

## SVP ANNUAL REPORT 2024



**At St Margaret Clitherow we have an active St Vincent de Paul group (known as an 'SVP conference')**

The driving force for the SVP is carrying out Christ's instruction to love God and love your neighbour. The SVP model for carrying out this instruction is offering time, skills and talents and love to those in need in whatever ways we can. In conferences SVP members develop their

Vincentian spirituality through praying together and sharing spiritual readings and reflections, as well as discussing and organising their work.

We have seven active conference members, who meet fortnightly when possible and our work over the year has included:

- Visiting 14 sick, elderly and bereaved parishioners in their own homes and in care homes
- Visiting a prisoner at Full Sutton HMP, who has now transferred to another prison preparing for release
- Supporting the work of the St Vincent's Centre in Leeds, including providing clothes for male refugees being held at a hotel in Leeds
- Supporting families in need who attend St Wilfrid's School.
- One member co-ordinating a Mini Vinnies group in St Wilfrid's School
- Providing funds for needy families supported by other York SVP conferences
- Ensuring lifts to mass for those who require transport

During the period Sept 2023-Aug 2024 we have made 321 visits and provided transport when needed to Mass.

We are only able to carry out much of our work through the constant generosity of our parishioners and we wish to thank you all for your donations, your support and your prayers. We have been constantly overwhelmed by the support we receive when we make specific appeals, for example for refugee clothing and for Christmas presents for children in need attending St Wilfrid's primary school. £1,005 was donated to St Wilfrid's at Christmas 2023.

In addition to the specific appeals, we have used funds to buy small gifts and cards for those we visit; supported refugee children to continue attending All Saint's High School by helping with transport costs; assisted children in the parish to visit Lourdes; helped another York SVP conference support a needy family; bought prayer books for the Mini Vinnies transitioning to high school, and sent 'twinning' money to central SVP to support overseas SVP conferences.

If you know of anyone who is lonely and needs a chat, please contact any member.

If anyone is interested in joining our parish conference, please contact us via the contact form on this website or via any of the members listed in the church porch.

**“Charity should never look behind but always in front, because the number of good deeds that we have done in the past is always very small, while the present needs and future needs, which must be relieved, are always endless” .....*Blessed Frederic Ozanam***