



St Vincent de Paul Society

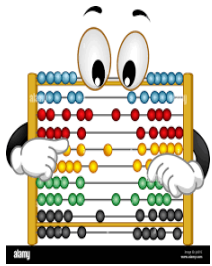
England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

Issue 1
January 2024

St Joseph's & St Patrick's SVP Conference NEWSLETTER

Treasurer's Report



Our fund-raising Quiz Nights and donations from benefactors has enabled us to give financial support in the following ways:

- Cooker for a family
- Microwave for a family
- Homeless refugees
- Overseas support
- SVP Training



V has brought her son from a war torn city in Ukraine to the rural north of England.

Job done ✓

She is safe, she has a flat and her son attends the local primary school where he no longer has to walk past buildings in rubble and devastation making it part of his internalised reality.

What more could we do for these displaced people.

This is the demonstration of our compassion, generosity and genuine care as a country.

Our triumph hides the continuing story of people again forgotten as we move on to the next disaster.

/continued

Number of visits made & support given

Our
Helping Hands

* Home Visits	156
* Care Home Visits	55
* Hospitals Visits	2
* Transports	16
* Telephone calls & emails to people in their homes	55
* Time spent supporting refugees	125 hours
* Times spent accompanying people to hospital appointments	2



Mini Vinnies

Mini Vinnies (the youngest members of the SVP) of Saint Joseph's Primary School and what we did in 2023!

We designed a power point to let all our friends and parents know that we will be doing the Friday Food Bank Challenge all year asking for donations each Friday to the West Craven Food Bank which includes Barnoldswick. The school's Harvest Mass gave thanks for everything we have, and after Mass we packed up the harvest Donations and sent it to the Food Bank. After a special SVP Mass in September for the sick we joined those who attended and served them sandwiches and cake. We enjoyed talking to all the parishioners and we hope they enjoyed our company too. We also led our school in a Penitential service during Advent and in the special month of October Father Phillip came to teach us how to say the Rosary. We then led sessions at lunch time for any children or staff who had any special intentions.

/Feedback continued ...

Family still living in a war zone; a father missing out on his son's formative years; a business in tatters in that war torn city with workers no longer employed and machinery and equipment abandoned.

V's dilemma of where she feels is home. For her son, here is the place of a normal childhood with a chance of good mental and emotional health. For her, uncertainty at what her future should be, return at some point to "home" or trying to make this place feel more like where she belongs. And what about the family and things she left behind?

Job Done? What have we forgotten here.....?

SOME OF

What we
DO!

Organise:

Popular fund-raising quiz nights!
Bi annual Masses with lunch held in the church hall for the sick and housebound their families/carers.

Offer practical help – gardening, shopping, transport.....
Offer financial support and advice.

Visit the sick and housebound

Liaise with professional bodies.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Join us!?

Make a Donation?



If you are short of time. Consider becoming a 'Befriender' by offering some help when you feel available to do so.

Find out more by visiting the SVP website: svp.org.uk Or speak to any member of our church Conference.

P.S. You do not need to be a Catholic to join the SVP!



Refugees and asylum seekers in Pendle - Did you know?

- There are over 400 refugees and asylum seekers living in the Pendle area
- They have arrived from 25 countries, all fleeing war or persecution. The greatest number are from Afghanistan, Syria, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Kuwait, Ethiopia, and Ukraine.
- Our SVP Conference has regularly supported individuals and families over the last 6 years with money, clothes, household items etc.
- Asylum seekers receive £49.18 a week to buy food, clothes, toiletries, travel etc. Those claiming asylum are normally not allowed to work.
- We never forget that the Holy Family were refugees.

Get in touch Tel: 01282 812204

Do you know someone who could benefit from our support?