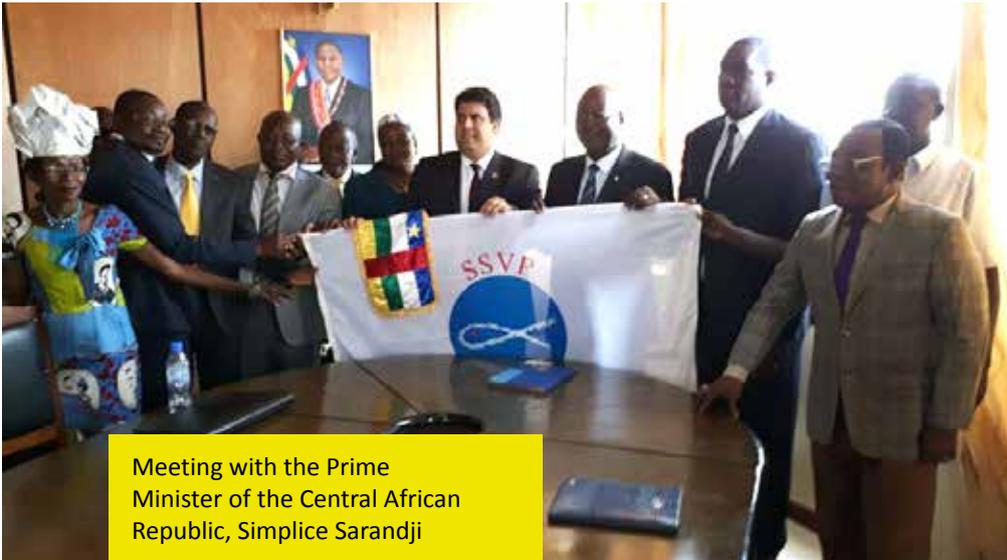
above, brother Renato Lima **was available to all media** through various press conferences, interviews, and participating in radio and television, being aware of his role as ambassador for the mes-

sage of Love and Charity Network that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is promoting today around the world.

One of the main goals set in the journey of Renato Lima was the members: their faith and their work on the ground. He took part in Assemblies and national / zone meetings, as well as in meetings with the Vincentian youth. There he was available to any question and request from his fellow members, who showed an interest for the international situation of the Conferences, the Thematic Year of Lallier, the Canonization Cause of Ozanam, the projects SSV Plus to reach new countries (like Liberia) or the Youth Gathering in Salamanca - Spain, among many other topics.



Visiting Bishop Duncan in Johannesburg



Meeting with the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic, Simplicie Sarandji

already consolidated, as well as many others that are in their first steps and which, on the occasion of the arrival of the General President, were officially opened.

The SSVP in Africa comprises of countries with a large presence of fellow members, like Nigeria and Zambia, and countries where the SSVP has a smaller but very promising representation, like Botswana and Mozambique. It is a developing continent that, in many cases, has an disparity that blocks

In addition to these meetings face to face with the General President, Renato Lima wanted to participate in closer gatherings with the members. He visited charities carried out by the members, with the sweat of their brow, and took part in their Conference meetings, prayed with them and shared their concerns about specific situations of their service. He visited many training workshops, orphanages and shelters for homeless, social canteens and residences for seniors, making home visits and visits to a long list of good works



Burkina Faso, Training Centre and National SSVP Headquarters



Radio Veritas in Johannesburg, South Africa



President of Burkina Faso, Roch Marc Christian Kaboré

its growth. Our members co-exist with military conflicts and political instability, they are struck by famines, severe illness like AIDS (today still widespread), natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies. However, they have great faith and a sense of belonging to the Society of St. Vincent of Paul that makes them face all these difficulties, not only with zeal and love to others, but also with imagination and inventiveness, despite lacking material and human resources. They do not stop because of difficulties, they simply dream of a better world by putting into action all kinds of initiatives that help their brothers in need.

In this trip, heartfelt thanks are expressed for their work and dedication, to the entire international structure of the CGI, the SSVP Territorial Vice-Presidents of Africa and the Presidents of the various Superior Councils of the countries visited by the President General; and even to those Presidents who took advantage of the official visit of brother Renato Lima to greet him (like the Presidents of Superior Councils of Mali, Ivory Coast, Benin and Togo); and very special thanks to all the Vincentians in Africa and to those who joined this journey through Social Networks and prayed along with the President General and our African members.

After this visit, Renato Lima said, "I am better prepared to understand the challenges that Africa faces to help them more efficiently and request the nec-



Meeting with Conferences from Saint Agnes Particular Council, Zambia



Visit to the South Africa National Council

essary assistance and collaboration". African Vincentians perform their service often with few resources, but with an incredible commitment and imagination in view of improving the lives of the assisted people. Charity is inven-

tive to infinity."

The President General wishes to return to Africa in the year 2020 in order to visit four other countries and participate in the Second Meeting "All Africa".



Visit to orphanage in Bangui, Central African Republic

CHARITY AND THE SERVICE OF THE AFRICAN VINCENTIANS

In this section, we wish to highlight some of the works of charity that our fellow members are conducting and that the President General had the opportunity to visit and which are a reflection of the work that is performed across Africa.

In **BURKINA FASO**, Renato Lima attended **workshops of social and labour reintegration**, which teaches a trade to the students (mechanics workshop - Conference Immaculate Conception; and dressmaking workshop - Conference Hail Mary). They are also **building houses for homeless families**; in fact, Renato Lima laid the first stone of one of these homes, carried out by the Conference Saint Camillus.

For **NIGERIA**, we can highlight **the great work of accompaniment that our members are providing in prisons**, looking after the inmates, and also the visits to households in the poorest neighbourhoods.



Inauguration of the next Headquarters of the SSVP Nigeria



Francisco Chimoio, Archbishop of Maputo, Mozambique



Mass in Our Lady Queen of Nigeria with Vincentian members

In **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**, they carry out a **great job with the orphans left by the armed conflict** affecting the country and the **strong fight waged by the SSVP against famine and disease**. A project is being performed to provide them with a head office, which currently does not exist, that could be at the same time a hospital to care for the poor and the sick.

In **ZAMBIA**, as well as **supporting the sick in hospitals and visits to the homes of the poor-**



San Mateo Nursery School in Johannesburg, South Africa



Visit to Cardinal Julio Duarte Langa - Mozambique



President of the Central African Republic, Faustin-Archange Touadéra

est families, the SSVP is organizing the "Ozanam Project", more than 20,000 square meters of farming, sustainable activity since half of the production goes to families in need and the other half for the maintenance of the Project.

In **MOZAMBIQUE**, the SSVP has a **strong connection with the Branches of the Vincentian Family** present in the country and with the Church, carrying out home visits in the poorest neighbourhoods and performing charity works for children.



Meeting with a Youth Conference, Burkina Faso

In **BOTSWANA**, the President General visited a **children’s home** run by the Conference Christ the King, which welcomes kids up to age 18 who come from a rural environment so that they can study in the city. **A shelter is being built for homeless people** run by the Conference Holy Cross, as well as a child shelter “little friends”, which is the responsibility of the Conference Saint Gabriel.



Visit to Ozanam Project – SSVP sustainable farming, Zambia

In **SOUTH AFRICA**, the President General visited the SSVP **elementary school** “Saint Matthew” and distributed batches of food in the poorest neighbourhoods. In the same way, he could see how the SSVP offered food to more than 250 children every day and visited the “Frederic House”, where 30 people are sheltered.



Meeting with Bishop Clement, Bishop of Lusaka, Zambia



Children’s Home, Polokon, South Africa

General Council Three international meetings at the Paris head office

THE GENERAL COUNCIL'S HEAD OFFICE WAS A HIVE OF ACTIVITY IN FEBRUARY SINCE 3 INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WERE HELD THERE. THESE MEETINGS BROUGHT TOGETHER THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY'S OFFICERS AND RENATO LIMA DE OLIVEIRA – OUR 16TH PRESIDENT-GENERAL – JUST BEFORE HIS OFFICIAL TRIP TO AFRICA.

The first meeting was held on Sunday 18 February and concerned officers from the Europe 1 zone. This meeting focused on 3 main topics:

- Various discussions between countries in this zone
- Consolidating National Councils in countries where the SSVP's presence is weak (Gibraltar, Luxembourg, Malta, Turkey)
- The SSVP Plus Project (aimed at countries where the SSVP is completely absent, such as Scandinavian countries, Greece, Cyprus, Andorra, Lichtenstein, and San Marino)

The following Monday, it was the Board's turn to meet. Their intensive programme covering 2 days' work addressed many points, including the following:

- Brother Renato Lima's trip to and business in Rome, his meeting with Pope Francis and the new dicasteries
- The SSVP Plus Project with the latest countries to join the SSVP: Albania and Liberia
- The progress of Blessed Frédéric Ozanam's canonization process



- The end of the first phase of the programme for re-aggregating Conferences
- Taking stock of preparations for the meetings in Salamanca (Spain) this coming June

Besides the International Board members, **Jean-Loup de Beauvoir – a descendant of François Lallier – was present.** Lallier is taking pride of place throughout 2018 as one of our theme years dedicated to the SSVP's founders.

Finally, **the CIAD (Commission**

for International Aid and Development) held its biannual meeting. This included studying the latest projects submitted and assessing the Commission's financial situation.

On the same day, Brother Renato Lima de Oliveira flew to Ouagadougou (capital of Burkina Faso) for the first leg of his official trip to Africa covering a total of 7 countries: Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana and South Africa.

The Activity Report 2017 reflects the commitment in the Mission

THE INTERNATIONAL GENERAL COUNCIL HAS PREPARED A REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 2017. THIS SUMMARY IS A GOOD COMPENDIUM OF THE MANY PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES THAT HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED DURING AN ENTIRE YEAR NOT ONLY OF THE SERVICE OF THE CGI, BUT ALSO OF THE MANY ACTIONS THAT ARE BEING PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE OF THE SSVP, WHICH ALWAYS SEEKS THE SERVICE OF THE POOREST BROTHERS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS FAITH AND OF ITS CHARISM.



Founding of the SSVP in Albania

Thanks to the generosity of all our members, **the International Commission of Aid and Development (CIAD) has managed to support, with more than 900,000 euros**, the initiatives and needs of the Conferences around the world. New projects, activities and emergency aid have been launched thanks to these international donations and twinning in which the General Council has a role of liaising or direct management of the funds.

The SSVP grows and this fact is reflected through the great works

of the SSVP Plus project, which invites the Vincentians to look around their own neighbouring countries where the Conferences are not present. In recent months, Albania and Liberia joined the charity network, but the IGC is still working so that other countries can join this great family.

With the intention of **developing fraternity and closeness among the fellow members**, which are the necessary ingredients for the development of the SSVP's Mission, the **International meetings by language** have been

VI Ibero-American Meeting, Quito, Ecuador





held. Examples of this are the 6th Latin-American meeting of the SSVP, in Quito (Ecuador) and the 2nd Summit of Vincentian Portuguese-speaking Countries in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). We are working to organize a meeting with the francophone countries of the SSVP.

In view of following the teachings of Saint Vincent de Paul, **the IGC has the intention of deepening our charism and spirituality.** “Give me a man of prayer and he will be able of anything,” Thus, it is running a project that results in the preparation of spiritual reflections for all Vincentians, which are published weekly in the website www.ssvpglobal.org and in the Facebook of the CGI, as well as promoting publications and works that features the main figures and models of the SSVP. In this regard, we highlight the Thematic Years that are already dedicated to each founding member of the SSVP, Bailly in 2017; and now Lallier in 2018, and the proliferation of works and publication of books that bring us closer to the origin and the heart of the Conferences. It is also worth noting the strong impulse and

development of the Canonization Cause of the Blessed Frederic Ozanam and the celebration of the 20th anniversary of his Beatification.

To maintain the importance of the representation work, as “**Ambassador**” of the vast network of charity that is the SSVP, the President General, Renato Lima who, over the past year, has visited 16 countries in different continents and in the current year, he has already visited many European, American and African countries (journeys that we echo in this issue of Ozanam Network).

“

Evidently, the SSVP’s heart is beating vigorously, living with enthusiasm its “service in hope”.

We finish this brief summary of the Activity report of the SSVP looking to our future, to the young people who represent the new blood of the Conferences and who have lived through the institutionalization of the 4th July as the international day of the Young Vincentian, in memory of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati as a point of reference, hoping that the II International Days of the SSVP Youth in Salamanca, in the next month of June 2018, will be an unforgettable experience for all.



F. Robert Maloney
Spiritual Advisor IGC - SSVp

An extraordinary letter to a priest in Italy named Thomas Pendola

On July 9, 1853, just two months before he died, Frederic Ozanam wrote an extraordinary letter to a priest in Italy named Thomas Pendola. Frederic stated, "This dear Society is also my family. After God, it was the Society which kept my faith alive when I left my good, pious parents. So, I love it and cherish it from the bottom of my heart.

I have always been happiest when I saw how the good seeds it sowed bore fruit and flourished ... And above all, I have seen it do so much good by strengthening so many young people in living virtuous lives ... We have conferences in Quebec and Mexico and Jerusalem ... And we surely have a conference in paradise, since, in the twenty years that the Society has existed, more than a thousand of its members have taken the road to a better life."

Four things stand out in this brief citation.

1.- THE SOCIETY WAS A FAMILY TO FREDERIC.

Of course, he deeply loved his wife Amelie and his daughter Marie. But he also cherished the members of the Society; they were his second family. He wrote long, eloquent letters to them, visited the poor with them, and remained an active participant in his conference right up to his death. Members of the Society were not just co-workers; they were – to use the words of Vincent de Paul – "dear friends."

Are the members of my conference "dear friends"?

2.- FREDERIC SAW HOW IMPORTANT THE SOCIETY WAS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Frederic lived at a turbulent time when his country experienced successive revolutions. It was also a time when Catholic teaching and

ethical principles were continually challenged. Frederic, like Vincent de Paul, felt that service of the poor, seeing Christ in them and them in Christ, kept his faith alive. He was convinced that young people would be drawn to Christ much more by the witness of service than by the witness of words.

How well are we engaging the young in each of our countries?

3.- HE SAW THE RAPID EXPANSION OF THE SOCIETY EVEN IN HIS BRIEF LIFETIME.

A year after the Society was founded, there were a hundred members. Seven years later, there were 2,000. By the time of Frederic's death, just 20 years after the Society was founded, there were 50,000 members in numerous countries throughout the world. During his life, he saw the establishment of conferences in

Italy, Belgium, Scotland, Ireland, England, Germany, the United States, Holland, Greece, Turkey, Jerusalem, Switzerland, Austria, Mexico, and Canada.

What can we do to continue the growth of the Society within our countries and into new countries?

4.- KNOWING THAT HIS DEATH WAS IMMINENT, FREDERIC ENVISIONED A HUGE CONFERENCE OF A THOUSAND MEMBERS ASSEMBLED BEFORE THE LORD IN HIS KINGDOM.

He expressed the same confidence that moved Vincent de Paul to say in January 1657, "God loves the poor. Consequently, God loves those who love the poor; for, when we truly love someone, we have an affection for his friends and for his servants. Now, since the (Society) strives to devote itself ardently to serve persons who are poor, the well-beloved of God, we have good reason to hope that, because of our love for them, God will love us. Come then, my dear brothers and sisters, let us devote ourselves with renewed love to serve persons who are poor, and even to seek out those who are the poorest and most abandoned. Let us acknowledge before God that they are our lords and masters and that we are unworthy of rendering them our little services."

Do we share Frederic's and Vincent's Christ-centered faith-vision?

The Executive Committee of the International Vincentian Family meets in the United States



Members of the International Executive Committee of the Famvin

BETWEEN 16TH AND 18TH OF JANUARY 2018, BRO. RENATO LIMA DE OLIVEIRA, 16TH PRESIDENT GENERAL OF THE SSVP, TOOK PART IN THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE VINCENTIAN FAMILY (FAMVIN), WHICH WAS HELD AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE MISSION, IN PHILADELPHIA (UNITED STATES). WITH HIM IS RICARDO TAVARES, VINCENTIAN FAMILY COORDINATOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL GENERAL COUNCIL (IGC).

For the President General, to be part of the International Vincentian Family is both a blessing and joy. "For the SSVP, to belong to the Vincentian Family is truly an honour, and this is not a mere compliment. Together, we are stronger. The Vincentian spirituality has bequeathed us a common charisma, although our branches have their own identity. Therefore, I am very happy with the progress that the Vincentian Family has brought to all branches", said Renato Lima. During the meeting, **the President General presented a summary of the General Council's Activity Report for 2017 and announced the International Thematic Year 2018 of François Lallier.**

The International Executive Committee of FAMVIN is made up of seven branches, four of which are permanent members (Congregation of the Mission, the Daughters of Charity, International Association of Charities and the SSVP) and three are rotating, non-permanent members (Sisters of Charity of Strasburg, Brothers of Mercy and the Sisters of Charity). The term of office of the rotating, non-permanent members is 5 years. Currently, among the 225 branches identified as possible members of the International Vincentian Family, we saw that 100 of them are active and have a close relationship with others.

The participants evaluated the Vincentian Symposium in Rome as well as the rest of celebrations of the 400th anniversary of the Vincentian Charism. During the three-day meeting, important decisions for the future of the Vincentian Family were made. These are some of the deliberations approved in the meeting:

- **An "International Cooperation Agreement" will be signed by all the branches of the Vincentian Family.** The minutes of the text were already approved by the present Vincentian officers.
- There are already more than

2,000 registrations for the **Film Festival "Finding Vincent 400"**. The result will be announced in Castel Gandolfo (Italy), between 18th and 21st October 2018, during an important event.

- On 26th, 27th and 28th November, also in Rome, **the International Vincentian Family will hold a large meeting to discuss the situation of the homeless.**
- Each international branch of the Vincentian Family was invited to make a **voluntary annual contribution to the FAMVIN office to support the global ongoing projects** (the IGC already approved a regular donation of €20,000 per year).
- **The Campaign "13 Houses" was approved as a specific gesture in the struggle for better housing for the poor of the world** (at least 13 houses will be built for homeless families in each country). *More details will be coming soon.*
- The setting up of a **new working Commission within the Vincentian Family's organization** was approved. **The International Commission for the Homeless** (the President General has already appointed **Graham West**, from Australia, as the SSVP representative at this



Ricardo Tavares, P. Robert Maloney and Renato Lima

ly (Haiti, Systemic Change, the Homeless, Latin-American, Executive Committee and Collaboration).

- **The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for the 14th, 15th and 16th January 2019**, also in Philadelphia, a few days before the Vincentian Youth International Gathering to be held in San Carlos, 90 km away from the City of Panamá, between 18th and 21st January.

Taking advantage of the trip to Philadelphia, after taking part in in the Vincentian Family's meeting, the President General visited several Conferences, Councils and Special Works run by the SSVF of the United States. He travelled to the cities of Boston, Whitman, Stoughton, Seekonk, Providence, Silver Spring and Washington.



The General Council

would like to express wholeheartedly their gratitude to the American Vincentian brothers for the warm welcome to the President General, who was accompanied by the fellow members Dave Barringer (President of the National Council), Ed Keane (Vice-President of IGC's Institutional Relations) and Mike Nizankiewicz (ITVP America 1), as well as numerous local leaders, like Presidents of Conferences or Councils.

- new commission).
- The launching of a **"Communication Department"** within the Vincentian Family was approved, with representatives of the various branches (the President General appointed **Karl Hila**, from the Czech Republic as the SSVF representative at this new Department).
- **A journalist will be hired in Rome to provide services to the Vincentian Family.**
- **A working group will be set up to study the issues of religious and lay leadership** (for this function, President General appointed **Eduardo Marques**, from Paraguay).
- **A working group made up of young Vincentians will be created, in order to develop the concept of Vincentian charism from the youth's point of view** (the IGC will be represented by **William Alves**, from Brazil, designated by the President General).
- The new itinerary of the **pilgrimage to the relics of Saint Vincent de Paul** throughout **the world** was circulated.
- Great importance has been given to the **strengthening of the Vincentian Family's National Councils**, at country level.
- From next year, there will be a new rotating post in the Executive Committee. Thus, in the future, the Committee will consist of representatives of eight branches, being four fixed and four rotating. This decision was made to further open the decision-making and democratic process within the International Vincentian Family.
- At the suggestion of the SSVF, which is considered a "nursery of vocation", from 2019 onwards the International Vincentian Family, in addition to the efforts for the alliance of the Homeless, will launch a **campaign of Vincentian vocations** (lay, religious, missionary and priest).
- **In January 2020, in Rome, an important event will take place with all the working commissions that make up the International Vincentian Family.**

LIBERIA: new country joining the SSVP

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT WE ANNOUNCE THAT, AFTER SEVERAL MISSIONARY VISITS AND A DEMANDING PROGRAMME OF FORMATION, THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED IN LIBERIA.



Members of the SSVP Liberia

Last August, representatives of the Council General International (CGI), headed by the Vice President for Africa 1, Brother **Patrick Ebhojie**, made visits to various parishes and Dioceses where they met with ecclesiastical authorities, gave interviews to the media and invited the Catholic faithful to join the SSVP.

In December 2017, a **successful training meeting was held in which 77 people participated**. The programme included talks on the origins of the SSVP, our founders, the international structure and the daily work of the Conference. **This formation made possible the establishment of 12 Conferences - 11 in the capital MONROVIA and 1 in the city of GBARNGA** (195km

from the capital). Today, SSVP has already 156 members in Liberia. One key factor which facilitated the establishment of the SSVP in LIBERIA was the strong support of the Catholic Church, whose bishops and priests were receptive to the Vincentian ideal.

LIBERIA is an African country with a population of 4 million, of whom 85% are Christian. The Catholic Church is organised in three Dioceses.

Brother Renato Lima de Oliveira, 16th President General, gave thanks to the Holy Spirit for the establishment of the SSVP in LIBERIA and explained that “the IGC had attempted to establish the SSVP in LIBERIA in 2006, 2010 and 2013

but it was only now that the seed fell on fertile ground and we got the response for which we had long hoped”.

The IGC is very grateful to the National Councils of Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zambia for the wholehearted support they provided, which included sharing training documents and finance. The President General expressed his **deep personal gratitude** to the following Vincentians for their dedication to the Liberian project: Patrick Ebhojie, Veronica Nwokocha, Augustine Inoh, Rosamond Sannoh, Christopher Chanda, Abraham Focko and James Doe.

With the addition of LIBERIA, the SSVP is now established in 153 countries. The SSVP Plus Project aims to bring the SSVP to regions of the world where it does not yet exist. The IGC welcomes financial donations to support this expansion of the SSVP to new territories. We have identified 20 countries where, with God’s help, we can set up the SSVP where it is needed in the service of those who suffer materially or spiritually.

SSVP France Mission to Vietnam

AT THE END OF 2017, SSVP MEMBERS FROM YVELINES (78) WENT TO VIETNAM TO MEET THEIR VINCENTIAN COUNTERPARTS



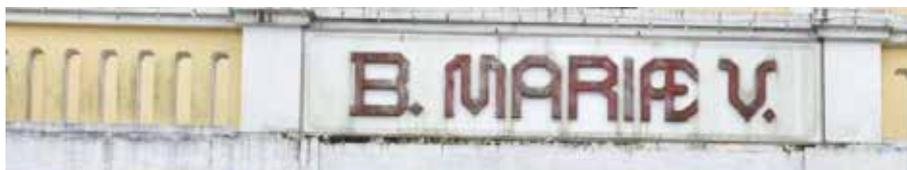
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul has been present in Vietnam since 1930, but Conference work was abruptly cut short in 1975 with the annexation of South Vietnam by the North. From 1976 onwards, Vincentians worked in secret. Although the Society's activities were known to the authorities, SSVP Vietnam was hosted in the cathedral of Đà Nẵng, with no official legal character.

been possible however between Council General in Paris and the SSVP Vietnam, partly because of the language barrier, as well as the particular situation of the Society there.

For several years now, SSVP France has been involved in Vietnam, providing financial support for the works of the Daughters of Char-

ity, which is well-established in the said country having official recognition, so that money can be sent to them. Little contact has

Contact was restored with SSVP Vietnam in 2015, at the General Assembly in Rome, attended by a member of the Society from Vietnam. Then in 2016, the current team of the Vietnamese Superior Council made contact officially with Council General, providing a list of 27 Conferences.



Committee of the French SSVP together with Vietnamese co-partners and collaborators



SSVP ACTIVITIES

Surviving on local donations only, the SSVP Vietnam has a very few financial resources but has many committed volunteers. In Đà Nẵng, the SSVP conferences have 135 members. They focus their work mainly on helping the deprived families. During the first Sunday of each month, the Conference at Đà Nẵng Cathedral distributes about 600 to 700 kg. of rice to seventy families, which are among the poorest people in the city. The Conference also provides some help in the form of money, especially for families living further away, to cover their medical costs.

The Huế region has 10 Conferences with 140 members. Every week, it receives donations from its members, mainly sacks of rice. There is also an annual parish appeal for each Conference.

The second most important work of the Huế conferences is **to take care of the abandoned children, whose mothers are most often single young women.** They do this together with the religious sisters who provide accommodation for young women, so they can give birth quietly, without the knowledge of their own families.

PROJECTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

The visit made by members of SSVP-Yvelines in December 2017 brought about a lot of information, highlighting the urgent need, and requiring humanitarian projects to be established:

BUILDING OF A MULTI-PURPOSE HALL IN LƯƠNG VĂN (HUẾ REGION)

This village suffers from frequent flooding (2 or 3 times a year) and a safe place is essential to house victims of weather-related disasters, as well as to provide a childcare center which will benefit parents of very poor families, especially those who are working. During the latest flood in November 2017, 2 districts were badly affected, with the water reaching a depth of a meter inside their houses.

FOOD AND MEDICAL HELP FOR SERIOUSLY DISABLED CHILDREN IN TAM THANH

The local parish priest has identified around sixty children, within a radius of five kilometers, with severe mental and physical disabilities, very serious physical defects, or serious illnesses. These children from very poor families receive no medical treatment. The aim is to increase the amount of contact with the families, providing both regular human and moral support for them, as well as medical and para-medical

(physiotherapy) help to relieve the sufferings of these children and their families.

ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER FOR THE VILLAGE OF TAM THANH

According to the inhabitants, the disabilities affecting these children are caused by water polluted with chemical agents (including the dreadful “agent orange”) which were used during the war (1963-1975). Access to clean water is therefore an urgent humanitarian need, and the project has 2 aspects: drilling a well, about one hundred meters deep, and installing a filtration system for the extracted water. According to the Vincentians who visited, a thorough investigation is needed to give an accurate location of the source of the pollution, before committing spending significant funds.

SSVP Vietnam will also submit twinning applications along with these projects, in order to receive the spiritual and material support from French conferences, for instance, providing care and housing for elderly, impoverished people in the Mekong delta region.



Despite the obstacles, help continues to come strongly for the neediest people in Vietnam, in particular through the involvement of Vietnamese volunteers and with financial support from France. Nothing can stop Vincentians!

SIS ANGELA FRANCIS,
HEAD, OZANAM EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Ozanam Education Programme

IN 2014, SSVPMALAYSIA WAS BLESSED WITH THE MISSION OF HOSTING THE PAN-ASIA CONGRESS 8 (PANASCO) IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



PANASCO is a gathering of SSVPM leaders within the Asia Pacific and Oceania countries. Held every 4 to 5 years, it is principally aimed at re-invigorating our Society within the region which has several commonalities.

Looking back at the PANASCO gatherings of the recent past and having regard to the fact that PANASCO has been slowly deteriorating into a mere “talk shop” with no tangible results to show, it was decided that PANASCO 8 had to have at least one tangible result that could be the start of a sustainable program towards systemic change.

It was decided at PANASCO 8 that a Young Vincentian Outreach aimed at Empowerment Through Education should be the primary target or desired result.

SSVPMalaysia then embarked on a program called the Ozanam Education Program (“OEP”) to empower the poorest of the poor by teaching them English, Mathematics and Computer literacy. A core

team was set up, and having worked on this program with the help of a number of experienced educationists for the past 2-3 years, the SSVPMalaysia is proud to say that they have developed an effective “stage by stage” education program, in 3 disciplines: English, Mathematics and Computer literacy. They had done a number of trial runs and have established 9 teaching centers in Malaysia. With this, they are more than ready to take the OEP to the Asean region to jump-start the Outreach.

The syllabi, format, teaching material and methods were standard-

ized in the interest of the students. The OEP program is designed independent of any school syllabus. It has structured syllabus in place with simple lesson plans to help guide our volunteer teachers deliver their lessons in an effective manner. The progress of the students is assessed through proficiency levels; it is not age-based but proficiency based. The student is never rushed to the next level until he or she understands



During one of the classes



Activity for children in a rural environment

IT classes for refugee women



IT IS HOPED THAT THE YOUNG VINCENTIANS IN THE REGION WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THIS INITIATIVE BY VOLUNTEERING AS TEACHERS. THIS WILL BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO CHANNEL THEIR TALENTS, ENERGY AND YOUTH TOWARDS THIS CAUSE THAT WILL NOT ONLY BENEFIT THE POOR THEY SERVE BUT ALSO TO ENRICH THEIR OWN LIVES.

what is being taught at the current level. In this manner, each student can learn at his or her own pace and ability. The aim through the program is to ensure that both children and adults acquire living skills through basic education and build their self-confidence along the way.

beginning August, 2018. Towards this end, SSVP Philippines have agreed to provide volunteer teachers and SSVP Malaysia would provide the requisite training in Kuala Lumpur. SSVP Indonesia as the host outpost would facilitate the “on the ground” requirements.

In March 2017, when our President-General, Bro. Renato, visited Malaysia, they gathered the SSVP leaders from the Asean region and everyone unanimously agreed to go with the OEP. Having further fine-tuned the OEP, it was officially launched in February 2018 in Malaysia by a prominent Malaysian philanthropist and a great supporter of the Society. The ITVP, Bro Thomas Tan and leaders from Singapore, Philippine, Indonesia, Cambodia and Australia were present.



Classes for children from an urban environment

While Brother Graham West (President, SSVP Australia) could not make it in time for the Official launch on his way back from CGI Paris, he was present at the informal post-launch meeting.

Given that the Vincentian Congregation & SSVP from Surabaya were the most persistent advocate, it was decided that the maiden Outreach would be in Surabaya



Computer classes for refugee children



Mini World Youth Day in Durban, South Africa

In December 2017, the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (spearheaded by Cardinal Napier OFM) hosted a Mini World Youth Day (MWYD) pilgrimage in Durban, South Africa. Over 3000 Catholic youth, from various southern African countries, gathered under the theme: *“The mighty one has done great things for me and Holy is His name.”*

The pilgrimage presented a unique opportunity for South African Vincentian youth to meet, engage with and form connections with Vincentian youth from various parts of Southern Africa. The Vincentian pilgrims danced, praised, contemplated in meditation and spiritual reflection, took (plenty of) selfies and received the blessed Eucharist in union with each other and the MWYD pilgrims. MWYD was for Vincentian pilgrims a chance to share ideas for growing and working together beyond online group messages.

Gathered together, the energy of the Vincentian family umbrella was palpable. A case in point was the SSVP stall at the vocations fair.



This stall allowed MWYD participants to explore options towards meeting their personal calling. The SSVP stand stood out for the vibrancy of its youth who loved the opportunity to learn and share information about Blessed Frederic Ozanam and the history of SSVP. **The Vincentians enjoyed sharing their individual experiences of what it means to be members of SSVP and how this has been expressed in the works that they do in their respective conferences and communities.**

The joy of meeting other young people who were interested in knowing about the work of SSVP and wanting to do more in their own communities and lives was nothing short of excitement! Many of them identified SSVP as a potential vocation.

The highlight of MWYD was the gathering of Vincentians on stage to present SSVP goodie hampers to the youth that have entered the stall competition. All the participants expressed their interest in establishing or joining a conference in their area. The Vincentians, dressed in an array of different coloured t-shirts that represented which areas they came from highlighted the beauty of diversity within SSVP and demonstrated that it is an organisation that is open to all.

A further highlight was the presentation of SSVP thank you hampers to various members of the clergy who had been in-



strumental in advancing the works of the society within their respective areas. This included bishops and priests from across Southern Africa, sisters that work in remote outskirt communities, Wilfrid Fox Cardinal Napier, O.F.M. and the Apostolic Nuncio to Southern Africa, Archbishop Peter Wells who presided over the closing mass and has blessed pilgrims for the upcoming World Youth Day in Panama.

This pilgrimage provided an opportunity for the SSVP youth members of South Africa to form deeper connections with each other with greater hope that these pilgrims continue to be encouraged by the spirit and energy from MWYD, to do great things in their communities for the glory of God.





The Young Vincentian as a protagonist of the present and future of the SSVP

INTERVIEW WITH BRO. WILLIAN ALVES, INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF YOUTH, CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS, ON THE OCCASION OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY OF THE SSVP.

Every day we get closer to the date of the International Meeting of Vincentian Youth of the SSVP, which will take place from June 15 to 21 in the city of Salamanca, Spain. The preparations for the realization of the meeting go at full speed. The IGC Communication Team held an interview with our brother Willian Alves, International Vice President for Youth, Children and Adolescents, who highlights some details about the meeting that will gather young Vincentians from around the world to mark the future of youth participation in our Society.

IGC: Why is this meeting so important for the International General Council?

Willian Alves: This meeting is included in the strategic plan of our General President, Brother Renato Lima. Since his inauguration, Renato has assigned me this challenge, organizing and preparing the second meeting of young leaders of the SSVP, exactly 10 years after the first run. In addition, we need to revitalize the young people in SSVP. In 1833 it was young people who started all this. The IGC supports and encourages the participation of young people and this meeting is a great example of this.



IGC: who will participate in this meeting? And what is your mission after the meeting?

WA: A young representative from each National / Superior Council will participate (either the national coordinator or a representative delegate). The young people that will participate in the meeting will have as a mission to meet later with the young people of their country and to encourage and attract young people. The national presidents should count on this person a lot, since it will be the point of connection between the IGC and the Vincentian youth in the country. I hope that the countries representatives can replicate the Salamanca meeting in their region.



Willian Alves together with Renata Mancini and Leonardo Magalhães, members of the preparation team for the "Salamanca +10" Youth Meeting del equipo de preparación del Encuentro de Jóvenes "Salamanca +10"

IGC: Tell us a little about what the Meeting will be like.

WA: The team is working at full speed to take care of every detail of the meeting, which is divided into three parts: spirituality, formation and mission. We will have talks on: the origin of the SSVP, the leadership, the sanctity of the young Vincentian, the SSVP rule, the role of young people in the SSVP and the formation of the Youth Commission and youth conferences. Young people will have the opportunity to ask questions to the President General and we will have many moments of prayer and vigil. There will also be recreational moments in the historic city of Salamanca and moments of mission and service in the city of Madrid and, of course, much exchange of experiences among the diverse realities of youth in the world.

IGC: The participation is limited to one place per country. How can other young people follow the meeting?

WA: OzanamTV will transmit the main moments of the meeting on internet through the Facebook page of the meeting: <https://www.facebook.com/SSVPYouth-Salamanca>.

Also, on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. (Madrid time) / Spain), we are going to have an international video conference of the Vincentian youth, where all who want to can join the participants. The video conference will last an hour and a half. We will soon release the registration form to it. At all times, we will post photos, videos, and comments, interviews on social networks and on the official page of the CGI.

IGC: Could you leave a message for those young people who come to Salamanca and also for those who will participate through social networks?

WA: We are preparing everything with great care and love. Being able to be with the youth in Salamanca will be a unique opportunity to renew our commitment to be young Vincentians who care for and love the poor, who renew the SSVP day by day through joy, courage, determination and friendship. These are characteristics of the youth. We will soon release the official prayer of this meeting and I ask you, every day, to pray for this meeting and for every young member of the SSVP in the world. May Blessed Frederic Ozanam and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati intercede for each one of us. Amen.



*2nd SSVP Youth
International Meeting*

- 15 June: Arrival in Madrid airport, transfer to Salamanca and welcome**
- 16 June: Beginning of the Meeting - Formation - Sharing and Activities**
- 17 June: Formation – Spirituality – Sharing and Activities**
- 18 June: Training - Closing of the meeting - Festival**
- 19 June: Transfer to Madrid - Mission Activities**
- 20 June: Activities in Madrid – Sharing time**
- 21 June: Transfer to the airport - Return to the countries of origin**



MISSION

A NETWORK OF FRIENDS,
SEEKING HOLINESS
THROUGH THE PERSONAL
SERVICE TO THE POOR
AND THE ADVOCACY FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE.

VISION 2022

TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A WOR
LDWIDE ORGANIZATION,
WHICH PROMOTES
THE INTEGRAL HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE
MOST IN NEED.

VALUES

- SERVICE
- Spirituality
- HUMILITY
- CHARITY
- EMPATHY

1

Formation

Ongoing process for all members

2

Youth

30% of members under 35 years of age

3

Twinning

Build a global network of spiritual and material support

4

Expansion

Presence in all countries

5

Vincentian Family

Permanent and deep collaboration

6

Solidarity

International and local partnerships

7

Global Aid

Revamp fraternal aid and development processes

8

Communications

Renew with the use of world-class technology

9

IGC structure

Constant search for accountability and efficiency

10

National Councils

Support to maximize effectiveness



www.ssvpglobal.org



Ssvp-Conseil Général International

CONFÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

6, rue de Londres 75009 PARIS (France) Tel : + 33 - 153 45 87 53 / cgi.communication@ssvpglobal.org