



Emmanuel Bailly  
1<sup>st</sup> President of  
Society of St Vincent de Paul, 1833

Society of St Vincent de Paul  
Singapore  
Annual Report 2017



## Vincentian Vocation

The vocation of the Society's members, who are called Vincentians, is to follow Christ through service to those in need and so bear witness to His compassionate and liberating love.

Members show their commitment through person-to-person contact.

Vincentians serve in hope.

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## Society of St Vincent de Paul Singapore

is a part of the global Vincentian family, an international Catholic voluntary organization dedicated to the sanctification of its members through serving the poor and disadvantage.

## Our Mission

To promote better understanding of the public to the needs of the poor and underprivileged and to encourage the public to take an active part in alleviating the sufferings and needs of the poor and marginalized.



# FOREWORD

by Florence Tan  
President, SSVP National Council



Dear Friends,

In line with the SSVP's goal to better serve those in need while staying true to our roots and fundamental characteristics, **2017** has been a year of gratitude, providence and faith as we Vincentians continue in our service to God.

## Financial and Forward Planning

In **2017**, second-collections and general donations remained steady totalling **\$5.2** million, whilst total expenditure spent on Friends-in-Need (FINs) and local Homes was **\$5.3** million compared to **\$5.1** million in FY **2016**. With this, the SSVP was able to increase our outreach by **10%**, bringing help to **2,210** families.

Cognizant of the stewardship required and the growing challenges faced by the Singapore community, it is important that the Society optimises our resources in serving the poor while remaining aligned to our founding values. Continual needs assessment through structured dialogue sessions between the SSVP National Council and the executive committees of the different Conferences is one important aspect. In addition, we continue to work on other avenues, such as:

- Regular spiritual talks by priests and nuns to strengthen our spiritual growth.
- Workshops to refresh our members' understanding of the foundational rules of the SSVP, deepening our knowledge on the formation and mission of the Society.
- Strategic planning at the National and Conference levels.
- Sharing of best-practices and the development of Conferences' specific strategic plans so as to bring more effective resources to all our beneficiaries and provide accountability to our benefactors.
- Governance and leadership training in **2018**.

Recent initiatives like the Social Office, Milk and Diaper Project, Minor Home Improvements Project and the Migrant Workers Dormitory Outreach Project and continued collaboration with the many Catholic as well as other voluntary social works organisations, continue to make an impact in the wake of emerging concerns of the Singapore community at large. These concerns include

age-related health issues and its demands on care-giving and an increased number of vulnerable families with a more diverse socioreligious landscape.

The SSVP has to ride on the momentum and foundational values in journeying with our beneficiaries and proactively identify new areas to serve their needs.

We are very grateful that many members with multiple talents and gifts have contributed towards these projects. The enthusiasm and generosity shown by many of our members is a heartening testimony of God's plans for the Society and its good works in future. We continue to encourage more members and volunteers to come forward.

## A Blessing - Bless Others Bountifully

In late **2017**, the SSVP was blessed through a substantial donation from an anonymous

Donor's estate.

This estate has bequeathed the SSVP with a donation to purchase a freehold shophouse to start a social enterprise. The Donor's executors requested and encouraged SSVP to consider starting a sustainable enterprise to earn income which can expand, enhance and help sustain its charitable works and programmes. The

significance of this blessing is akin to being given a 'fishing net', reinforcing the need for the Society and our members to evolve our approach in sustainable operations to serve the poor, moving away from the sole reliance on donations. It is also a testament to God's providence and faith in our mission in service to Him. It is with a grateful heart that we offer our sincere appreciation to the Donor's family and the executors for this blessing which will enable the SSVP to scale new heights. The retail shop for pre-loved items, located at **501** Geylang Road, is scheduled to be operational in **Q4-2018** and it will sell vintage, pre-owned goods

## New Conference

We are very happy to welcome the newest community of Vincentians at the Church of The Transfiguration (COTT). It was formed in November **2017** with the whole-hearted

support of Rev Fr Joachim Chang. I would like to thank and congratulate Vincentians Julie Boon, Michael Koh and Andrew Goh who uprooted themselves from their respective Conferences to help start and mentor the COTT Conference members. This, and the tangible support from other Serangoon Conferences are testimonies of the deep fraternal support and love within the SSVP.

## Appreciation

We are extremely grateful to our generous parishioners and other donors; our Patron his Grace Archbishop William Goh; national spiritual advisor Rev Fr Eugene Vaz; and all parish priests and other priests/spiritual advisors who have made it possible for the SSVP to continue to make a difference to our beneficiaries. We are also appreciative of our dedicated Vincentians and many other volunteers who have set aside their personal time to regularly visit the Friends-in-Need (FINs) and provide them with resources to make a positive difference in their lives.

Through our individual and communal prayers, we continue to ask God for strength and blessings in

spreading His love to our families and our FINs. We rely and trust in our Lord and are confident that the multiplier effect on our network of friendship and support will grow exponentially beyond expectations. It is with that grateful heart that we look forward to the year ahead in our journey as Vincentians.

Charity, Hope and Love to all

**Florence Tan**

President, SSVP National Council



# MESSAGE

by Fr Eugene Vaz  
Spiritual Advisor, SSVF



**My Dear Vincentians,**  
We have come to yet another AGM of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Singapore. We thank God for his blessing and grace upon us this past year. It has helped us to listen to his Son, Jesus, who has kept on reminding us "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt 25 : 40).

The pages of this annual report bear testimony to our efforts in responding to Jesus in the poor we have served the past year.

But an AGM is also a time of special grace that the Lord gives us to look honestly and truthfully at where we are at this particular moment in our history, and to ask:

- In which areas of our life do we need to grow as disciples of Jesus?
- "What more must we do?" (Mt 19 : 20)

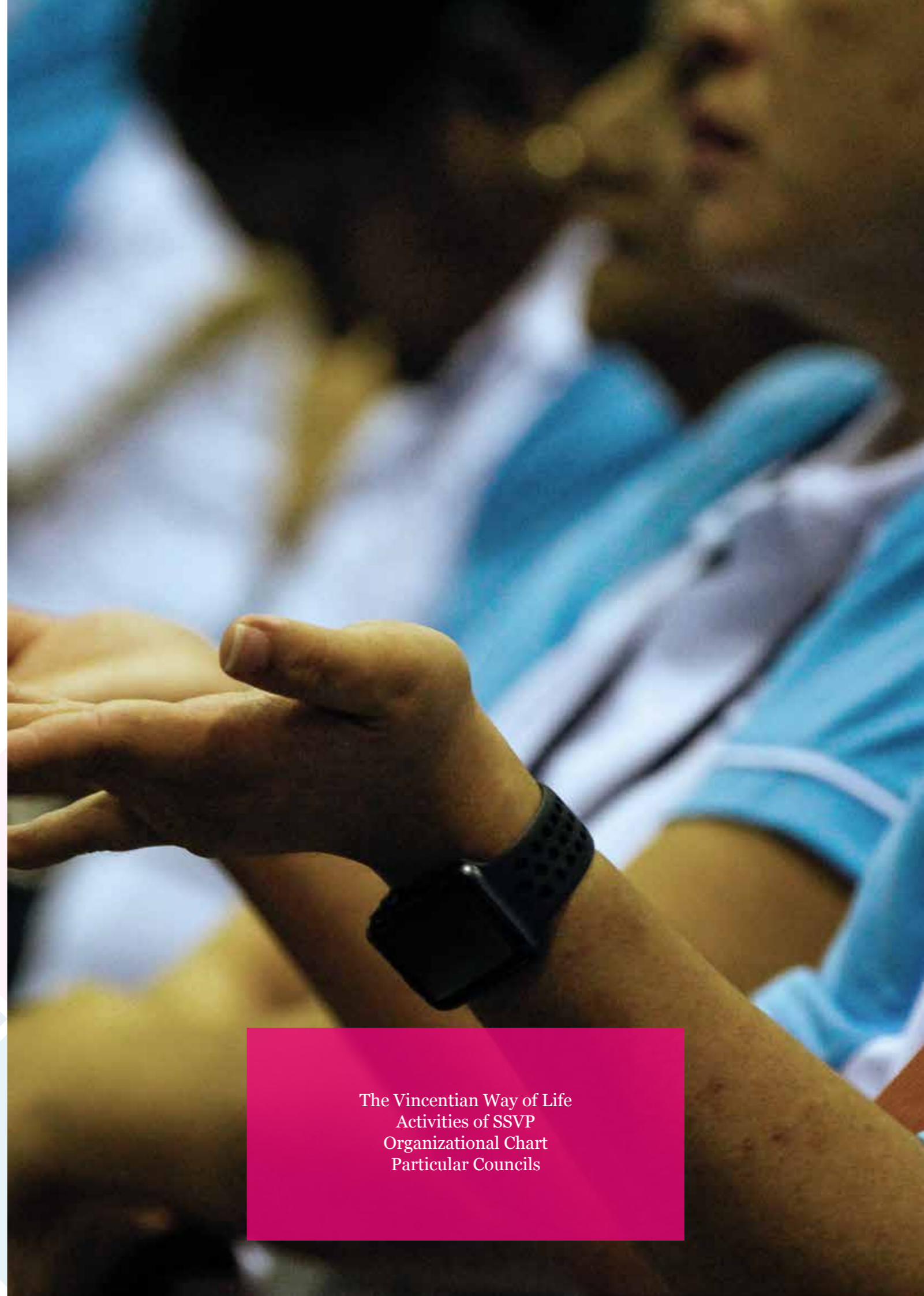
In his Apostolic exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel*, dated Nov 24, 2013, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminds us that the joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. In this oneness with Christ, joy is constantly born anew. We are called to live in this joy and to share this joy, especially with the poor.

"Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid" (No. 187). "In this context, we can understand Jesus' command to his disciples: 'You yourselves give them something to eat!' (Mk 6 : 37). It means working to eliminate the structural causes of poverty and to promote the integral development of the poor, as well as small daily acts of solidarity in meeting the real needs which we encounter" (No 188).

I pray that all that we do as Vincentians is an expression of deepening our encounter with Jesus and growing in this joy.

Thank you for being Vincentians.

God Bless you!  
Fr Eugene Vaz



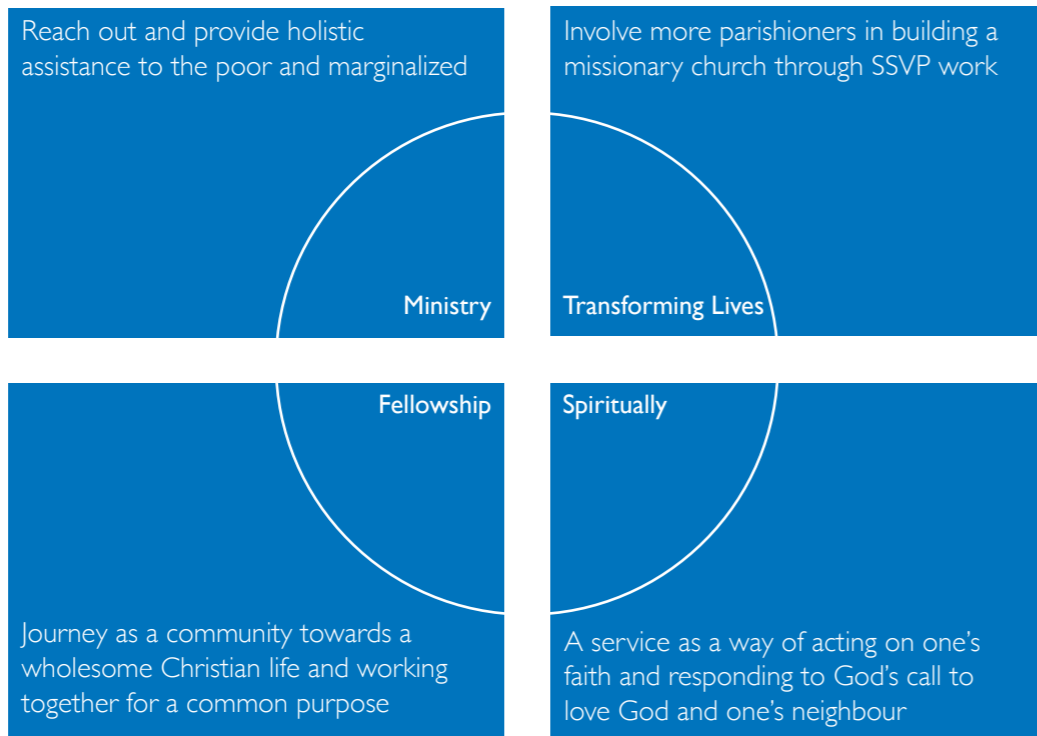
The Vincentian Way of Life  
Activities of SSVF  
Organizational Chart  
Particular Councils



# The Vincentian Way of Life

## Service in Hope

4 Principles of the Vincentian Way of Life



# Activities of SSVP



Befriending, journeying and visiting Friends-In-Needs (FINs).



Giving supplementary cash aid and food for families of the underprivileged, unemployed, sick, and aged.



Providing FINs with transport facilities to visit the sick members of the families in hospital and to secure medical treatment.



Providing school fees, supplementary fees, examination fees, bus fare, school books, and uniforms to our FINs children.



Securing employment for our FINs and their children.



Bringing cheer to the underprivileged during Christmas, Easter and other local festivals with gifts, hampers, and hong baos.



Providing free breakfasts to FINs after Sunday Mass.



Providing free tuition to primary and secondary school pupils.



Providing scholarships and bursaries for children of FINs to attend University, Polytechnic, and other tertiary institutions.



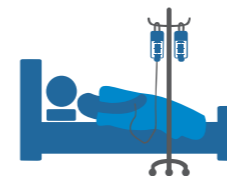
Providing funds for self-help projects.



Soliciting donations from benefactors and well-wishers and organising fund-raising projects such as fun fairs, jumble sales, sales of old magazines, newspaper, and Christmas Carolling.



Organizing sightseeing and excursion for families of FINs.



Member's participation at Masses offered for the sick and deceased persons.



Organizing Masses and Blessings for the sick and disabled in churches and charitable Homes as well as lunches to residents in Homes.



Attending perpetual Masses for the intentions of the Society.



Visiting the FINs in hospitals and Homes.



# Organizational Chart



NC Exco 2017 (from left to right): Gabriel Lok, Teresa Yeo, Florence Tan, Stanley Lim  
Not in photo: Angela Ong and Christina Lee

## Organization of National Council

**FR EUGENE VAZ**  
Spiritual Advisor, SSVP

### Sub-Committee

### Executive Committee

**FLORENCE TAN**  
President

**ANGELA ONG**  
Gen. Secretary/PCC

**STANLEY LIM**  
Vice President

**CHRISTINA LEE**  
Asst. Gen. Secretary

**TERESA YEO**  
Vice President/External  
Community

**GABRIEL LOK**  
Treasurer

**DAVID LAU**  
Faith Formation Development

**DAVID ONG**  
Social Office

**STANLEY LIM**  
Vice President / Fund Raising

**HARRY PEREIRA**  
Fund Raising

**NATALIE SEAH**  
Communications

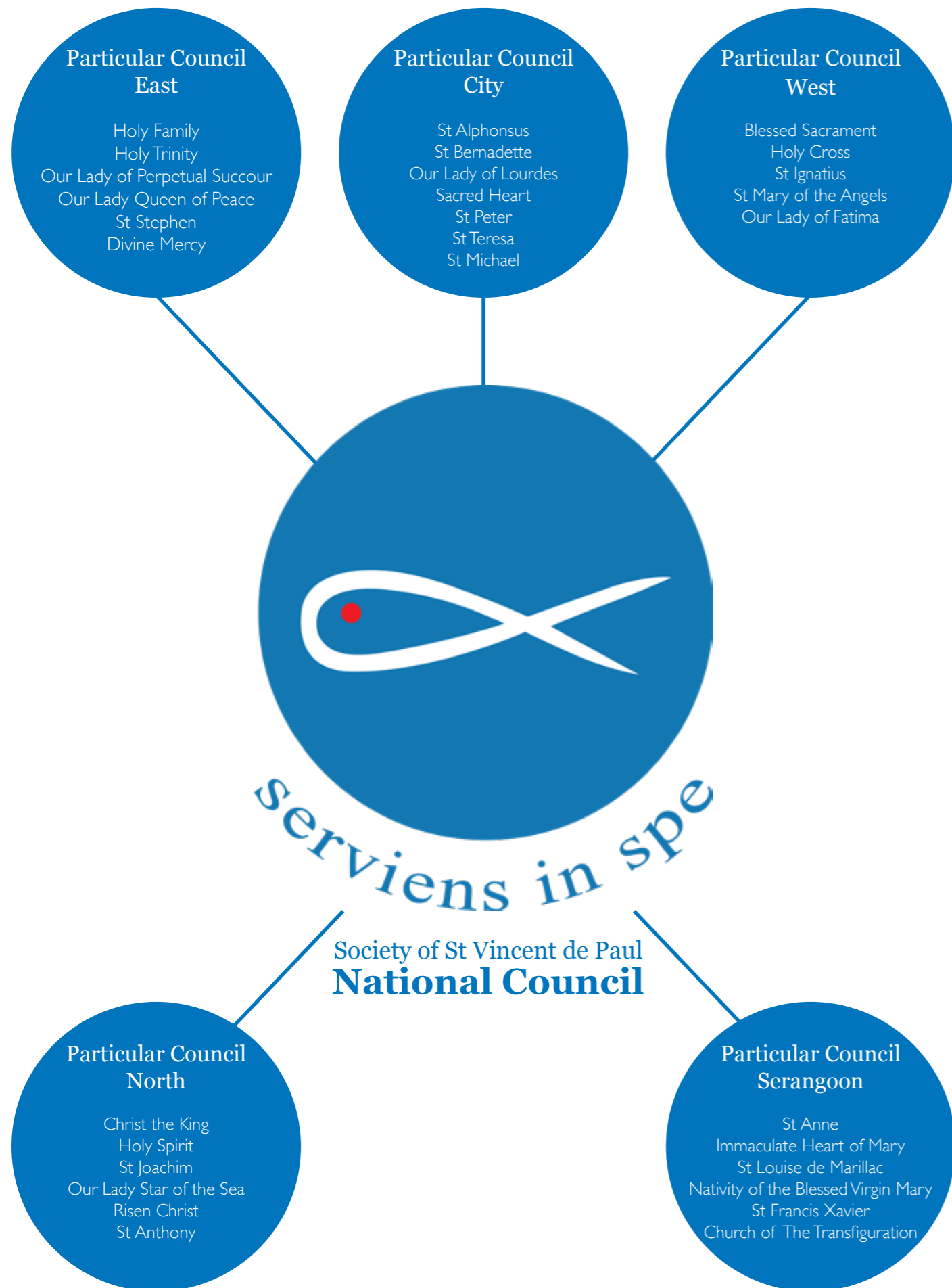
**NOEL LOW**  
IT and National Database

**VICTOR CHUA**  
Overseas Twinning

**LONG SEE HONG**  
PDPA Officer

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”  
1 John 4 : 7 - 8





# Particular Councils

## Particular Council - City

**President**  
 Angela Ong

**Vice President**  
 Leo Tan

**Second Vice President**  
 Doreen See

**Secretary**  
 Adelaine Ng

**Treasurer**  
 Malar Kulasegaran

## Particular Council - East

**President**  
 Marcus Goh

**Vice President**  
 Harry Pereira

**Secretary**  
 Helene Ng

**Asst. Secretary**  
 Jean Phoon

**Treasurer**  
 Harry Pereira

## Particular Council - West

**President**  
 May Yip

**Vice President**  
 Michael Tan

**Secretary**  
 Christina Lee

**Asst. Secretary**  
 Magdalene Tan

**Treasurer**  
 Beatrice Lee

**Asst. Treasurer**  
 Leslie See

## Particular Council - North

**President**  
 Jeremy Bruce

**Secretary**  
 Marilyn Anugraham

**Asst. Secretary**  
 Donimic Abraham

**Treasurer**  
 Teresa Yeo

## Particular Council - Serangoon

**President**  
 Adrian Cher

**Vice President**  
 James Ang

**Secretary**  
 Catherine Tan

**Asst. Secretary**  
 Annly Neo

**Treasurer**  
 Long See Hong



Sub-Committee Report:  
Faith Formation Development by David Lau  
Social Office Report by David Ong  
Youth Report by Sean Lee  
Fundraising and IPC Report by Stanley Lim  
Social Enterprise by Robert Nguyen



# Sub-Committee Report

## Faith Formation Development

by David Lau

The Faith Formation & Development (FFD) sub-committee was formed in **2011** primarily to promote the spiritual formation and development of the Society's members so that they can draw nearer to Christ, serving Him in the poor and one another.

Towards this end, **2017** was packed with a number of prayer and reflection sessions including skills knowledge workshops. The highlights were the following :

- **18 Mar 2017:** Lent Prayer & Reflection by the Cenacle sisters
- **29 Apr 2017:** Mass for the FINs concelebrated by Archbishop William Goh
- **22 Jul 2017:** Psychology of the Poor workshop
- **12 Aug 2017:** Induction retreat and mass for new Vincentians
- **2 - 15 Oct 2017:** Know the Rule workshops
- **12 Nov 2017:** Annual Retreat and mass by the Verbum Dei sisters
- **9 Dec 2017:** Advent Prayer & Reflection by the Cenacle sisters

We are very proud that **510** Vincentians attended the 'Know the Rule' workshops. It is essential that we are grounded in the Society's Rule and to be true disciples of Jesus Christ guided by the charism of our patron saint, St Vincent de Paul.

The challenge is to entice our members to attend the programmes which are aimed at enriching and developing their spiritual lives. We believe that Conference leaders play a key role in setting the tone of their Conference spirituality and vocation and we are confident that they will rise to the challenge.

For **2018**, we will continue to promote programmes to members, encouraging them to live a life of prayer and reflection, both at the individual and community levels. We aim to have a spirit-filled year interspersed with skills knowledge workshops.

## Social Office Report

by David Ong

The SSVP Social Office continues to grow from strength to strength. Started in **2015** in the West district as a pilot project to help FINs with complex problems, the Social Office has quickly become the go-to team for SSVP Conferences all over Singapore whenever they encounter difficult and complicated cases.

Helmed by Meera Ramachandran and Alvin Dawson, and in consultation and partnership with SSVP Conferences, the Social Office turned around more than **140** complex cases in **2017**. More than **30%** of these cases were referred directly by SSVP Conferences.

The SSVP Social Office works closely with and leverages on the services of external agencies (Social Service Offices, Family Service Centres, etc.) and member organisations in Agape Village such as the Catholic Welfare Services, Caritas, Montfort Care, ABLE and ACMI.

In **2018**, the Social Office intends to improve the lives of even more FINs. It will look to widen its network with external agencies and engage with more SSVP conferences in Singapore. It will also launch a series of customised training modules to give Vincentians practical skills in better serving their FINs.

The Social Office is overseen by a team of Vincentians, on behalf of the National Council, who call themselves the TLC Team (Tender, Loving, Care Team).

## Youth Report

by Sean Lee

The youths of our Society organised many activities for our FINs across various conferences in **2017**. These included visits to homes for the elderly as well as taking the children of FINs on educational outings to farms, animal shelters and even ice skating. The SSVP Youth also pursued collaborations with the students of the Singapore Management University (SMU), organising activities for the children at Family Care Centre in Serangoon Gardens; facilitating a range of games and quizzes centred on the theme of sustainability and environmental awareness. The highlight of the event was an arts and craft session where our members taught the children to make beautiful tea light holders.

For **2018** we had a new tag line – "SSVP Fresh". We aim to build a thriving youth community on the national level, with greater focus in recruiting more youths and guiding our young Vincentians through this journey of helping the less fortunate in our community and sharing our faith with them.

The vision of the SSVP Youth is to develop and nurture a community that comes together to pray. In Singapore, we are extremely fortunate that we have Conferences in most parishes that do great work for our FINs.

As this community grows, the goal is to help young Vincentians and the SSVP on two levels. On a personal level, this is a chance for young Vincentians of diverse backgrounds to come together, interact with like-minded youths with a common purpose and zeal to serve the less fortunate. As a community, we can journey together and offer solidarity, encouragement and prayers for one another. We also hope that student members of the SSVP in schools can continue to journey with us even after they leave school. The fresh ideas that they bring will benefit the Conferences in their work.

We can also plan and organise activities which were previously not possible without a critical mass; such as World Youth Day and other initiatives to recruit more young members to join the Society.

There are many youths in Singapore who want to contribute to society by giving their time and helping the less fortunate. At the same time, they are also in search of a community, finding a sense of belonging and having a sense of purpose in what they do. We strongly feel that this gap can be filled by the SSVP Youth.

## Fundraising and IPC Report

by Stanley Lim

The idea of SSVP acquiring IPC (Institution of Public Character) status to tap on additional donations to supplement our existing SSVP fund, started in 2016. A committee was established to look into the feasibility of doing this and its impact on our society.

Most corporate donors and sponsors would, as a matter of policy, require their beneficiaries to be IPC approved. Amongst other reasons, donations to an IPC approved charity would qualify for a tax deduction of **2.5** times. An IPC approved charity is also subject to more rigorous governmental regulation and oversight. It thus provides assurance to donors that the charity is well run, practises good governance and the monies received well managed and utilised in accordance with the charity's purpose and mission. The grant of IPC status will therefore have a positive effect on the image of SSVP and facilitate its fundraising efforts especially amongst corporate donors.

We consulted several agencies that held IPC-status including Caritas, NCSS, ABLE to learn as much

# Sub-Committee Report

as we could.

We then proceeded to organise 2 National Dialogues and visited many conferences to explain the need and manner in which this could be done with little impact to our society. It was essential that this IPC application should not affect the Vincentian role, duties and responsibilities and that SSVP and all conferences remain a Catholic lay charity serving Christ in the Poor:

An Extraordinary General Meeting will be called in early **2018** for a national referendum to proceed with establishing a separate SSVP charitable trust fund (likely to be named Frederic Ozanam Trust Fund) which would apply for IPC status to supplement income for distribution to the poor: Our Society of St Vincent de Paul would remain as a registered society and continue with its current activities.

The SSVP charitable trust fund (when established), would not only open up new avenues for appeals and donations but also have the added advantage of bringing SSVP to the forefront of the Singapore community and form an intrinsic part of the Church's social mission effort in helping the less fortunate in Singapore.

## Social Enterprise Report

by Robert Nguyen

SSVP Singapore was abundantly blessed with a very significant bequest from the estate of an anonymous donor in late **2017**. A team was formed to respond to this generous offer to propose the setting up of a Social Enterprise Retail Shop (SERS) which would double up as the Society's headquarters.

The concept and purpose was not just to raise money for the charity; the SSVP Social Enterprise would also serve the local community - selling affordable goods to disadvantaged individuals and families, offering a warm environment and a listening ear; and where appropriate, helping those most in need. This national SERS could also offer employment and volunteering opportunities; whilst calling on the collective consciousness of the **380,000**-strong Catholic community in Singapore to donate good quality used goods which would otherwise go to other charitable institutions or end up in landfills.

Many Vincentians stepped forward to form the various sub-committees needed. We could see the Holy Spirit's guiding hand sending over **50** Vincentians to contribute their professional expertise, skills and time. Competencies included expertise in property, investments, finance, law, construction, renovation, interior design, space planning, retail/merchandising, communication and marketing, information technology, operations and logistics, etc.

The teams, their roles and milestone achievements are summarised below :

**Project Bailly Team** – National Council (NC) President with several NC Exco members developed and presented the concept and proposal to the donor representatives in September **2017**. Upon approval, they then set up and coordinated teams to plan the execution of the plans. The team also looked into the appointment of four Trustees to hold the property for the Society upon purchase.

**Premises Selection Team** – Responsible for the selection of a suitable property, in collaboration with the donor's representatives.

**Renovation and Fit Out Team** – Responsible for licencing, structural, construction, renovation, interior design and fitting out of the SSVP Shop. This team will also act as the Tender Committee for major procurements.

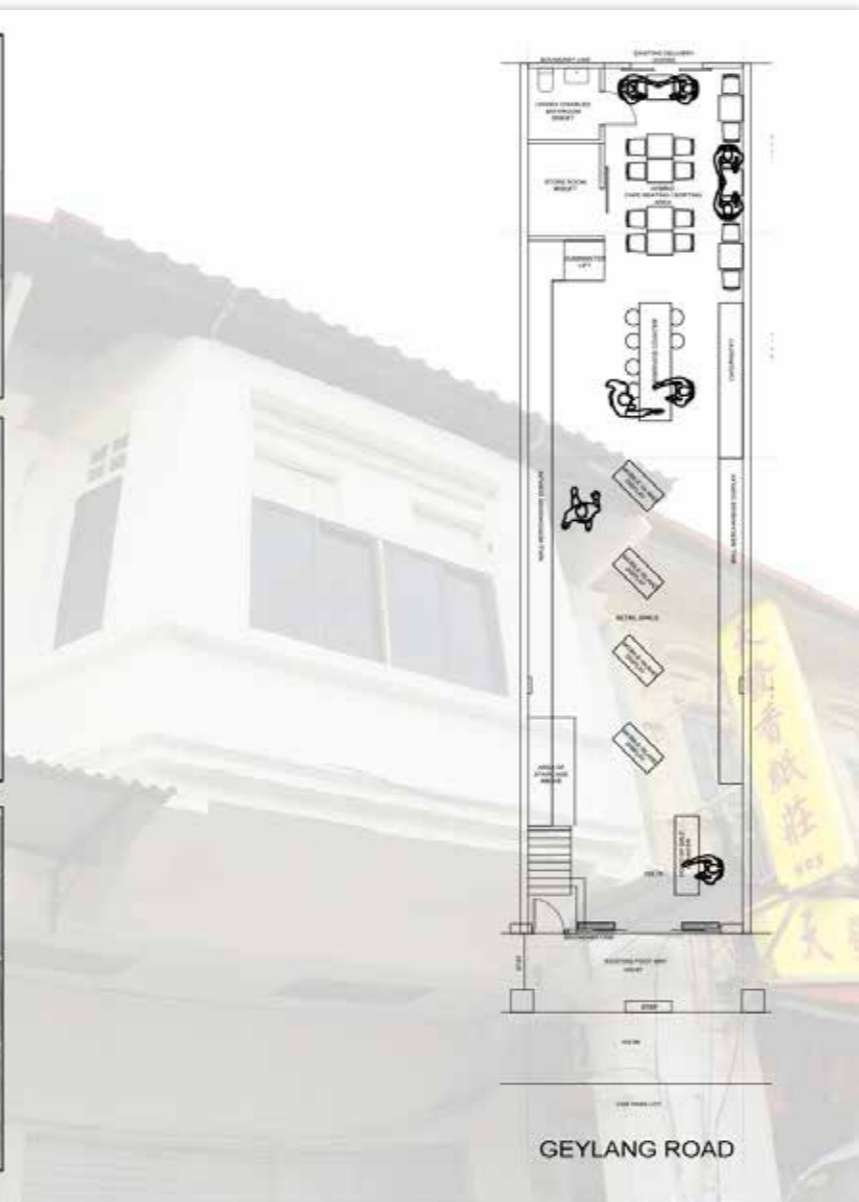
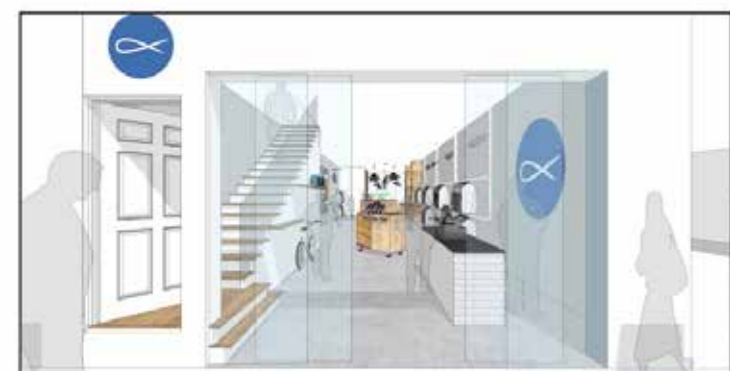
**Plan Launch Operate Team (PLOT)** – Responsible for the planning of the operations and launch of the SSVP Shop. This will include promotions to conferences to support donation drives at parish level as a strong marketing approach is essential to developing a good customer base.

**SSVP Shop Volunteer Team** – The success of the SSVP Shop will depend heavily on the quality and regularity of donated goods flowing in, as well as the number of dedicated volunteers we can engage to run the shop. This volunteer management team will recruit, train and arrange the roster of the volunteers for the shop and the monthly collection drives.

**Cafe Team** – Evaluates viable concepts for the operation of a small, intimate café to create a cordial, welcoming atmosphere for all who visit the SSVP Shop and headquarters.

The Social Enterprise Retail Shop is the first national and long-term project of this scale for SSVP Singapore. We continue to pray for our Lord's blessings and guidance for this project in our pursuit to help our FINs and the poor.





Opening Soon

# SSVP SHOP

a social enterprise where good quality can be bought at affordable prices, will open its doors in the last quarter of 2018 at

**501 Geylang Road**

Calling for people who love to work in a shop cum cafe to join the SSVP Shop Volunteer Community.

Register your interest to <http://ssvpshop.sg/>  
Send an email to [melanie.tan@ssvpsingapore.org](mailto:melanie.tan@ssvpsingapore.org)



SSVP @ 501 GEYLANG





## SSVP Feast Day 2017

Members of Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) came together on **27** September to celebrate their patron's feast day in Holy Mass at the Church of St Francis of Assisi, with Archbishop William Goh as the main celebrant.

In his homily, Archbishop William reflected on the life of St Vincent de Paul who worked tirelessly in collaboration with others and sought constantly to renew the Society so that it remained relevant to its time.

Archbishop went on to emphasize that the Vincentian work of evangelization requires that we be true disciples of the Lord. This involved developing good virtues like discipline, perseverance, humility, empathy and detachment. Vincentians were exhorted to take holiness seriously in their lives.

At the mass, **47** new Vincentians took their pledges and were inducted into the Society, alongside **12** very special members who received their **25<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary Awards and **3** others who received their **50<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary Awards by Archbishop William later that evening.





SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL  
CONF OF  
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

LECTORS & ANIMATORS MINISTRY  
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE  
CHURCH OF PEACE  
VERBUM DOMINI  
LAUDATE DOMINUM

QUEEN OF PEACE  
RCIA

PEACE CHOIR  
Children

VII  
Peace

FAMILY FEELISTRY  
Cecilia  
Queen of Peace

The Vincentian Family:  
PC East  
PC City  
PC West  
PC North  
PC Serangoon  
Milk & Diapers Programme  
Migrant Dormitory Project



# Vincentian Family

## Particular Council East



### Divine Mercy Conference

The annual Lenten Almsgiving project – started in **2016** – was held for the second consecutive year, and is looking to become an integral part of the work of SSVP Divine Mercy. In April, members visited a one-room rental block in Pasir Ris to provide assistance to residents. The SSVP members packed and distributed the groceries to about **150** needy households. They were supported by their family members and friends who joined them in packing and delivering the items.

Divine Mercy Conference started an SSVP Youth in July. They launched their first project, named Love in Action which is an initiative to help FINs who require essential furniture or home appliances by matching them to donors or sponsors' gifts from among the church's parishioners. The SSVP Youth also ran a Holiday Craft Workshop for the children of FINs during the December holidays. Activities included slime making and crayon melting.

The Conference shared many memorable moments with their FINs, such as the yearly CNY and Christmas celebrations, as well as the FINs Day Out.



### Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Conference

The Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Conference led a church Advent project called 'Wish Upon A Star'. The purpose of the project was to bring some festive cheer and joy to the poor and under-privileged during the Christmas season.

A Christmas tree full of stars was placed at the foyer of the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. Each star on the tree represented a wish to be fulfilled. SSVP members transcribed wishes one-by-one on stars to be placed on the tree. Although mainly targeted at residents within the boundaries of the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, wishes were fulfilled even for multi-racial brothers and sisters as far as Ang Mo Kio and Bukit Merah.

The project was held from Nov 4 to Dec 17 and a total of **212** wishes - ranging from TV sets, household appliances, furniture and food - were fulfilled with the help of parishioners from Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. The presents were collected from parishioners before being distributed to the beneficiaries.



### Holy Family Conference

The year **2017** was one filled with grace for the Conference of the Holy Family. Apart from regular home visits and birthday celebrations with FINs, various events such as a Chinese New Year luncheon, feast day celebrations, mid-year outing as well as parties during Easter and Christmas were organised. Other activities included a visit to the Gift of Love Home. The Conference members, along with the Holy Family Church Cancer Support Group, also celebrated the ordination anniversary of Spiritual Director Fr Damian de Wind.



### The Queen of Peace Conference

On July **22**, members of The Queen of Peace Conference took their FINs for an outing to the fishing pond in Punggol. Close to **40** FINs and their families joined about **20** Vincentians in the fun-filled prawning event. They had great fun for two hours. Prizes were given to families with the biggest catch. Later the FINs were treated to a sumptuous buffet dinner.

During dinner, recognition and book prizes were awarded to children who had done well in school. This is the fifth year that these prizes are being given to deserving students participating in the Conference's tuition programme and have improved in their studies and done well in school.



### St Stephen Conference

The Conference held its annual outing for its FINs in July. About **120** FINs attended the full-day event at the River Safari together with SSVP members. Participants were taken on a guided tour to see the different attractions, shows and enclosures at the River Safari and enjoyed a delicious catered lunch during the outing. Everyone had fun at the River Safari and are anticipating the next annual outing.

In September, the Conference members visited St. Vincent's Home, spending time and befriending the residents. Everyone had a go at a karaoke singing session which was thoroughly enjoyable and then ended off their time together by presenting each resident with a red packet.



# Vincentian Family



## St Alphonse Conference

The Conference of St. Alphonse took **18** FINs for an outing and lunch at Bollywood Veggies on Dec **3** last year. Bollywood Veggies, set in the rustic environment of the northwest Kranji, is a farm that also hosts a bistro. The visit gave the FINs an experience of yester-years Singapore. The FINs were taken on a guided tour of the farm and shown how vegetables were farmed. After the tour, members and FINs worked their creative juices to make a mini garden landscape in a beautiful and portable container. FINs and members were allowed to take these beautiful terrariums home. It was therapeutic for some of the FINs, and they were proud of their handiwork! After lunch at the Poison Ivy Bistro, which featured food cooked with produce from the farm, the group returned home with fond memories.

## St Bernadette Conference

SSVP St. Bernadette, together with the Family Support Group of the parish, organised a 'Christmas Wishing Tree' programme for Christmas last year. FINs were invited to write their wishes on gift cards and hang them onto a big Christmas tree. Parishioners were then encouraged to pick up any of the cards and fulfil the wish on it. The wishes ranged from a T-shirt to transport fees for a little girl to attend the MINDS Special Education School. The response from parishioners was overwhelming, and many FINs were happy and grateful to have their wishes come true. Despite challenges involved in handing over the gifts to the FINs, the Conference had a fulfilling and meaningful Christmas. The project was generously supported by the Family Support Team, priests and parishioners of the Church of St. Bernadette.



## Particular Council City



## Our Lady of Lourdes Conference

In June, FINs from the SSVP Conference of Our Lady of Lourdes were treated to a farm tour. They had a good time observing and feeding the animals and fishes. After the tour, everyone was treated to a sumptuous lunch. The tour and lunch provided a good platform for Conference members to interact with the FINs and proved to be a memorable occasion for all.

On Easter Sunday, last year, three of our FINs were baptized at the church of Sts Peter and Paul. After the happy occasion, a group photo was taken with the celebrant, their catechism teacher, their godparents, members and their FIN friends who had come along to lend their support.

During the Christmas season, colourful goodie bags were presented to migrant workers by the Conference. Each bag contained a towel, toothbrush and toothpaste, a bar of soap and a chocolate. These bags were lovingly packed by the Conference members and volunteers. The bags were distributed to the migrant workers after the evening Tamil mass on Dec **10**. Also during the Christmas season, members and FINs gathered for a sing-along to classic Christmas songs. After which, light refreshments were shared by everyone.



## Sacred Heart Conference

During the year, Vincentians from Sacred Heart made a total of **500** visits to homebound FINs. These include beneficiaries warded in hospital or staying in Homes for the Aged. During the monthly visits the FINs were provided with cash allowances and members spent time with them checking on their wellbeing.

Last April, **21** FINs attended a mass that was organised for them by the National Council. Members of the Conference also visited the Gift of Love Home and helped the Our Lady of Lourdes Conference during the Mass and dinner for migrants.

On Dec **3**, the Conference hosted a Christmas lunch for **85** FINs. The beneficiaries enjoyed a delicious meal as they soaked in the festive atmosphere. As such activities are not organised often, the Conference is looking into making this a yearly affair so as to have more bonding time with FINs.





# Vincentian Family



## St Peter and Paul Conference

**25** was a prominent number for this conference last year. Florence Hoe and Martha Loh celebrated their **25<sup>th</sup>** year of dedicated service in this Conference while Fr Joseph Koh celebrated his **25<sup>th</sup>** anniversary as a priest with members and FINs.

Students from Catholic Junior College befriended and assisted the FINs in one of the Conference's home cleaning projects as part of their school's Local Service Learning Project. The help and enthusiasm from the students brought joy to the beneficiaries who in turn shared their personal testimonies.

The year ended with a Christmas party at Hotel Royal @ Queens for the FINs. Some FINs walk away with prizes from a quiz competition while everyone enjoyed the Christmas carols.



## St Michael Conference

In December, the Conference held its annual Christmas party for FINs. The day always promises fun, interesting activities and the annual highlight – receiving a Christmas present. Last year's party definitely did not disappoint.

For **2017**, the Conference decided to do something different. Weeks before the event, parishioners were asked to contribute specific gifts that FINs needed. Parishioners generously went out of their way to purchase the best they could afford to satisfy the needs of FINs; a parishioner actually fulfilled the wish of a FIN who asked for a 2-door fridge, much to the disbelief and joy of the FIN.

Parishioners were also invited to join in the festivities at the Christmas party and interact with FINs to experience the joy of giving. The FINs enjoyed a sumptuous buffet spread and played a host of games. All went home with their presents and wide smiles on their faces.

## Particular Council City



## St Teresa Conference

The Conference of St Teresa organised a Christmas party for FINs. Held at the church canteen, approximately **140** beneficiaries attended the party. Attendees were treated a wide array of dishes, which were served to them by members of the Conference. FINs with mobility issues were served their meal at their table. Fr Arro, the Spiritual Director of SSVP, also dropped by to greet everyone. After the sumptuous meal, special rations prepared for the FINs were distributed to them. They also received an ang pow, courtesy of a kind donor. Members also made use of this opportunity to mingle with the FINs and get to know them better.



# Vincentian Family

## Particular Council West

### St Ignatius Conference

In **2017**, the Conference of St. Ignatius befriended and assisted needy and elderly FINs in Redhill Close area. Financial assistance provided included cash allowances and reimbursements for medical expenses. The Conference organised dinners during Easter and Christmas for FINs. To date, the Conference assists **148** FINs.

The Conference also reached out to migrant workers, sponsoring accommodation for the homeless and injured Special Pass (SP) Workers whose cases are pending investigation by the authorities. On the last Friday of each month, SSVV members distribute fresh fruits, toiletries and snacks to them.

Young members of the Conference reached out to girls from the Ahuva Good Shepherd Home. Activities and outings are organised on every third Saturday of the month. These activities include a visit to a radio station, ice skating sessions - exposing them to different activities, skill sets and values.

St. Ignatius Conference is part of PC West's 'Goin-a-Shoppin' fortnightly initiative with St Joseph's Home. This encourages homebound residents to contemplate, bargain for and then decide on what they want.

The Conference is also one of the sponsors of the Milk and Diapers (MAD) project and members provide leadership in the management of this project and are actively involved as volunteers and befrienders.



### Holy Cross Conference

The Holy Cross Conference started a new initiative in **2017** to celebrate the birthdays of FINs aged **70** and above. The celebration was held on every Ration Sunday of each month.

The annual Education Award Ceremony for children of FINs was held on April **2** last year. Fourteen children received the award from Fr Jovita, the Spiritual Director of our Conference. An Improvement Award was also introduced for students who had shown improvement in their studies from Semesters **1** to **2** in **2016**.

Also, for the first time, parishioners were invited to share the joy of Christmas with FINs by contributing Christmas gift items valued below **\$50**. The Conference received an overwhelming response of support from the parishioners. The gifts comprised of household and electrical appliances. These gifts were presented to FINs at the annual Christmas Dinner held on Nov **26**.



### Blessed Sacrament Conference

The Blessed Sacrament Conference embarked on a new project in **2017** to bring cheer to residents of St. Joseph's Home. During their three visits to the Home last year, SSVV members organised a market for the residents. They provided each resident with "**\$50** Monopoly money" with which they could buy a variety of products – from Tiger Balm to clothing to titbits and fresh fruits that the SSVV members had brought along. The residents were also provided with hot bean curd and green bean soup. The residents had great fun "shopping". Some of the elderly even bought chocolates and cakes!

Last year, the FINs looked after by the SSVV Blessed Sacrament Conference were taken for outing of fun. They were taken to a karaoke lounge where some of the FINs showed off their skills on the dancefloor. Some FINs took part in a singing competition and won NTUC vouchers. The outing was followed by a simple dinner. The FINs shared with members that they enjoyed the outing and looked forward to having another karaoke session in the near future.

### St Mary of the Angels Conference

The Conference of St. Mary of the Angels started the year with a 'Push Cart Event' at St. Joseph's Home for its residents. The push carts were brightly decorated in red and gold to signify the festive colours of Chinese New Year. The carts contained items such as foodstuff, hair accessories and knick knacks. Residents were given Monopoly money to buy items of their choice.

In July, the Conference organised a lunch for its FINs. This was held at Hotel Royal, an emcee and some live performances were provided to entertained the FINs.

December saw the Conference holding its annual Christmas party for the FINs which brought festive cheer to them while allowing Conference members an opportunity to bond with the FINs.





# Vincentian Family

## Particular Council North



### Holy Spirit Conference

With Christmas being the season of giving, the Holy Spirit Conference organised their annual Christmas Party on Dec 10 for their FINs.

The FINs were treated to a sumptuous buffet that was graced by the Spiritual Director of the Conference Fr Paul Goh. Both young and old FINs were engaged in a series of games, which included Bingo and Passing the Parcel. The FINs were then presented with their Christmas gifts, wrapped and gifted by the members of the Society. One of the SSVP members dressed up as Santa Claus to present the ecstatic FINs with their Christmas presents!

The FINs and SSVP members had a great time of fellowship. As it is said, 'every good and perfect gift comes from above.'



### Risen Christ Conference

The Risen Christ Conference organised many activities for its FINs in 2017. These included a River Safari outing in February. FINs had a memorable time taking boat rides, and were thrilled to see the pandas and some rare fishes.

In March, the SSVP Youths organised an excursion to the Science Centre as part of an educational event. FINs solved puzzles, went through laser mazes, and even got an opportunity to interact with butterflies.

In June, the Youths also took the FINs to the Assisi Fun Day. The children had a blast with the different attractions including fun rides, games, hand painting, and feasting on the sumptuous food.

In November, youths and other volunteers organised a 3-day 2-night stay for FINs at the Wild Wild Wet Resort where FINs took part in various games and enjoyed a barbeque.



### Our Lady Star of the Sea Conference

After the Feast Day mass at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, members from SSVP Our Lady Star of the Sea bonded with members of other Conferences. Our Spiritual Adviser Fr Gregoire van Giang also joined us in the fellowship.

During the Christmas season last year, the Conference hosted a Christmas party for the FINs along with the Conference of St. Anthony. This was because the Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea was undergoing renovation at that point. Before the event, held on Dec 9, Conference members got together to plan the party and buy gifts for the FINs. They had a great time wrapping and preparing the presents. FINs and members from the Conference were able to enjoy the gathering as one family. There were many entertaining games, good food, fantastic prizes and lots of fun at the party.



### St Joachim Conference

The SSVP St Joachim Conference ran a tuition programme to help the children of FINs in their studies. This programme focuses on providing students with help through tuition in English and Mathematics. It also serves to create opportunity and space for bonding through activities such as games during their break times.

The Conference also organised events for FINs throughout the year including a Chinese New Year lunch and an outing to the Singapore Zoo in December.





# Vincentian Family

## Particular Council North



### Christ the King Conference

The Conference of Christ The King members noticed during their visits to FINs' homes that some of them slept on beds that were infested with bugs. Some were even sleeping on the floor for want of a mattress. This led to Conference members to embark on a Home Improvement Project. Thirty three SSVF members, along with volunteers from various other church ministries, formed groups to deliver new pillows, bedsheets, mattresses and beds which benefitted **130** families. They ended the day with light refreshments and fellowship, where parishioners got to know more about the SSVF Ministry.

A Christmas party was also organised last year to bring some festive joy to FINs. Christ The King parishioners supported the effort by donating gifts and in wrapping them. They even donated log cakes for the party. At the party, beneficiaries received handmade Christmas cards, gift hampers and ang pows. Education Awards were given out to students who achieved good results and had good conduct. It was a lively celebration with games, singing and a delicious meal.

Other projects the Conference organised were the Haircut at Ration Day and House Cleaning for FINs.

### St Anthony Conference

Last year, several members visited the homes of FINs to celebrate Chinese New Year with them. Members had noticed that some FINs who lived alone were feeling disheartened with the approach of the festive season. They then decided to share yusheng and celebrate the occasion with these FINs.

Members also spent time and effort cleaning the homes of FINs, sometimes with the help of parishioners. They cleaned their living quarters, got rid of bed bugs, painted and refurbished some homes, replaced kitchenware, and even changed stoves for FINs.

St Anthony members ended the year with a Christmas party for **160** FINs. This was hosted jointly with the Our Lady Star of the Sea Conference at the St Anthony Auditorium.





# Vincentian Family

## Particular Council Serangoon



### St Anne Conference

The Conference organised an Easter party for 15 children of FINs. The children received stationery gift vouchers and other presents donated by parishioners. They were also provided with a meal sponsored by Grandma's Kitchen.

As part of the PC Serangoon District, the St Anne Conference joined the other Conferences to help with the Dormitory Project, reaching out to 5,000 migrant workers at Mandai Westlite Dormitory. Members provided food, entertainment and goodie bags of groceries and necessities to the workers.

The Conference also participated in the combined Christmas lunch party for FINs organised by PC Serangoon which was held at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



### Nativity of the BVM Conference

This conference conducted their annual Lenten almsgiving project last year and parishioners contributed rations which were given to the FINs. Students from Monfort Primary School packed rations for the poor as part of their Lent Outreach Programme. Youths from Level 8 Catechism then assisted with the distribution of these rations to lower income families living in the Hougang Area. Parishioners provided transportation during the distribution.

In partnership with Red Cross and the National Blood Bank, the Nativity Conference organised an annual blood donation drive for the Nativity Parish. Members helped set up the location, register parishioners and attended to donors during the blood donation drive.



### St Francis Xavier Conference

Several SSVP members collaborated with St Francis Xavier church parishioners to plan and execute the Feed the Hungry Lent initiative in April last year. This was part of the 'Give' component of the Lenten theme – Pray+Fast+Give. The parish received generous donations totalling about \$64,000 throughout the Lenten period from parishioners.

Parishioners were asked to identify disadvantaged needy or poor people or families residing in the neighbourhood. The identified people were then presented with 922 gift bags comprising basic groceries and a towel which were packed by members and parishioners.

In November, the Conference also participated in the PC Serangoon Dormitory Project – '5 Loaves and 2 Fishes'. While in December, it celebrated Christmas with the FINs and Fr. Benedict, the new Spiritual Director for the Conference.



### Immaculate Heart of Mary Conference

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Conference adopted the Gift of Love Home for their quarterly visits to allow them to get the opportunity to know the residents better and build a rapport with them.

In addition to the usual activities of joining the residents for Sunday mass followed by serving them lunch, the Conference started the Fruit Tree Project to plant fruit trees at the Home. Blooms and Greens donated some fruit trees and fertilisers. Members also did some preparation work planting some seedlings at the home prior to the visit. The tree-planting drive was supported by Conference members from St. Francis Xavier, family members of Vincentians, as well as members of the Deaf Ministry belonging to the Immaculate Heart of Mary church.

On subsequent visits, the Vincentians continued to plant and look after the trees.

The Conference also took its FINs to the Gardens By The Bay to experience the Winter Wonderland at the Flower Dome on Nov 11. The FINs were provided dinner before the trip.

Earlier on May 13, the centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady in Fatima, members gathered for a rosary which was followed by a BBQ.





# Vincentian Family

## Particular Council Serangoon

### St Louis de Marillac Conference

Last year the Conference of St Louis de Marillac welcomed new members. Members visited the homes of over **70** FINs, helping them obtain support from social service departments and walking in faith with them in their struggles.

The Conference adopted residents of Ju Eng Nursing Home and long-term patients of the Institute for Mental Health - visiting them every month and celebrating mass. Members visited residents of Silra Home and prayed the Rosary with them. Residents of Pelangi Home are also accompanied to the Church of St Vincent de Paul on alternative Sundays for Mass, which is followed by a brunch at Fr Saussard's Café.

The Youth Wing of the Conference organised youth-oriented activities, tuition and family outings for children of FINs. The children were motivated through annual Education Awards for satisfactory performance and progress.

The Senior Parishioners' weekly 'Share-a-Pot' fellowship was initiated in January **2017**. Members reach out to seniors living in the parish through sharing healthy and nutritious meals and to help them socialise and exercise.



### Church of the Transfiguration Conference

In August, the National Council (NC) and the Serangoon Particular Council (PC) appointed a protemp team to support the setup of the new Conference of the Church of the Transfiguration (COTT).

The team recruited new volunteers, arranged bonding sessions, shared the Vincentian vocation and mission and provided training to new members. This culminated in a Day of Reflection which ended with a Mass and pledge-taking ceremony.

COTT members accompanied St Anne's Conference members to visit FIN families, getting to know the FINs better and to facilitate a smooth handover. New FINs were also adopted through referrals and walk-in applications.

The Conference provided food and rations to migrant workers at the PC Serangoon Dormitory Project and participated in a Christmas Party organised by the Serangoon PC.

The Conference expressed appreciation for the support of the NC, PC, St Anne's Conference and parish priest, Fr Joachim, during this formative phase.



"Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law."  
Proverb 20 : 6 - 7



# Milk & Diapers Programme

by Magdalene Tan



The Milk and Diapers (MAD) programme provides milk and diapers to low income families with newborn babies, young children with special needs and some elderly FINs. This project is a collaboration between the Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Fei Yue) and the SSVP, along with some individual volunteers.

The MAD programme is aimed at alleviating the hardships that are often faced by these groups and it aims to meet the nutritional needs of the children in their crucial growing up years.

In addition to the delivery of milk and diapers to the beneficiaries, the MAD Project team members also:

- assist Fei Yue by looking out for the wellbeing of the families served by this programme. As a result of their visits to these families, the project team are able to provide valuable feedback to caseworkers of Fei Yue for necessary early intervention. This may include situations in which the families' breadwinners may have lost their jobs, concerns of potential child abuse, children not attending school, etc.
- provide friendship and support to beneficiaries and their families, as many of them experience hardship and loneliness in their personal struggles.

The MAD Project is funded by different groups including some SSVP Conferences and a number of individual donors. In **2017**, the MAD programme served **100** infants

# Migrant Workers Dormitory Project

by James Ho



On Nov **25** last year, the six Conferences under SSVP Serangoon District teamed up with the Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants & Itinerant People (ACMI) to reach out to **5,000** migrant workers at Mandai's Westlite Dormitory.

SSVP provided the migrant workers with groceries and sundry items. They were also treated to chicken biryani and an evening of games and entertainment.

This outreach was preceded by a two-hour spiritual retreat the previous evening at Agape Village facilitated by Cenacle Sister Ermilda Benedictos. And the day after the outreach event a Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated at the Church of the Transfiguration celebrated by Father Adrian Danker, S.J.





Financial Report

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
(NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SINGAPORE)**  
Registration No: S61SS0149B  
(Registered under The Societies (Amendment) Regulations 1998)

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

**VLA** Veronica L & Associates  
Chartered Accountants of Singapore



**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**General Information**

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Registration Number	:	S61SS0149B
Registered office	:	7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh Agape Village #04-01 Singapore 319264
President	:	Florence Tan Mon Ching
Vice President	:	Stanley Lim Keng Soon
Second Vice President	:	Teresa Yeo Ai Geok
Honorary General Secretary	:	Angela Ong Geok Suan
Assistant Secretary	:	Christina Lee Yuet Kai
Honorary Treasurer	:	Lok Kok Hoe (Gabriel)
Auditors	:	Veronica L & Associates Chartered Accountants of Singapore 18 Sin Ming Lane #08-06 Midview City Singapore 573960

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

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For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

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Society of St. Vincent De Paul (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

Statement by the General Committee  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

In the opinion of the General Committee,

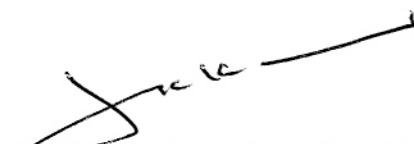
- (a) the accompanying financial statements set out on pages thereon are drawn up so as to present fairly, in all material respect, the state of affairs of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (National Council of Singapore) as at 31 December 2017 and the financial performance, changes in funds and cash flows of the Association for the financial year ended on that date; and
- (b) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Board of General Committee has, on the date of this statement authorized these financial statements for issue.

On behalf of the General Committee



FLORENCE TAN MON CHING  
President



LOK KOK HOE (GABRIEL)  
Honorary Treasurer

Date: 16 April 2018

**VLA** Veronica L & Associates (T10PF8000G)  
Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants Singapore  
18 Sin Ming Lane #08-06 Midview City, Singapore 573960  
Tel: +65 6659 4900; Fax: +65 6659 4920; Email: veronicleow@singnet.com.sg

廖桂蕊  
会计公司  
(特许会计师)

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
Society of St. Vincent De Paul (National Council of Singapore) (Registration No. S61SS0149B)

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul (National Council of Singapore) (the "Society"), which comprise the statement of financial position of the Society as at 31 December 2017, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows of the Society for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Singapore Societies Act, Chapter 311 (the "Act") and Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore (FRSs) so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the state of affairs of the Society as at 31 December 2017 and the results, changes in funds and cash flows of the Society for the year ended on that date.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing (SSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities (ACRA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

The General Committee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Statement by the General Committee set out on page 1.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of the General Committee Members and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

The General Committee is responsible for the preparation of financial statements and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Act and FRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.



**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
 Society of St. Vincent De Paul (National Council of Singapore)** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)

Continued

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.


As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the General Committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of General Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

In our opinion, the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Society have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

  
 Veronica L & Associates  
 Public Accountants and  
 Chartered Accountants  
 Singapore  
 Date: 16 April 2018

**Statement of Financial Position**  
 As At 31 December 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Other receivables	5	10,393	3,172
Cash and cash equivalents	6	3,930,121	3,510,771
Total current assets		3,940,514	3,513,943
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	73,000	-
Other investment	3	72,320	72,320
Total non-current assets		145,320	72,320
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>4,085,834</b>	<b>3,586,263</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUNDS</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Other payables	7	38,303	44,052
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>38,303</b>	<b>44,052</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
General fund		4,047,531	3,542,211
Total Funds		4,047,531	3,542,211
<b>Total liabilities and funds</b>		<b>4,085,834</b>	<b>3,586,263</b>



**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
**(National Council of Singapore)**

**Statement of Comprehensive Income**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Church 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection	4,240,544	4,401,930
General donations	1,594,047	848,465
Secret bag collection	47,637	51,588
Interest income	1,004	1,258
	<u>5,883,232</u>	<u>5,303,241</u>
<b>Less: Expenditure</b>		
Auditor's remuneration	19,200	19,400
Bank charges	4,351	4,207
Cleaning expenses	450	5,308
Contribution to Council General International	40,634	29,669
Contribution to Homes	43,918	155,500
Cash aid for FINS	3,173,104	3,159,685
Education aid for FINS	218,534	169,887
Feast day, festivities, meals & outing for FINS	371,348	444,596
Gifts, funeral, masses & other for FINS	128,905	140,988
Transportation expenses for FINS	60,317	49,674
Medical aid for FINS	23,119	36,865
Ration aid for FINS	696,873	572,613
Donation for local beneficiaries	160,706	158,040
Donation for oversea beneficiaries	62,416	33,660
Insurance	2,712	5,828
Meeting expenses	5,893	5,553
Miscellaneous expenses	53,295	39,962
Feast day and festival expenses	9,908	1,310
Office and office equipment expenses	18,432	23,406
Printing and stationery	8,551	11,495
Member's formation, development and program	9,886	23,817
Staff salary and CPF contribution	162,886	195,469
Silent poor fund	100,007	100,000
Transportation and traveling	2,467	6,205
Total expenditure	<u>5,377,912</u>	<u>5,393,137</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	<u>505,320</u>	<u>(89,896)</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
**(National Council of Singapore)**

**Statement of Changes in Funds**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

	National Council \$	Particular Council City \$	Particular Council North \$	Particular Council East \$	Particular Council West \$	Particular Council Serangoon \$	Total funds \$
Balance as at 01.01.2017	94,174	647,364	572,426	1,189,862	607,657	430,728	3,542,211
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	646,164	5,470	(32,447)	(207,852)	41,042	52,943	505,320
Balance as at 31.12.2017	<u>740,338</u>	<u>652,834</u>	<u>539,979</u>	<u>982,010</u>	<u>648,699</u>	<u>483,671</u>	<u>4,047,531</u>
Balance as at 01.01.2016	564,797	719,272	467,087	1,065,641	437,241	378,069	3,632,107
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(470,623)	(71,908)	105,339	124,221	170,416	52,659	(89,896)
Balance as at 31.12.2016	<u>94,174</u>	<u>647,364</u>	<u>572,426</u>	<u>1,189,862</u>	<u>607,657</u>	<u>430,728</u>	<u>3,542,211</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements



**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Cash Flows**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		505,320	(89,896)
Adjustments for -			
Interest income		(1,004)	(1,258)
<b>Operating cash flow before movements in working capital</b>		<b>504,316</b>	<b>(91,154)</b>
Other receivables		(7,221)	7,796
Other payables		(5,749)	15,428
<b>Cash generated from/(used in) operations</b>		<b>491,346</b>	<b>(67,930)</b>
Interest received		1,004	1,258
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>		<b>492,350</b>	<b>(66,672)</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment, representing net cash (outflow) from investing activity		(73,000)	-
Net changes in cash and cash equivalents		419,350	(66,672)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		3,510,771	3,577,443
Cash and cash equivalents and at end of year	6	3,930,121	3,510,771

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Financial Position – Supplementary Schedules**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

As at 31.12.2017	National Council \$	Particular Council City & Conferences \$	Particular Council North & Conferences \$	Particular Council East & Conferences \$	Particular Council West & Conferences \$	Particular Council Serangoon & Conferences \$	Total funds \$
<b>Current assets</b>							
Other receivables	1,233	-	-	3,931	3,430	1,799	10,393
Cash and cash equivalents	694,913	636,304	530,878	965,681	632,871	469,474	3,930,121
	696,146	636,304	530,878	969,612	636,301	471,273	3,940,514
<b>Non-current assets</b>							
Property, plant and equipment	73,000	-	-	-	-	-	73,000
Other investment	4,132	16,530	14,464	12,398	12,398	12,398	72,320
	77,132	16,530	14,464	12,398	12,398	12,398	145,320
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>773,278</b>	<b>652,834</b>	<b>545,342</b>	<b>982,010</b>	<b>648,699</b>	<b>483,671</b>	<b>4,085,834</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>							
Other payables	32,940	-	5,363	-	-	-	38,303
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>32,940</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,363</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38,303</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>740,338</b>	<b>652,834</b>	<b>539,979</b>	<b>982,010</b>	<b>648,699</b>	<b>483,671</b>	<b>4,047,531</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Financial Position – Supplementary Schedules**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

As at 31.12.2016	National Council \$	Particular Council City & Conferences \$	Particular Council North & Conferences \$	Particular Council East & Conferences \$	Particular Council West & Conferences \$	Particular Council Serangoon & Conferences \$	Total funds \$
<b>Current assets</b>							
Other receivables	1,233	-	-	140	-	1,799	3,172
Cash and cash equivalents	129,011	632,800	557,962	1,178,729	595,738	416,531	3,510,771
	130,244	632,800	557,962	1,178,869	595,738	418,330	3,513,943
<b>Non-current assets</b>							
Other investment	4,132	16,530	14,464	12,398	12,398	12,398	72,320
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>134,376</b>	<b>649,330</b>	<b>572,426</b>	<b>1,191,267</b>	<b>608,136</b>	<b>430,728</b>	<b>3,586,263</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>							
Other payables	40,202	1,966	-	1,405	479	-	44,052
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>40,202</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,052</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>94,174</b>	<b>647,364</b>	<b>572,426</b>	<b>1,189,862</b>	<b>607,657</b>	<b>430,728</b>	<b>3,542,211</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements



Society of St. Vincent De Paul (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

Particular Council City and Conferences

As at 31.12.2017	Particular Council City	St. Alphonsus	St. Bernadette	Our Lady of Lourdes	Sacred Heart	St. Peter	St. Teresa	St. Michael	Total Funds
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>									
Collection & donation	-	88,321	332,039	61,813	105,935	197,083	194,552	101,001	1,080,744
Secret bag collection	279	764	2,111	1,378	1,108	733	-	1,078	7,451
Bank interest	50	21	63	20	-	51	-	21	226
Miscellaneous	10,858	140	-	-	-	5,036	-	500	16,534
	11,187	89,246	334,213	63,211	107,043	202,903	194,552	102,600	1,104,955
<b>Less: Expenses</b>									
Fin's expenses	19,511	44,674	284,010	86,483	125,225	100,018	177,087	78,637	915,645
Contributions	-	-	-	6,253	-	-	-	800	7,053
Donations	5,200	2,000	-	-	743	6,200	-	-	14,143
Operating expense	447	114	600	390	257	177	222	398	2,605
	25,158	46,788	284,610	93,126	126,225	106,395	177,309	79,835	939,446
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(13,971)	42,458	49,603	(29,915)	(19,182)	96,508	17,243	22,765	165,509
Donation from/(to) other conferences	45,845	-	-	30,000	25,000	-	-	-	100,845
Contributions to NC/PC	(32,006)	(31,437)	(33,076)	(1,600)	(9,000)	(84,877)	-	(68,888)	(260,884)
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(132)	11,021	16,527	(1,515)	(3,182)	11,631	17,243	(46,123)	5,470

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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Society of St. Vincent De Paul (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

Particular Council City and Conferences

As at 31.12.2016	Particular Council City	St. Alphonsus	St. Bernadette	Our Lady of Lourdes	Sacred Heart	St. Peter	St. Teresa	St. Michael	Total Funds
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>									
Collection & donation	-	61,791	263,066	71,196	109,519	111,806	202,949	71,543	891,870
Secret bag collection	257	824	2,519	1,334	852	648	-	1,416	7,850
Bank interest	77	20	74	22	-	30	-	36	259
Miscellaneous	2,500	141	-	-	3,600	8,571	-	-	14,812
	2,834	62,776	265,659	72,552	113,971	121,055	202,949	72,995	914,791
<b>Less: Expenses</b>									
Fin's expenses	60,226	44,372	294,289	72,407	113,673	82,853	180,242	74,081	922,143
Contributions	12,700	700	1,000	6,700	700	700	700	800	24,000
Donations	12,338	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,338
Operating expense	643	128	487	1,539	1,034	177	274	148	4,430
	85,907	45,200	295,776	80,646	115,407	83,730	181,216	75,029	962,911
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(83,073)	17,576	(30,117)	(8,094)	(1,436)	37,325	21,733	(2,034)	(48,120)
Donation from/(to) other conferences	8,514	-	-	-	9,000	22,000	20,000	-	59,514
Contributions to NC/PC	(23,788)	(6,124)	(26,565)	-	(5,455)	(10,691)	(4,900)	(5,779)	(83,302)
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(98,347)	11,452	(56,682)	(8,094)	2,109	48,634	36,833	(7,813)	(71,908)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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Society of St. Vincent De Paul (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

Particular Council North and Conferences

As at 31.12.2017	Particular Council North	Christ The King	Holy Spirit	St. Joachim	Our Lady Star of the Sea	Risen Christ	St. Anthony	Total Funds
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>								
Collection & donation	-	327,277	50,272	193,481	71,429	278,324	95,160	1,015,943
Secret bag collection	281	1,949	1,414	875	596	1,584	344	7,043
Bank interest	-	79	8	36	-	-	3	126
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	374	-	-	390	764
	281	329,305	51,694	194,766	72,025	279,908	95,897	1,023,876
<b>Less: Expenses</b>								
Fin's expenses	14,880	288,884	59,163	169,702	87,182	253,589	92,770	966,170
Contributions	-	-	-	-	2,882	-	-	2,882
Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating expense	93	1,104	127	445	190	482	124	2,565
	14,973	289,988	59,290	170,147	90,254	254,071	92,894	971,617
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(14,692)	39,317	(7,596)	24,619	(18,229)	25,837	3,003	52,259
Donation from/(to) other conferences	86,779	-	-	-	(10,000)	26,000	-	102,779
Contributions to NC/PC	(29,706)	(32,900)	(6,100)	(20,461)	(31,399)	(63,684)	(3,235)	(187,485)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	42,381	6,417	(13,696)	4,158	(49,628)	(47,847)	25,768	(32,447)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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Society of St. Vincent De Paul (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

Particular Council North and Conferences

As at 31.12.2016	Particular Council North	Christ The King	Holy Spirit	St. Joachim	Our Lady Star of the Sea	Risen Christ	St. Anthony	Total Funds
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>								
Collection & donation	167	335,740	87,025	191,033	116,649	281,797	89,182	1,101,593
Secret bag collection	-	2,118	1,407	2,892	584	1,681	-	8,682
Bank interest	-	62	17	36	-	-	1	116
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,260	6,260
	167	337,920	88,449	193,961	117,233	283,478	95,443	1,116,651
<b>Less: Expenses</b>								
Fin's expenses	46,760	285,911	71,310	167,796	74,819	240,647	84,107	971,350
Contributions	13,000	1,000	-	1,000	700	1,000	-	16,700
Donations	535	1,500	1,500	-	2,000	5,000	-	10,535
Operating expense	150	238	305	613	70	1,687	152	3,215
	60,445	288,649	73,115	169,409	77,589	248,334	84,259	1,001,800
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(60,278)	49,271	15,334	24,552	39,644	35,144	11,184	114,851
Donation from/(to) other conferences	94,955	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-	94,955
Contributions to NC/PC	(9,512)	(33,790)	(9,600)	(19,352)	(10,674)	(21,539)	-	(104,467)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	25,165	15,481	10,734	200	28,970	13,605	11,184	105,339

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**Particular Council East and Conferences**

As at 31.12.2017	Particular Council East \$	Holy Family \$	Holy Trinity \$	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour \$	Our Lady Queen of Peace \$	St. Stephen \$	Divine Mercy \$	Total Funds \$
<b>Income</b>								
Collection & donation	-	236,440	196,862	323,712	152,126	97,635	195,788	1,202,563
Secret bag collection	354	908	2,371	2,951	2,472	8,864	474	18,394
Bank interest	40	-	49	94	33	41	119	376
Miscellaneous	-	-	748	-	1,033	4,402	539	6,722
	394	237,348	200,030	326,757	155,664	110,942	196,920	1,228,055
<b>Less: Expenses</b>								
Fin's expenses	29,451	232,836	147,547	320,369	154,968	201,855	118,652	1,205,678
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	1,017	-	1,017
Donations	-	9,024	2,143	-	-	-	3,335	14,502
Operating expense	114	214	233	1,382	175	1,157	90	3,365
	29,565	242,074	149,923	321,751	155,143	204,029	122,077	1,224,562
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(29,171)	(4,726)	50,107	5,006	521	(93,087)	74,843	3,493
Donation from/(to) other conferences	87,755	(50,000)	-	(40,000)	-	110,000	(6,000)	101,755
Contributions to NC/PC	(57,469)	(103,351)	(19,260)	(31,568)	(15,457)	-	(85,995)	(313,100)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	1,115	(158,077)	30,847	(66,562)	(14,936)	16,913	(17,152)	(207,852)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**Particular Council East and Conferences**

As at 31.12.2016	Particular Council East \$	Holy Family \$	Holy Trinity \$	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour \$	Our Lady Queen of Peace \$	St. Stephen \$	Divine Mercy \$	Total Funds \$
<b>Income</b>								
Collection & donation	-	245,825	189,166	407,028	150,919	136,626	199,530	1,329,094
Secret bag collection	451	1,411	3,121	3,047	2,220	5,611	507	16,368
Bank interest	34	144	52	107	32	31	119	519
Miscellaneous	-	1	280	-	561	1	-	843
	485	247,381	192,619	410,182	153,732	142,269	200,156	1,346,824
<b>Less: Expenses</b>								
Fin's expenses	19,517	190,223	187,212	308,231	147,956	216,507	95,282	1,164,928
Contributions	12,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	600	-	1,000	16,600
Donations	-	-	4,900	6,560	1,800	-	8,234	21,494
Operating expense	124	458	3,258	5,054	127	437	114	9,572
	31,641	191,681	196,370	320,845	150,483	216,944	104,630	1,212,594
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(31,156)	55,700	(3,751)	89,337	3,249	(74,675)	95,526	134,230
Donation from/(to) other conferences	82,414	(40,000)	-	(60,000)	-	100,000	-	82,414
Contributions to NC/PC	(10,009)	(23,068)	(14,061)	(31,285)	-	-	(14,000)	(92,423)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	41,249	(7,368)	(17,812)	(1,948)	3,249	25,325	81,526	124,221

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**Particular Council West and Conferences**

As at 31.12.2017	Particular Council West \$	Blessed Sacrament \$	Holy Cross \$	St. Ignatius \$	St. Mary of the Angels \$	Our Lady of Fatima \$	Total Funds \$
<b>Income</b>							
Collection & donation	-	163,111	254,251	497,583	110,177	98,173	1,123,295
Secret bag collection	-	-	4,397	2,481	807	994	8,679
Bank interest	-	-	93	-	-	-	93
Miscellaneous	-	-	53	-	-	-	53
	-	163,111	258,794	500,064	110,984	99,167	1,132,120
<b>Less: Expenses</b>							
Fin's expenses	21,553	114,651	199,964	398,362	99,064	108,293	941,887
Contributions	-	-	115	800	-	-	915
Donations	5,559	-	-	25,371	-	-	30,930
Operating expense	1,502	-	364	140	90	68	2,164
	28,614	114,651	200,443	424,673	99,154	108,361	975,896
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(28,614)	48,460	58,351	75,391	11,830	(9,194)	156,224
Donation from/(to) other conferences	64,281	-	-	-	-	24,000	88,281
Contributions to NC/PC	(76,882)	(21,420)	(43,300)	(61,861)	-	-	(203,463)
Net (deficit) for the year	(41,215)	27,040	15,051	13,530	11,830	14,806	41,042

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**Particular Council West and Conferences**

As at 31.12.2016	Particular Council West \$	Blessed Sacrament \$	Holy Cross \$	St. Ignatius \$	St. Mary of the Angels \$	Our Lady of Fatima \$	Total Funds \$
<b>Income</b>							
Collection & donation	2,400	131,161	291,136	356,256	135,950	96,060	1,012,963
Secret bag collection	-	-	5,363	3,058	1,434	891	10,746
Bank interest	-	-	91	-	-	-	91
Miscellaneous	-	974	1,500	-	-	6,700	9,174
	2,400	132,135	298,090	359,314	137,384	103,651	1,032,974
<b>Less: Expenses</b>							
Fin's expenses	21,711	102,751	217,912	279,150	94,176	103,396	819,096
Contributions	13,000	600	1,000	2,000	600	700	17,900
Donations	6,220	500	2,009	9,250	1,396	-	19,375
Operating expense	2,928	2,009	357	722	90	81	6,187
	43,859	105,860	221,278	291,122	96,262	104,177	862,558
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(41,459)	26,275	76,812	68,192	41,122	(526)	170,416
Donation from/(to) other conferences	78,339	-	-	-	-	-	78,339
Contributions to NC/PC	-	(14,023)	(51,008)	-	(13,308)	-	(78,339)
Net (deficit) for the year	36,880	12,252	25,804	68,192	27,814	(526)	170,416

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**Particular Council Serangoon and Conferences**

As at 31.12.2017	Particular Council Serangoon \$	St. Anne \$	Immaculate Heart of Mary \$	St. Louise De Marillac \$	Our Lady's Nativity \$	St. Xavier \$	Transfiguration \$	Total Funds \$
<b>Income</b>								
Collection & donation	9,500	158,033	188,369	126,879	230,276	133,678	4,100	850,835
Secret bag collection	-	813	1,572	940	1,639	-	-	4,964
Bank interest	77	-	106	-	-	-	-	183
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9,577	158,846	190,047	127,819	231,915	133,678	4,100	855,982
<b>Less: Expenses</b>								
Fin's expenses	26,394	118,274	117,280	92,210	214,775	91,013	-	659,946
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	54,498	-	33,331	21,685	-	150	-	109,664
Operating expense	426	105	1,174	561	50	1,038	75	3,429
	81,318	118,379	151,785	114,456	214,825	92,201	75	773,039
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(71,741)	40,467	38,262	13,363	17,090	41,477	4,025	82,943
Donation from/(to) other conferences	70,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,000
Contributions to NC/PC	(15,000)	(12,000)	(26,000)	(11,000)	(21,000)	(15,000)	-	(100,000)
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(16,741)	28,467	12,262	2,363	(3,910)	26,477	4,025	52,943

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Statement of Comprehensive Income – Supplementary Schedules**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**Particular Council Serangoon and Conferences**

As at 31.12.2016	Particular Council Serangoon \$	St. Anne \$	Immaculate Heart of Mary \$	St. Louise De Marillac \$	Our Lady's Nativity \$	St. Xavier \$	Transfiguration \$	Total Funds \$
<b>Income</b>								
Collection & donation	-	172,828	211,802	114,444	240,298	120,397	-	859,769
Secret bag collection	-	1,421	1,525	943	2,826	-	-	6,715
Bank interest	73	8	167	-	-	-	-	248
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	73	174,257	213,494	115,387	243,124	120,397	-	866,732
<b>Less: Expenses</b>								
Fin's expenses	38,346	165,693	137,399	84,899	194,415	87,460	-	708,212
Contributions	12,700	600	1,850	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	18,150
Donations	7,645	-	39,174	18,265	2,000	752	-	67,836
Operating expense	76	296	4,121	488	2,640	154	-	7,775
	58,767	166,589	182,544	104,652	200,055	89,366	-	801,973
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(58,694)	7,668	30,950	10,735	43,069	31,031	-	64,759
Donation from/(to) other conferences	44,000	36,000	(12,000)	-	(10,000)	-	-	58,000
Contributions to NC/PC	(12,100)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(11,000)	(21,000)	(6,000)	-	(70,100)
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(26,794)	33,668	8,950	(265)	12,069	25,031	-	52,659

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

**1. General Information**

The Society was registered under the Societies Act Chapter 311, with its registered and operating address located at 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh, Agape Village #04-01, Singapore 319264 and domiciled in Singapore.

The main objective of the Society is to do, assist and participate in all works of charity, and this includes the promotion of better understanding of the public to the need of the poor and underprivileged and to encourage the public to take active part in alleviating the sufferings and needs of the poor and needy.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the financial year.

**2. Significant Accounting Policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation**

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore ("FRSs") including related Interpretations promulgated by the Accounting Standards Council ("ASC").

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with FRS requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the financial year. Although these estimates are based on Society's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results may differ from those estimates.

The accounting policies used are consistent with those used in the previous financial years.

The financial statements are presented in Singapore Dollars, which is also the functional currency of the Society.

**Interpretations and amendments to Standards effective in 2017**

In the current financial year, the Society adopted the new or amended FRS and interpretations to FRS ("INT FRS") that are mandatory for application from that date. Changes to the Society's accounting policies have been made as required, in accordance with the transitional provisions in the respective FRS and INT FRS.

The adoption of these new or amended FRS and INT FRS did not result in substantial changes to the Society's accounting policies and had no material effect on the amounts reported for the current or the previous years.

**2.2 Significant accounting judgments and estimates**

The preparation of the Society's financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities at the reporting date. However, uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that could require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability affected in the future.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

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## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

### 2.2 Significant accounting judgments and estimates - continued

#### (i) Critical Judgments, Assumptions and Estimation Uncertainties

The critical judgments made in the process of applying the accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognized in the financial statements and the key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities currently or within the next reporting period are discussed below. These estimates and assumptions are periodically monitored to ensure they incorporate all relevant information available at the date when financial statements are prepared. However, this does not prevent actual figures differing from estimates.

#### Impairment of financial assets

The determination of whether a financial asset is impaired requires significant judgment. The Society evaluates, among other factors, the duration and extent to which the fair value of financial asset is less than its cost, and the financial health of and near-term business outlook for the financial assets, including factors such as industry performance, changes in technology and operational and financing cash flow.

### 2.3 Financial assets

#### Classification

Financial assets are classified as either financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments, or available-for-sale financial assets, as appropriate. Financial assets are recognized on the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Society becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

When financial assets are recognized initially, they are measured at fair value, plus, in the case of financial assets not at fair value through profit or loss, directly attributable transaction costs. The Society determines the classification of its financial assets after initial recognition and, where allowed and appropriate, re-evaluates this designation at each financial year-end.

#### Loans and receivables

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as "loans and receivables". Such assets are initially recognized at fair values, plus directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, such assets are carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method, less impairment losses. Gains and losses are recognized in the statement of comprehensive income when the loans and receivables are derecognized or impaired, as well as through the amortization process.

The Society classified the following financial assets as loans and receivables:

- Cash on hand and at banks
- Other receivables

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

### 2.3 Financial assets – continued

#### Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are those non-derivative financial assets that are designated as available-for-sale or are not classified in any of the three preceding categories. After initial recognition, available-for-sale financial assets are measured at fair value with gains or losses being recognized in the fair value adjustment reserve until the investment is derecognized or until the investment is determined to be impaired at which time the cumulative gain or loss previously reported in equity is included in the statement of comprehensive income.

The fair value of investments that are actively traded in organized financial markets is determined by reference to the relevant exchange's quoted market bid prices at the close of business at the end of the reporting period. For investments where there is no active market, fair value is determined using valuation techniques.

Investments in equity instruments that do not have a quoted market price in an active market and whose fair value cannot be reliably measured are measured at cost less impairment losses.

#### Held-to-maturity financial assets

Non-derivate financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity are classified as held-to-maturity when the Society has the positive intention and ability to hold the investment to maturity. Subsequent to initial recognition, held-to-maturity investments are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method, less impairment. Gains and losses are recognized in profit or loss when the held-to-maturity investments are derecognized or impaired, and through the amortization process.

#### Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset is derecognized where the contractual rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired.

On derecognition of a financial asset, the differences between the carrying amount and the sum of (a) the consideration received and (b) any cumulative gain or loss that has been recognized directly in equity is recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### Impairment of financial assets

The Society assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired.

#### (i) Assets carried at amortized cost

If there is objective evidence that impairment loss receivables has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the assets's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate (i.e. the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition). The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account. The amount of the loss is recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.



### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

#### 2.3 Financial assets – continued

##### Impairment of financial assets – continued

###### (i) **Assets carried at amortized cost – continued**

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized, the previously recognized impairment loss is reversed. Any subsequent reversal of an impairment loss is recognized in the statement of comprehensive income, to the extent that the carrying value of the asset does not exceed its amortized cost at the reversal date.

###### (ii) **Available-for-sale financial assets**

If an available-for-sale financial asset is impaired, an amount comprising the difference between its cost and its current fair value, less any impairment loss previously recognized in the statement of comprehensive income, is transferred from equity to the statement of comprehensive income. Reversals in respect of equity instruments classified as available-for-sale are not recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.

###### (iii) **Assets carried at cost**

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss on an unquoted equity instrument that is not carried at fair value because its fair value cannot be reliably measured, or on a derivative asset that is linked to and must be settled by delivery of such an unquoted equity instrument has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial asset. Such impairment losses are not reversed in subsequent periods.

#### 2.4 Financial liabilities

The Society's financial liabilities include other payables and accruals. They are included in statement of financial position items as "other payables".

Financial liabilities are recognized when the Society becomes a party to the contractual agreements of the instrument. All interest related charges is recognized as an expense in "finance cost" in the statement of comprehensive income.

The Society derecognizes financial liabilities when, and only when, the Society's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

#### 2.5 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the statement of financial position at cost, which approximates the fair value and are classified and accounted for as "loans and receivables".

For the purposes of statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term, highly liquid investments readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

#### 2.6 Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the Society has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Society will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognized as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, the receivable is recognized as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

#### 2.7 Impairment of non-financial assets

Assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognized in the statement of comprehensive income or treated as a revaluation decrease for assets carried at revalued amount to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the carried amount held in the revaluation surplus of the same asset.

Reversal of impairment losses recognized in prior years is recorded when there is an indication that the impairment losses recognized for the asset no longer exist or have decreased. The reversal is recorded in income or as a revaluation increase. However, the increased carrying amount of an asset due to a reversal of an impairment loss is recognized to the extent it does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognized for that asset in prior years.

The Society had no impairment loss recognition or adjustment for period ending 31 December 2017.

#### 2.8 Income taxes

The Society is exempt from income tax on income and gains falling within Section 13U(1) of the Income Tax Act to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

#### 2.9 Revenue recognition

The Society recognizes revenue when the amount of revenue and related cost can be reliably measured; it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and when the specific criteria for each of the Society's activities are met as follows:

##### i) **Collection, donation and secret bag**

Contribution and secret bag collection from members and donation received are recognized on cash basis. Such income is only deferred when: the donor specifies that the donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the Society has unconditional entitlement.

##### ii) **Interest income**

Revenue from interest income is recognized on time-apportioned basis over the period of placement of time deposits.



**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

2.10 Employee benefits

i) **Pension obligations**

The Society contributes to the Central Provident Fund (“CPF”), a defined contribution plan regulated and managed by the Government of Singapore, which applies to the majority of the employees. The Society’s contributions to CPF are charged to the statement of comprehensive income in the period to which the contributions relate.

ii) **Employee leave entitlements**

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognized when they accrue to employees. Accrual is made for the unconsumed leave as a result of services rendered by employees up to the date of the statement of financial position.

**3. Held-To-Maturity Investments**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Unquoted investments, at costs		
At beginning of the year and at the end of the year	<u>72,320</u>	<u>72,320</u>

Held-to-maturity investments represent the unquoted shares in the “Joint Venture (S.E.P) Henri de Verges” at the Headquarters of Confederation Internationale de la Societe Saint-Vincent de Paul, Paris.

The costs of investment are to be shared equally amongst the council and conferences.

**4. Property, Plant And Equipment**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Freehold property – option money	<u>73,000</u>	<u>-</u>

On November 20, 2017, the Society has signed an Option to Purchase for the property located at 501 Geylang Road, Singapore 389459 amounting to S\$3,650,000 as part of the proceeds of a bequest of the residual estate by an anonymous donor. (Note 11)

The freehold property is held in the names of four trustees for the Society.

**5. Other Receivables**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Ration cash vouchers	3,550	140
Deposits & prepayments	1,233	1,233
Other receivables	5,610	1,799
	<u>10,393</u>	<u>3,172</u>

The carrying amounts of other receivables approximate their fair values and are denominated in Singapore dollars at the end of the reporting period.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**Society of St. Vincent De Paul** (Registration No. S61SS0149B)  
(National Council of Singapore)

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

**6. Cash And Cash Equivalents**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Cash on hand	57,297	76,545
Cash held at bank	3,634,967	3,129,945
Fixed deposits with bank	237,856	304,281
	<u>3,930,120</u>	<u>3,510,771</u>

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents approximate their fair value and are denominated in Singapore dollars at the end of the reporting period.

Short-term fixed deposits at the end of the reporting date have an average maturity of three to twelve months from the end of the financial year with a weighted average effective interest rates at 0.05% per annum (2016 – 0.05% to 0.25%).

**7. Other Payables**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Other payables	-	1,966
Accrued operating expenses	38,303	42,086
	<u>38,303</u>	<u>44,052</u>

The carrying amounts of other payables approximate their fair values and are denominated in Singapore dollars at the end of the reporting period.

**8. Related Party Transactions**

FRS 24 defines a related party as the trustees/office bearers and key management of the Society. It includes:

- (a) A person or a close member of that person’s family of that person;
  - (i) Has control or joint control over the reporting entity;
  - (ii) Has significant influence over the reporting entity; or
  - (iii) Is a member of the key management personnel of the reporting entity or of a parent of the reporting entity.
- (b) An entity is related to the reporting entity if any of the following conditions apply:
  - (i) The entity and the reporting entity are members of the same group;
  - (ii) One entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity;
  - (iii) Both entities are joint ventures of the same third party;
  - (iv) One entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity;
  - (v) The entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the reporting entity or an entity related to the reporting entity;
  - (vi) The entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified in (a);
  - (vii) A person identified in (a)(i) has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity).

Key management personnel include the chief executive officer and the direct reporting senior officers.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements



## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

### 9. Fair Value

The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged or settled between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

#### Financial instruments whose carrying amounts approximate fair value

The Society has determined that the carrying amounts of cash on hand and at bank, other receivables, and other payables, based on their notional amounts, reasonably approximate their fair values because these are mostly short term in nature.

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities are determined as follows:

- (1) The fair values of financial assets and liabilities with standard terms and conditions and traded on active liquid markets are determined with reference to quoted market prices.
- (2) The fair value of derivative instrument are determined using the market-to-market valuations available from financial institutions, estimated using generally accepted pricing models, taking into consideration duration of the instruments and quotes for similar instrument.

At the end of the reporting date, the Society does not have any financial instruments which will require disclosure of fair value measurements by level of fair value hierarchy.

### 10. Financial Risk Management Objective And Policies

The Society's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks. The Society's approaches in managing those risks are discussed below: -

#### Foreign exchange risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

The Society's exposure of foreign exchange risk arising from currency exposure is minimal.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Society. Receivable balances are monitored as an ongoing basis.

The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents and other receivables represent the Society's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to financial assets. No other financial assets carry a significant exposure to credit risk.

The Society places its cash with creditworthy institutions.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2017

### 10. Financial Risk Management Objective And Policies - Continued

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Society's financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

The Society's exposure to changes in interest rates relates mainly to its surplus funds placed with banks. Surplus funds are placed in fixed deposits with reputable banks which yield better returns than cash at bank. The deposits generally have short-term maturities so as to provide the Society with the flexibility to meet its working capital needs.

Based on sensitivity analysis performed at the end of the reporting period, management has assessed that the exposure to changes in interest rates is minimal and hence the resulting impact on the statement of the comprehensive income of the Society is insignificant.

#### Liquidity risk

The Society manages the liquidity risk by maintaining sufficient cash for its funding requirements.

#### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market prices whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual security or its issuer or factors affecting all securities traded in the market.

The Society does not hold any quoted or marketable financial instrument, hence is not exposed to any movements in market prices.

### 11. Events Subsequent to the End of the Reporting Period

On January 8, 2018, the Society has received an aggregate amount of S\$6,000,000 being the share of the residual estate of an anonymous donor.

The bequest will be utilized in the following manner:

- (1) S\$4,000,000 for the purchase of a property for the Society, including all related costs, including but not limited to legal costs, stamp fee on the purchase and costs of renovation.

The purchase of a property located at 501 Geylang Road, Singapore 389459 amounting to S\$3,650,000 has completed on 29 January 2018. The property is held in the names of four trustees for the Society.

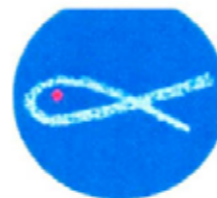
- (2) S\$1,000,000 to be applied as capital towards the setting up of an Endowment Fund, wherein only the income earned from the fund is to be utilised for the financial support for the beneficiaries of the Society.

- (3) S\$1,000,000 for the employment of all necessary staff for the intended Thrift Store, the Social Office and an Administration Executive, for a period of two (2) years; and will also include the operational costs of the Thrift Shop, and the programmes to strengthening the communication capabilities and professionalise the administrative operations.





Notice of Annual General Meeting



## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

National Council of Singapore  
7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh, Agape Village #04-01  
Singapore 319264 Tel : 65-68017480

Patron: His Grace Most Rev. William Goh, D.D. Archbishop Singapore  
President: Florence Tan

Minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (National Council of Singapore) held on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.20 pm at Agape Village, Multi-Purpose Hall 1 & 2, Ground Floor.

### **Present**

Rev. Fr. Eugene Vaz	- Spiritual Advisor
Florence Tan	- President
Stanley Lim	- Vice President / Funding
Teresa Yeo	- Vice President / External Community
Angela Ong	- Hon Gen Secretary/ PCCity
Christina Lee	- Asst Hon Gen Secretary
Gabriel Lok	- Hon Treasurer

NC Members\* and Sub-Committee Leaders/Officers: \*Harry Pereira (Funding), Natalie Seah (M&C), Noel Low (Database), \*David Lau (FFD), SH Long (PDPA), Victor Chua (Overseas Twinning) and \*James Ang (SVH) and

PC Presidents: \*Jeremy Bruce (PCN) and \*Adrian Cher (PCS) with other 118 members from 25 conferences attended.

### 1. **WELCOME**

A warm welcome was extended to all by National Council VP Stanley Lim, the emcee for the night.

### 2. **SPIRITUAL ADDRESS by National Council Spiritual Advisor Rev Fr Eugene Vaz**

(at Mass held prior to AGM)

Gospel reading and sharing on **John 16:20-23**

In the Gospel Jesus tells His disciples that He will visit them and then their hearts will be full of joy. This promise is made not only to those who listened to His words when he spoke to them two thousand years ago, but to each and every one of us present here today. Let our sorrows turn to joy! Let us realise where true joy is in serving the poor and needy and to strive for it through our works as Vincentians.

### 3. **ADDRESS BY NATIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

NCP Florence Tan warmly welcomed everyone and thanked members for making an effort to be present at the AGM.

#### A. **SSVP Evangelical Virtues**

Members are reminded on why we are called to be Vincentians and to centre ourselves on what is truly important. Only through personal sanctification; charity; personal and community prayers; generous love of people in need; and proactive collaboration with mission of the church are we able to stay on track in our mission as Vincentians. Let us stay true to our SSVP Evangelical Virtues when we radiate gentleness and humility and spread the message of hope, love and charity to our brothers and sisters.

#### B. **SSVP Initiatives**

Florence took the opportunity to commend Conferences and PCs on their excellent





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initiatives such as the Milk & Diaper Project, Reading to FINs Young Children, Tuition Programs, Home Improvements, Mentoring and Befriending with Ahuva Young Residents and various Collaborations with Affiliates and other VWOs.

### C. Development of Strategic Plans by Conferences

She commended the 22 conferences who had submitted their 5 strategic thrusts plans and strongly urged them to continue with developing and carrying out their 2017 strategic plans to fruition. NCP further encouraged other conferences to write their plans and share with their conferences members.

NC has held two National Dialogue sessions in Sept 2016 and Apr 2017. 46 Vincentians from 23 conferences plus NC members attended the April 2017 workshop. Florence encouraged more conferences' ExCo members to attend the next NC Dialogue to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2017 for more learning and sharing of experience and knowledge.

### D. Social Office

Florence took the opportunity to introduce Meera Ramachandran and Alvin Dawson, the new members of the Social Office team, to members. Both are ready to render their expertise and assistance to work with conferences on providing more holistic care plans for complex FIN cases.

### E. Increased Clarity in Working with Church Hierarchy

- i. As shared by Archbishop William Goh, SSVP members should be responsible for their own spiritual development and not depend solely on their spiritual advisors. There are many programmes being offered by Office of New Evangelisation (ONE) / etc. to help conferences with this.
- ii. SSVP Conferences can also consider organising once-a-quarter retreats/talks by a spiritual advisor/ brother/ nun at district level.
- iii. Communicating and working with the parish priests are essential and it's all about communication and building relationships. Conferences can be more involved in working with their parish priests to create opportunities for parishioners to exercise their call to social mission.

### F. Stepping Up

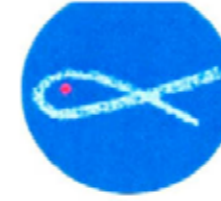
As the work of the Society continues to expand, there is an urgent need for dedicated and qualified Vincentians to step up to higher leadership in NC. The vacancies are:

- Assistant NC Treasurer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant NC Secretary
- National Youth Leader
- FIN Management Sub-Committee (5 pax)
- Internal Audit Team (2 pax per PC)
- Communications Sub-Committee Member
- Legal Advisor

### G. Vincentian Unity

Florence concluded with the following that as Vincentians:

- ♥ **"We are One Family, there is no 'us' or 'them'. (Ephesian 4: 11-16)**
- ♥ **We must think of the 'common good' and not be 'insular-minded'.**



## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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♥ **Discussions can and should be addressed in a sincere, open and transparent manner.**

♥ **Our Vincentian spirituality and values should guide us and set the tone in what we say and how we talk to one another.**

Finally, Florence introduced the various NC members and sub-committee leaders present; and thanked them on behalf of all members for their continued generous support and service to the Society.

### 4 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 61<sup>ST</sup> AGM, 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

It was noted that the minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 was adopted at the NC Meeting held on 20 June 2016.

### 5 **MATTERS ARISING**

#### 5.1 **I. Adoption of Annual Report and Financial Statements**

Meeting resolved to receive and adopt the 2016 Annual Report and audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31st December 2016.

Without further amendment, the 2016 Annual Report and audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31st December 2016 were agreed upon unanimously by show of hands from members present.

#### **II. Re- Appointment of Auditors**

National Council requested the re-appointment of Veronica L. and Associate as the Auditors for the financial year 2017. The meeting agreed by majority to the re-appointment for the financial year 2017.

Jones Pung of Divine Mercy conference suggested that NC should explore other auditor sources for competitive rates, which could be lower than the current auditor fees of \$19,000pa. Meeting agreed that this matter needs time and should only be done for the 2018 accounts. He agreed to assist NCT Gabriel Lok with the sourcing of other auditors' rates and comparison for the financial year 2018 audit.

#### 5.2 **FUND-RAISING SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

On behalf of the Fundraising Sub-committee, Harry Pereira gave a presentation on why the Society should consider public fund-raising options if it intends to provide additional help to more poor in Singapore as it is currently doing. This was a similar presentation that was made to Vincentians attending the NC Dialogue in April 2017.

Harry shared a five-year projection based on inflation for aid to the poor and costs; increased number of families helped and donations received. He drove home the message that if nothing changes and SSVP continues to depend mainly on our 2nd Collection alone, our current annual budget deficit would eventually exhaust all our cash reserves within the next 4-5 years. In view of this, there was a need to seriously consider alternative sources of fund raising in the near term and not wait till significant deficits are incurred or our cash reserves depleted.

After months of deliberation, the fundraising sub-committee that was tasked to look into this matter, has put forward the recommendation to apply for Institution of Public Character ("IPC") status, giving donors 2.5 times tax deduction for all donations to the Society. This will open up new avenues for appeals to the public and corporations, besides the generosity of





## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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our Catholic parishioners.

NC then took questions from the floor in which some were concerned by increased governance and regulations required by IPC. NC assured members that this is manageable and will not significantly impact our current duties and responsibilities as Vincentians. Feedback from the audience also suggested that being an IPC would give increased visibility of SSVP to the wider Singapore community and enable non-Catholics to help the less fortunate in Singapore. This would be in keeping with the evangelising mission of the Church.

In conclusion, Harry encouraged all members present to return to their conferences and deliberate further with their fellow members on public fund raising with IPC status vs public fund raising without IPC status. A FAQ deck was emailed to all Conferences' Presidents/VPs on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017. This will address some common questions or concerns which members may have. Conferences should give their feedback to Stanley Lim, Harry Pereira and Angela Ong as soon as possible. NC will deliberate further on members invaluable feedback and consensus in quarter 3 2017.

6. **Secret Bag collection:** \$246.65

### 7. ANY OTHER MATTERS

#### Proposed Changes to Constitution 8.4

Jones Pung of Divine Mercy Conference proposed to change Constitution 8.4 so that notification of AGM and Agenda is sent out earlier to conferences rather than the current stipulated 2 weeks. This would give conference representatives more time to prepare for the AGM.

NCVP Stanley Lim responded to say that the current practise goes beyond the requirements of the constitution where the Notice and Agenda is emailed to all conferences at least a month before the AGM. This year, it was sent out on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017. After discussion, it was agreed that the proposed change in the constitution, a matter of formality, should only be considered as and when the constitution change sub-committee is formed.

### 8. CONCLUSION

As no other matter was raised, meeting ended at 8:45pm followed by closing prayers led by Florence Tan. AGM fellowship dinner followed suit thereafter.

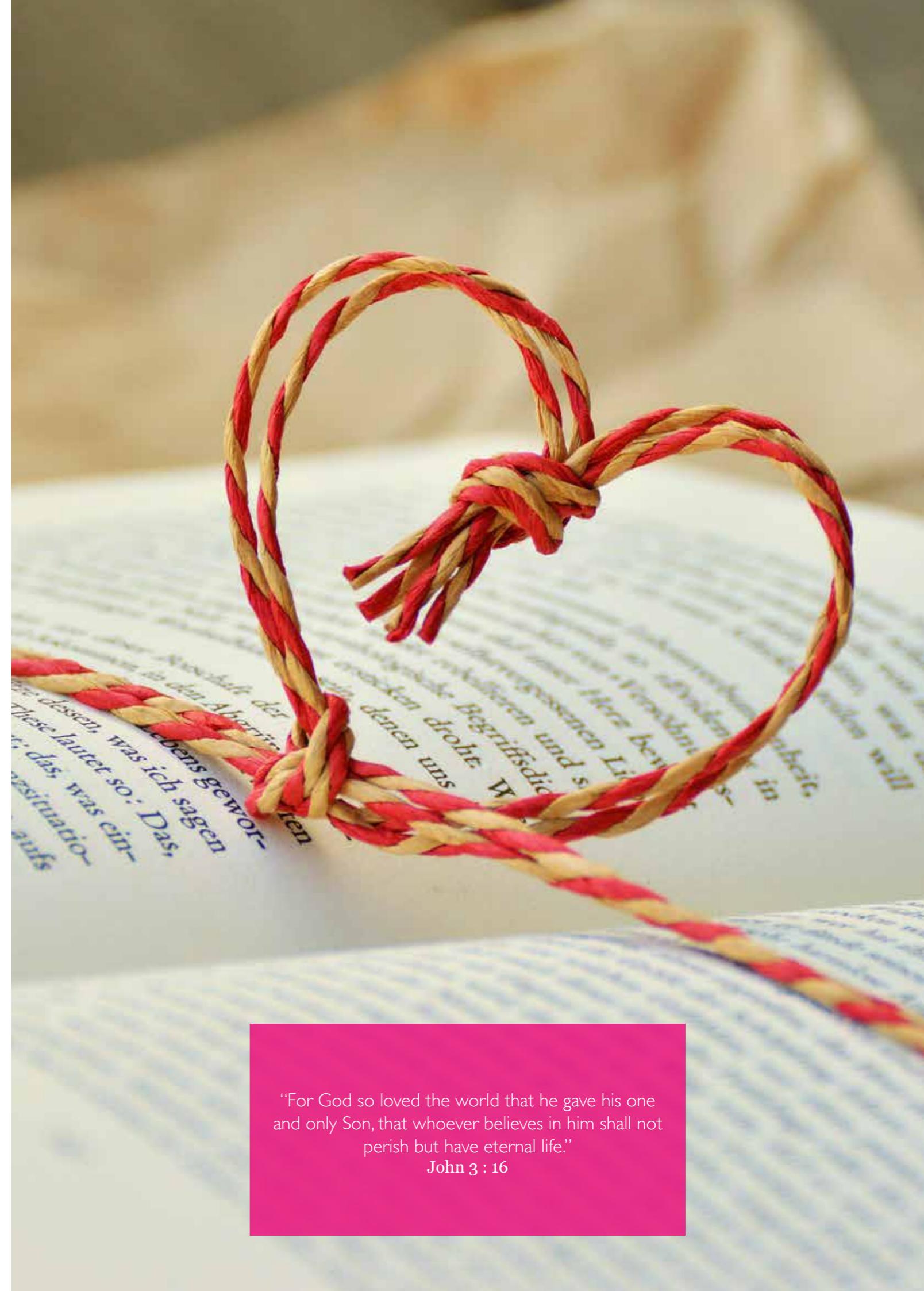
Minutes recorded by: **Angela Ong, NC Hon Gen Secretary**

Proposed by: **Victor Chua**

Seconded by: **Gabriel Lok**

Signed by: **Florence Tan, President, National Council**

Date:



"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3 : 16



# Annual Report 2017

brought to you by

**SSVP Communications Team**  
Vincentian Family report by Amanda Choo

If you have a passion in marketing/branding, PR and design work, come join our dynamic and fun-filled Communications team!  
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## Prayer of The Vincentian Family

LORD JESUS, You who willed to become poor;  
Give us eyes and a heart directed toward the poor;  
Help us to recognise You in them –  
In their thirst, their hunger, their loneliness and their misfortune.

Enkindle within our Vincentian family,  
unity, simplicity, humility and the fire of love  
that burned in St Vincent de Paul

Strengthen us, so that, faithful to the practice of these virtues,  
We may contemplate You, and serve You, in the person of the poor.  
And may one day be united with You and them in Your kingdom.

Amen

## The Vincentian Pledge

AS FAR AS WE ARE ABLE:

We **PROMISE** to do all we can to make Christ's Law of Love prevalent among all men and women, practicing the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

We **PROMISE** to sanctify ourselves through prayer, attendance at mass and frequent reception of the Sacraments in order to fulfill better our duties as Vincentians.

We **PROMISE** to visit the Poor and the Sick in their homes and institutions in order to provide their needs both spiritually and materially.

We **PROMISE** to impart knowledge of our Faith to our friends in need and those we come into contact by sharing our Faith and the Good News with them by our actions.

We **PROMISE** to participate in the annual retreat and the 2 feast days of the Society so that our zeal for souls may be rekindled.

We **PROMISE** to help advance the works of mercy by our offering in the secret bag collection within our means.

We **PROMISE** to increase the influence of the Society by convincing qualified people, especially young men and women to join the Society and to guide them with our experience.

We **PROMISE** to pray for each other, so that we may be strengthened in our vocation as Vincentians.



