

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

SS MARY & ROMUALD, YARM AND ST THERESE OF LISIEUX, INGLEBY BARWICK

ANNUAL REPORT TO PASTORAL COUNCIL

13th June 2013

The mission of the St. Vincent De Paul Society ("SVP") is to seek and find those in need, to help them in a spirit of justice and to tackle the causes of poverty where we can. We do this through a network of local groups or "Conferences", through which we befriend and offer support, within our means, to any person in need.

The SVP Conference in Yarm and Ingleby Barwick currently has 8 active members drawn from both parishes. Across the past year, we have been involved in the following areas of work :-

Visiting the Elderly and the Sick

Our members carry out weekly visits to the residents of three care homes within the two parishes : Ayresome Court, Ingleby Care Home and Roseville Care Home. We also visit individuals in their own homes on request. Generally, our role is to simply have a chat or cup of tea with the people we visit and keep them company for an hour or so. However, we have also undertaken additional activities, e.g. We funded a trip to Preston Park for 8 residents of Ingleby Care Home. 4 SVP members attended to help push wheelchairs etc.

Support for Twin Conference in India.

We provide monetary support to our twin conference in Kerala, India and have also funded the training of a medical student in the region.

Providing Support to those in Financial Difficulty

In December 2012, we put together five Christmas Hampers for CAUSE which meant that five needy families within the Diocese were provided with sufficient food to see them through the Christmas week.

Since April 2013, we have also supported the Food Bank appeal with monthly collections of food from both parishes being taken to the Food Bank at St. Barnabas Church in Middlesbrough.

Providing Assistance to Refugees

We have provided practical assistance to two refugees living within the Diocese. For example, we have given material support by finding both individuals a second-hand fridge and much-needed winter clothing. We have also assisted with transport to/from hospital.

Fundraising

We have undertaken several fundraising activities across the past year, which have included a Yorkshire 3 Peaks sponsored walk, a coffee morning and a retiring collection.

Kind regards,

Helen Hogben

Conference President for Ss Mary & Romuald, Yarm and St Therese of Lisieux, Ingleby Barwick