

# Youths Ignited

*Holy Cross Confirmands Raise \$12,316 for SSVP*

In December 2020, the confirmands and facilitators from Church of the Holy Cross organised Project G.O.D., an annual Advent event which serves to bond the community and also to raise funds.

Organising Project G.O.D. was no easy feat in the middle of a pandemic and the 41 youths, with the guidance of the catechists, creatively curated a host of events and activities to cater to the different interests of the parishioners.

This included staging an adaptation of the Broadway musical “Godspell” by Stephen Schwartz and John-Michael Tebelak which was directed by Franciscan Friar



Martin Low, OFM with a guest performance by Holy Cross Parish Priest Fr Henry Siew.

They staged two sold out shows.

There was a “Bake and Coffee” stall. The stall also sold handicrafts, tote bags and knick knacks, many designed and made by the confirmands with delivery included as part of the service. The aim was to donate the funds raised for SSVP.

“While working on Project G.O.D., I was grateful that I could use the gifts God has given me to help people with needs and I hope to be able to continue to use them in the future for others,” said Eleanor, a confirmand and artist for the tote bags.

Some of the confirmands had the opportunity to team up with Vincentians and visit the FINs. Said Sally, a catechist who worked with the confirmands: “We adopted SSVP because it has a Conference in Holy Cross and we thought it would give the youths a better “link” in the church. It was a great opportunity outside catechism



lessons to know more about each other and that they worked together with a common goal - to help the less fortunate.”

On 7 February, Florence Tan, President SSVP National Council and members of SSVP’s Youth Wing met the confirmands at the Church of the Holy Cross. Florence and SSVP Holy Cross President Benjamin Liew presented certificates of appreciation to the confirmands.

The confirmands in turn presented a cheque of \$12,316 to SSVP.

Adonara Mucek from the SSVP Youth Wing spoke to the Holy Cross Youths about the mission of SSVP and the programmes and services provided by SSVP which the funds will help support. She also shared more about the activities specifically organised by the Youth Wing which includes faith formation as well as projects they embark on for the community-at-large, which encompasses those in need regardless of race or religion. 

# Vincentian Youth Engagement 2021

SSVP Youth Wing hopes to engage more youths and provide them the environment to love God and love their neighbours.

Apart from fun, games, fellowship outings and community engagements, plans include spiritual formation that will provide the youths the platform to enter the right disposition to be synchronised

with the Holy Spirit.

This year, the calendar of activities include “Project Compassion” where youths will lead with the aim to integrate the disadvantaged back into society. A fund-raising project called SSVP Art Jam is also planned for July.

Get in touch with Anselm Vincent (email: [anselm\\_2@hotmail.com](mailto:anselm_2@hotmail.com)) to find out more about SSVP Youth Wing! 



# Young sisters Cook Up a Fundraiser

It all started with the rain.

Seven-year-old Caitlyn and her nine-year-old sister Natalie saw workers toiling hard in the rain at a construction site across their home. This inspired the sisters into action to do something positive for those in need.

With the encouragement and guidance of their mother Adelyn Chan, the sisters spent two days brainstorming and drawing up the plans for their first-ever fundraiser. They called it “Granola Goodness”.

Said Ms Chan: “When they suggested they wanted to help the workers who were toiling in the rain, my first question to them was, ‘Do you have money?’ They innocently told me that they could sell granola to make money. I thought this was a great opportunity to discuss and put into action gratitude, kindness, generosity and charity, among

many virtues. They also had to be responsible!”

The sisters decided to adopt SSVP Ltd. as the beneficiary. Why SSVP? They had witnessed first-hand the impact of SSVP’s work, having joined their families of their godparents in a SSVP food distribution activity earlier.

“We want to help young children like us and their families. We can all do something to help the needy in this pandemic, even in small ways,” said Natalie and Caitlyn.

The Granola Goodness campaign was launched just before Christmas on giving.sg and offered donors delicious granola lovingly made by the girls with a minimum \$20 donation.

The response from supporters and donors was absolutely



overwhelming, and the campaign reached the target of \$1,000 within days. It eventually raised \$3,000.

Said the sisters: “We hope that this little fundraiser has helped to create some awareness for SSVP Ltd. and will inspire others to come forward to contribute too. Our friends have asked if this will be an annual affair - maybe that’s an idea to explore!” 

# Fr Vaz’s 50th Sacerdotal Anniversary

Fr Eugene Vaz was ordained a priest 50 years ago on February 13, 1971.

To mark the Golden Jubilee of his ordination, a mass was celebrated at the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (OLPS), the very same church where he was ordained 50 years ago. While only 100 people could attend the mass at OLPS, it was watched by many more via livestream on YouTube.

Fr Vaz has been SSVP’s spiritual advisor since 2013. 

