

All About St. Vincent de Paul

Vincent de Paul was born on the **24th of April 1581** to Jean and Bertrande de Moras de Paul in Pouy, a village in the south-western Province of Guyenne and Gascony, **France**.

Vincent was the **third born** child in the peasant farming family of three sons – – Jean, Bernard and Gayon, and two daughters – Marie and Marie-Claudine.

He was **sent to a Seminary** at the age of 15 years, by his father who sold the family's oxen to pay for it. Vincent then completed his education in a college in Dax, France for 35 years.

At 19 years of age, he was **ordained on 23rd September 1600**, in Château-l'Évêque, near Périgueux. Fr. Vincent de Paul **was a French Catholic priest**.

He commenced his studies in the Faculty of Theology at the University of Toulouse in 1597 and tutored others in order to pay for his own education. Vincent received on 12th October 1604, his **Bachelor of Theology**, he also received a **Licentiate in Canon Law from the University of Paris**.

He was the superior of the **Congregation of the Mission or the "Vincentians" also known as "Lazaristes"** in France. Fr. Vincent de Paul was a pioneer in clerical training, he established seminaries, and founded the **Congregation of the Mission and Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul** in 1617. He served as a Priest for 60 years.

Vincentian Priests with vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and stability devote themselves entirely to the people.

He **died** in Paris on 27th September 1660 at the age of 79. **Pope Benedict XIII declared** Fr. Vincent de Paul **Blessed on 13th August 1729** and **on 16 June 1737, in Rome, Papal States , Pope Clement XII canonized him and he is venerated as a saint in the Catholic Church.**

When his body was first exhumed, it appeared to be incorrupt but later flooding damaged the area where his body was placed and the body did decay. **His heart was found to be incorrupt** and is displayed in a reliquary in the chapel of the

Daughters of Charity in Paris. **His bones** have been **encased** in a wax figure displayed ***in a glass reliquary in the chapel*** of the headquarters of the Vincentian Priests in the **Saint Vincent de Paul Chapel**, Rue de Sèvres, Paris.

There is a ***Shrine dedicated to*** St. Vincent de Paul : **St. Vincent de Paul Chapel**, 95, Rue de Sèvres, Paris, France.

St. Vincent de Paul is the considered the patron of charitable works. The **Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**, a ***charitable organization***, was established in 1833 . It is ***dedicated*** to the service of the poor and is present in **153 countries**. **St. Vincent de Paul is the patron saint of charities, hospitals, leprosy and prisoners.**

The **Congregation of the Mission** which was ***founded by St. Vincent de Paul*** about **395 years ago** on the 17th of April 1625. Hence, **St. Vincent de Paul is considered the father and Patron of the congregation.**

“ The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor ” (Luke 4:18) was the motto adopted by St. Vincent de Paul for his own ministry and that of the Congregation of Mission.

In India, Vincentian Congregation started in 1904 and the Indian Vincentian Priests ***started conducting Catholic charismatic retreats*** in Kerala, a Southern State in India as early as 1950. **The Divine Retreat Centres are led by the Vincentian Priests** who belong to the Congregation of the Mission Mary Matha Province.

“ To this end, we should help and support one another and strive for peace and union among ourselves. This is the wine that cheers and strengthens travellers along the narrow path of Jesus Christ. ” St. Vincent de Paul

The Feast of St. Vincent de Paul is celebrated on 27th September as per the Catholic Liturgical Calendar.

NOVENA TO ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

O Glorious Saint Vincent de Paul,

The mention of your name suggests a litany of

your virtues: Humility, zeal, mercy, self-sacrifice.

It also recalls your many foundations: Works of Mercy, Congregations, Societies.

The Church gratefully remembers your promotion of the priesthood.

Inspire all Charitable Workers, especially those who minister,

To both the spiritually and the materially poor.

O Lord, give us the grace that You bestowed upon, Your servant St. Vincent de Paul,

to relinquish the temptation of material things,

In our holy effort to minister to the poor.

Amen.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Glory Be...

(Repeat this prayer for 9 days prior to the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul which is celebrated on September 27th)

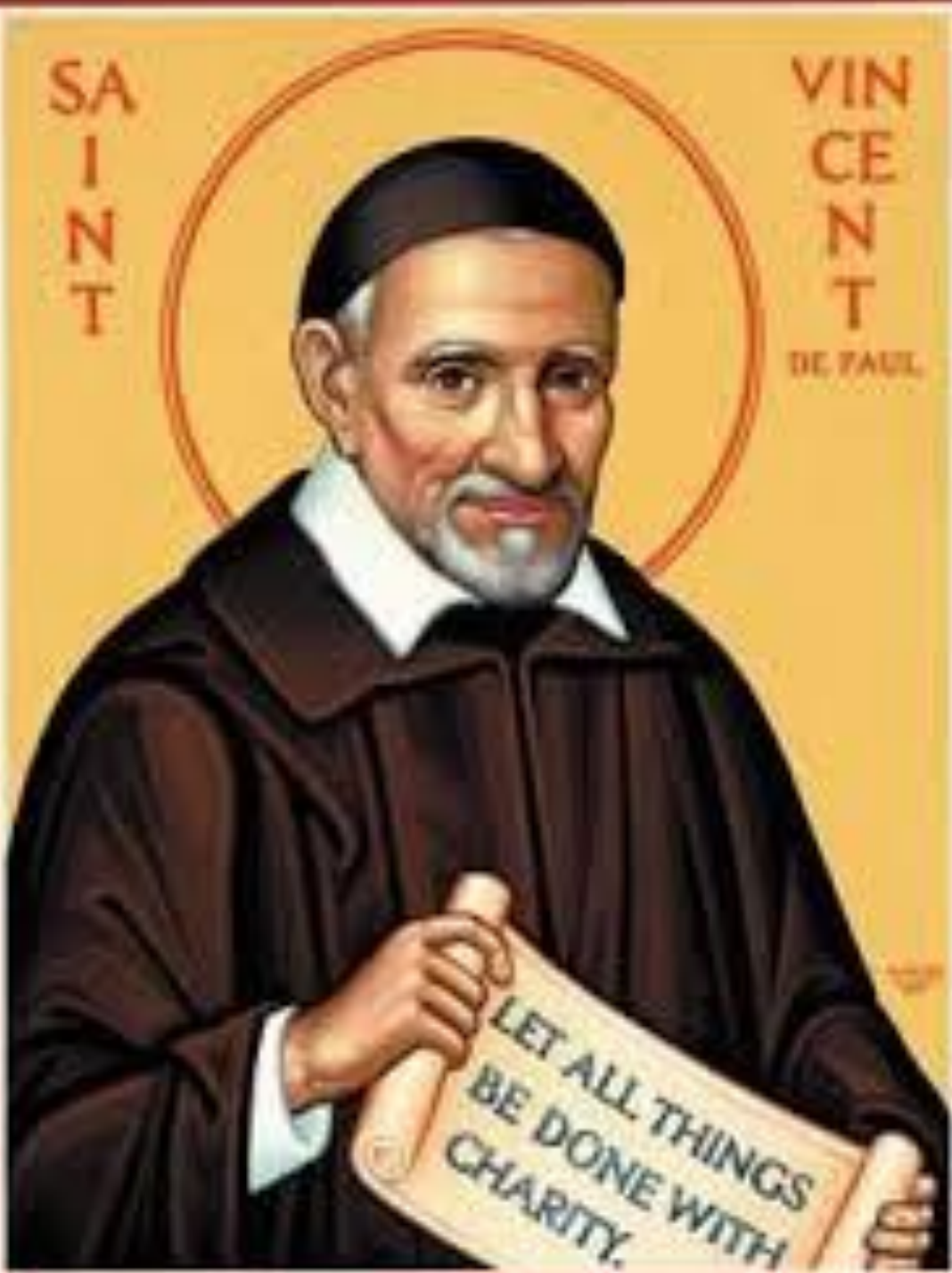
Happy Feast..

For the Vincentian Priest, Divine Kigali, VRC Entebbe.

By Charlene Rose Marie

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Sr. Vincent de Paul

SAINT VINCENT
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Pray For Us

