



Shrewsbury CC Twinning

Welcome to the latest edition of our Twinning Newsletter, focussing on Twins' correspondence and Student Sponsorships.

We are also concerned at the growing number of Orphan Twins who no longer have a Twin in our CC area, usually because our Conference has gone into abeyance.

Though we are all involved with supporting beneficiaries during this pandemic we can also turn towards our Twins overseas and

continue to give them support.

However poor we are, our Twins are poorer and still need our help.

Perhaps you would consider sponsoring an Orphan Twin for a year to help; it costs only £3 per week, or less than a pint of beer—if you can find a pub that is open!

Conferences and individuals can do this by contacting Alex Beyer.

Mike Connolly: President, Shrewsbury CC

Twinning was started to bring justice to the developing world, putting our founder's words into action: "Justice is a fixed star which human societies try to follow from their uncertain orbits. It can be seen from different points of view, but Justice itself remains unchanged."
Blessed Frederic Ozanam

Orphan Twins—New Ideas

Generally, supporting an overseas Twin is a long term relationship, but sometimes we have to think of other ways to support them especially when, as now, we fail to find English Conferences to support them in the traditional way.

We have 20 such Orphan Twin Conferences at the moment within our Central Council area and we are asking for support in the following ways:

A Conference or a District Council to take on an Orphan Twin at a cost of £150 per annum for a fixed number of years—1 to 5 years or more—you choose.

An individual to take on an Orphan Twin at a cost of £150 per annum for a fixed number of

years— 1 to 5 years or more—again, the choice would be yours.

Individual donations can be Gift Aided by those who qualify.

Please do consider these alternative ways of supporting our Orphaned Twins.

Central Council is covering these costs at the moment, but If we are unable to find alternative financial support for these Conferences then at some point in the future we will have to send the Twins back to their National Council—something we are of course very reluctant to do.

Please send all offers of support to me.

Alex Beyer

Twinning is a long term commitment of great importance to the SVP and the poor, and also for the Church in its work of the Evangelisation of the World.

Twinning has been in existence for over 50 years and is an integral part of our work. Every Conference should strive to be Twinned.

Twinning is threefold: Prayer, Correspondence, Sharing of our resources. Prayer sets it apart from being a secular exercise. Conferences are encouraged to involve Parishes not merely as a source of funds but also as a source of prayer, encouragement and potential membership.

Twinning Report for our CC area

National Office asked all Central Council Twinning Officers to produce a report showing how Twinning is progressing in their area, so I have reproduced the numbers below to let you see how you and your parishes have contributed to the welfare and education of those we support, since our Twinning Team was set up. Thank you for your support and commitment.

Mike Coyle

	Apr18 to Mar19	Apr19 to Mar20	Apr20 to Mar21	Apr21 to Mar22	Apr22 to Mar23	Apr23 to Mar24	ALL YEARS						
PROJECTS													
	6	£4,160.00	5	£4,550.00			£8,710.00						
STUDENT SPONSORSHIPS													
VJES	63	£945.00	117	£1,759.27	19	£300.00	15	£225.00	8	£120.00	0	£0.00	£3,349.27
TVTS	9	£630.00	23	£1,615.00	22	£1,540.00	16	£1,120.00	3	£210.00	2	£140.00	£5,255.00
HES	7	£800.00	10	£1,200.00	11	£1,320.00	10	£1,200.00	4	£480.00	1	£120.00	£5,120.00
KERALA DISASTER APPEAL													
		£23,712.45					£23,712.45						
GENERAL DISASTER FUND													
		£500.00		£850.00			£1,350.00						
SUDAN & SOUTH SUDAN APPEAL													
		£22,487.46		£19,927.84			£42,415.30						
		£53,234.91		£29,902.11		£3,160.00	£2,545.00	£810.00	£260.00	£13,724.27		£89,912.02	

Correspondence from Twinned Conferences

From The Good Shepherd Conference, Madeley

Dear Members of Vincent de Paul Family,
 It was very nice to receive your letter and thank you very much for your support for the construction of our parish church. The construction work is going well and people are contributing well towards it. Now the structure is almost complete. We recently completed the roofing work and erected the cross on top of the tower. The work on the altar has just started and we hope to complete it by middle of 2020. The parishioners have given gold ornaments as offerings to the Infant Jesus during Christmas day for raising fund for the altar construction. We hope that you had a blessed time during Christmas. The children from our Sunday Catechism school have made nice small cribs and the youth from the parish have decorated the church premises. They also had distributed cake after the mid-night holy mass and we had carol singing competition between different family units of the parish. As part of our regular mission work at our parish associated with Christmas, we had visited poor, sick and needy family at their home and gifted them with cake and some small financial assistance. Our parish priest, Fr. Sebastian Nadavaramban is behind us with his full support and inspiration for various activities of the society. We hope that Fr. Michael is healthy and back to your parish after successful completion of his treatment. We had shared about Fr. Michael's health among our members and prayed for him during the prayer meetings. We are glad that the message of selfless service of St. Vincent de Paul society is reaching to more people and you are getting new members joining to your group. It is nice to hear that you have got an active President and she is busy with starting new groups at different places. It is impressive to hear about the kind of activities that you do both by the adults and by the Mini Vinnies. That's a great initiative to start the orientation from that young age and it's wonderful that you have got over 1000 young members working in your diocese. We also think that it would be good to start such groups for children in Kerala as well. We hope that you had a rejuvenating experience during your retreat at the Poor Clare convent. We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year 2020 with abundant blessings from our Lord Jesus Christ and warm greetings from Kerala.
 Yours in St. Vincent de Paul
 P.A. Joseph
 President and Members of St. Vincent de Paul Society
 St. Sebastain's Church, V.R. Puram P.O.,
 Chalakudy, Thrissur, Kerala, India- 680307

From St. John Henry Newman Conference, Latchford

Respected brother and members of SSVF
 Greetings from U. Senthil Kumar in the name of our Lord Infant Jesus and our Lady of St. Mary.

I submit to report that I am elected as a President of Area Council under the central council of Cuddapah and I am doing the services of the society as per the valuable guidelines of the President Sr. Anjalina of Central Council of Cuddapah and Bro. Johnson Varghese the President of National Council of India.

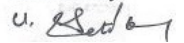
I am very much thankful to you for giving Financial Assistance (Twinning grant and Project grant etc.) to the needy and poor people. I have been utilizing the funds in proper way for their future development. The conference of Holy Spirit Kamalapuram activities are going on well. I require valuable suggestions from you and from all the conference members for the development of all conferences under the jurisdiction of Area Council, Cuddapah. All activities of our conferences are going on up-to-date. I hope that the same assistance and suggestions may continue in the future too.

On behalf of our conference of Holy Spirit Kamalapuram and Area council Cuddapah. I wish to convey our greetings on the Eve of **HOLY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020** to all members of respected conference. I belong to the member of the conference of **Holy Spirit Kamalapuram**. My father named U.THIRUPALAIAH, The first President of this conference since 1990 not only this conference but also The Central council of Cuddapah between 2006 and 2012. My second brother named U.KISHORE became a Priest in the Diocese of Cuddapah. Now he is working in Italy.

Please pray for my family and for our family members.

Thank you brother

Yours faithfully

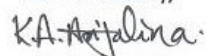


Dear loving brother ,

Greetings and prayerful wishes to you from your beloved sister K.A.Anjalina president of the Society of St.Vincent Depaul ,Central Council of Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh ,India. How are you all brother ? we are fine , sounding well by the grace of God and your inestimable prayers . We trust the same at your end.

I feel very happy to pen these few lines of our life over here. First of all on this great occasion , I take privilege to wish you all **A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND FRUITFUL NEW YEAR 2020** . We are ever grateful for your love, care and concern to all the conferences that you show in different aspects. We remember you all in our daily prayers to get success in your mission and fulfill the will of God. That God seeks from everyone of us. We always follow your suggestions in our mission. We continue our work and duty as well as our mission with the prayers of St.Vincent Depaul and with your prayers. Especially I communicate best compliment from all our beneficiaries. Our Bishop Most .Rev.Galibali helps and gives his valuable support together with our Parish Priest to walk in the path our Lord Jesus with prayers Our Blessed Virgin Mary .Please convey best wishes to all our friends over there in the name of St.Vincent Depaul . I give you all best compliments from all our members of the Kadapa central council Society of St. Vincent Depaul. All the Conferences Activities are going well .Once again remembering your love, concern, great help and waiting for your letter. I wish you **A HAPPY CRISTMAS DAYS AND NEW YEAR OF MANY BLESSINGS**.

Your's Fraternally,



Dear Brothers & Sisters & Vincentian members,
 On behalf of our Conference of Holy Spirit (Kamalapuram) would like to take this wonderful Christmas season to wish you "A merry Christmas with lots love". May you be happy and blessed.

Here we are doing well and guiding the beneficiaries with suggestions and valuable advise to improve their activities. The twinning fund was distributed to the adopted families. They felt happy for your support they extend their gratitudes for your generosity. Every weekend conference were used to conduct meetings to review their progress. So that they would be active with their visits.

Our conference assure you of our prayers. Also we request you to remember us in your holy prayers.

Once again wishing you all a merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thanks to one and all.

With prayer full wishes P. Ravi Kumar S.S.V.P. President

Indian Student Sponsorships

Mike Coyle

State education in India is not always free, differs from State to State, and Government provides limited funds. We have 3 schemes.

For £15, the **Vidya Jyothi Education Scheme** (VJES) in covering the costs of books, stationery and uniform enables a child to remain in school for one year. Subsequent years are paid for by the local SVP or by a sponsor from another country.

Our **Technical & Vocational Training Scheme** (TVTS) supports a student on a training or diploma course in nursing, teaching, electrical engineering, plumbing, carpentry, computer science at a cost of £70 per year for up to 3 years.

The **Higher Education Scheme** (HES) provides support for future doctors, engineers, accountants and other professionals to undertake a university graduate course; this one calls for a commitment of £120 per year for up to 4 years and may be used to help pay for travel, living expenses or contribution towards academic fees.

In the context of the society we live in

here in Shrewsbury, these are modest sums and as you have seen from the report on the front page, Conferences are already supporting a number of students in one or more of the schemes.



Also, because sponsorship is not confined to Conferences we have a number of students being sponsored by individuals.

One of the advantages of sponsoring as an individual is that those who are taxpayers are able to Gift Aid their donation so that we can claim back the tax from HMRC

Whilst I know that this is a difficult time

for all of us, I urge you to think of how much more difficult it is for those we try to support in India.

Please encourage your Conferences, your parishes, your friends, and yourself to consider giving the gift of education through one or more of our schemes. I know how generous you have been over the past couple of years—I only have to look at the report on the front page—so I am confident that you will respond once again to our appeal.

I have attached a copy of the current print of the sponsorship application form to the email sending out this Newsletter so that you can download and print off as many copies as you need.

If, for any reason, you need hard copies of the actual form, let me know how many you need and I will post them to you.

Please return your completed forms to me, rather than to National Office, to enable me to manage our CC records.

As Pope Francis has said: *“Education is an act of love, it is like giving life.”*

Thank you.

Correspondence from Twinned Conferences (continued)

Dear Vincentian Brother Terry,

I am Claud Mendonca, the president of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, St. Gonsalo Garcia Conference, Barampur, Vasai.

Our conference is **twinned to St. Paul, Hyde**.

My apologies, as I had not made contact with you for a long time.

.We are thankful to you for the financial help that you provide us thru the twinning.

We are about 11 Vincentian Brothers and Sisters who form the Conference.

We carry the following responsibilities

1. Meet on a regular basis.
2. Visit adopted families.
3. Provide Medical help to about 15 adopted families on a monthly basis by offering them Rs 1000 to Rs. 2000.
4. We also help patients with medical exigency cases where the family is unable to bear the entire burden on the medical expenses. We help them by giving a portion of the medical expenses up to about Rupees 50/60 thousand. For this the South Area Council of Vasai also helps us as we put forth the case to them.

If there are some specific questions that you would require me to answer, kindly let me know and I would gladly help answering those for you.

I can also send you some of the photographs when we visit adopted families.

Thanking you Yours Sincerely Claud Mendonca

Dear brother, {**Mike Connolly**, Ed.]

... We also pray for the eternal rest of David Williams and appreciate his dedicated services for the poor and the society. Kindly convey our deep condolences and prayers to his family.

How is brother Dominic Ion? He suffered much for his illness. We wish to know about his health. Please convey our love and prayers to him.

Due to the adoption of strict measures at the earliest by the Central and State governments, the spreading is not so fast as Western countries. We are all in isolation and can buy food commodities nearby shops from 6AM to 1PM. We are in village area. But in corporations municipal areas weekly two days are allowed to get things. In few places the local bodies arrange door delivery.

Our cc has 93 conferences. 8 are in schools; others are in villages. As it is new Mission Diocese the parishes are mostly poor and newly converted. They have not enough faith as the hereditary faith people. The conferences have to work hard to promote them in economic development. Now at the affect of corona virus conferences supplied food items and cash to their adopted families. We are all in touch with the presidents of the conferences and give them proper directions. After the period of complete recovery of corona we have to motivate them to implement self help projects. So far we are all safe from the virus. Only 16 found and taking treatment. Few discharged from treatment. In India as today's report affected 21700, recovered 4325 and died 686.

With thanks and love, Soundararaj vice president Thuckalay cc

CONTACT US

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FIND SVP TWINNAGE ON THE SVP WEBSITES

<https://www.svp.org.uk/twinnage-and-overseas-aid>

<http://www.twinnage.org.uk/>

NATIONAL TWINNAGE COMMITTEE

Within the SVP in England & Wales, the responsibility for maintaining support for our sisters and brothers in our Twinned countries rests with the National Twinnage Committee, whose members include:

National Twinnage Organiser	Sebastian Muir
India	Sebastian Muir
Grenada	Stephen Hogg
Guyana	John Wild
Romania	Mary Abel
Sudan	Ian Mawdsley
Projects	John Wild
Indian Students Sponsorship	Vacant
Spiritual Adviser	Deacon Tim Murrill
Board Member	Sebastian Muir
Gift Aid Co-ordinator & Archivist	Vacant
National Council Representative	Mike Connolly (Shrewsbury CC)

Help us to help you—and you to help our beneficiaries

Please print off copies of the Newsletter for supporters and for your Parishes, to help them become more aware of our various Twinnage activities.

If you have questions about Twinnage, we'd like to answer them and publish the Q&A in the Newsletter for the benefit of others. So, please ask away by emailing the team at mjcoyle@blueyonder.co.uk Finally, because we want this to be a Newsletter that is helpful to you, please tell us about things you would like us to cover in future quarterly Newsletters.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF TWINNAGE



SHARE CORRESPONDENCE

Would you like to share a letter from your Twin (see pages 2 and 3) so that other Conferences who don't (yet) receive letters from their Twin can get a flavour of how things work in Twinned Conferences?

Whilst Praveen is working to get the links improved, at least others would be able to share in your experience of Twinnage.

Please e-mail letters to mjcoyle@blueyonder.co.uk

Through the International Twinnage scheme we are supporting over 1750 conferences - but still more need your help

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 Registered Charity Number 1053992

