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WELCOME TO THE 2023

MEMBER FORUMS

Welcome to Country

Uncle Alan Murray

Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council



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Spiritual Reflection

Leo Tucker

Executive Director, Mission and Formation



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WELCOME TO THE 2023

MEMBER'S FORUM

A micro-course on the Society's Mission

Corinna Lindsell

Mission, Spirituality and Pastoral Care Partner



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Mission & Legacy



OUR MISSION

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

OUR VISION

The St Vincent de Paul Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering a hand up to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

OUR ASPIRATION

An Australia transformed by compassion and built on justice.

Understanding the St Vincent de Paul Society's Values

OUR VALUES



COMMITMENT



COMPASSION



RESPECT



INTEGRITY



EMPATHY



ADVOCACY



COURAGE



Commitment

Loyalty in service to our mission, vision and values.



Compassion

Welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement.



Respect

Service to all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinions.



Integrity

Promoting, maintaining and adhering to our mission, vision and values.



Empathy

Establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship and perception.



Advocacy

Working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.



Courage

Encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation and giving hope for the future.

Catholic Social Teaching



What is Catholic Social Teaching?

*“Catholic Social Teaching (CST) offers a way of thinking, being and seeing the world. It provides a **vision for a just society** in which the **dignity of all people** is recognised, and those who are vulnerable are cared for.*

*It consists of an interrelated body of Catholic social thought and principles which can be used to **reflect on and guide how we relate to one another** in our local and global communities”.*

- Catholic Social Services Australia

The Society’s Mission, Vision and Values are informed by Catholic Social Teaching principles and our organisational strategic goals aim to uphold these principles as ethical guidelines to our work.

Brief History in Context

- 1833 – Frederic Ozanam** Founded the St Vincent de Paul Society
Responding to the poverty and unrest of the French Revolution
- 1881 – Charles O’Neil** Founded the SVDP NSW
St. Patrick’s Church Hill
- 1891 – Pope Leo XIII** Encyclical Letter – The Condition of the Working Class
Responding to the Industrial Revolution
“Rerum Novarum” (Revolutionary Change)
First instruction of Catholic Social Teaching
- 1974 – SVDP Society** Establishment of Australia in “The Rule”
Statutes for the Society’s Members, General Council
International Revisions; 1981, 1988, 1991, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2023

10 Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

- Dignity of the Human Person
- The Common Good
- Subsidiarity
- Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Solidarity
- Preferential option for the Poor
- Economic Justice
- Care for the Earth (our common home)
- Promotion of Peace



Principle	Meaning
Dignity of the Human Person	All life matters, in development, crisis and death
The Common Good	Systemic and social change
Subsidiarity	Local solutions with community input at all levels
Participation	Economic, cultural, community and political
Rights and Responsibilities	Basic needs and fundamental human rights
Solidarity	One human family, advocacy and social justice
Preferential option for the poor	Representation, care and balancing power
Economic Justice	Right to work, anti-slavery, distribution of wealth
Care for the Earth	Environmental stewardship
Promotion of Peace	Active mutual respect, inclusion and collaboration

Vincentian Spirituality

“Our Vincentian tradition is founded on a call to inclusivity.

Frederic Ozanam reminds us that we need faith and the grace of God to be able to achieve truly inclusive love of our neighbour.

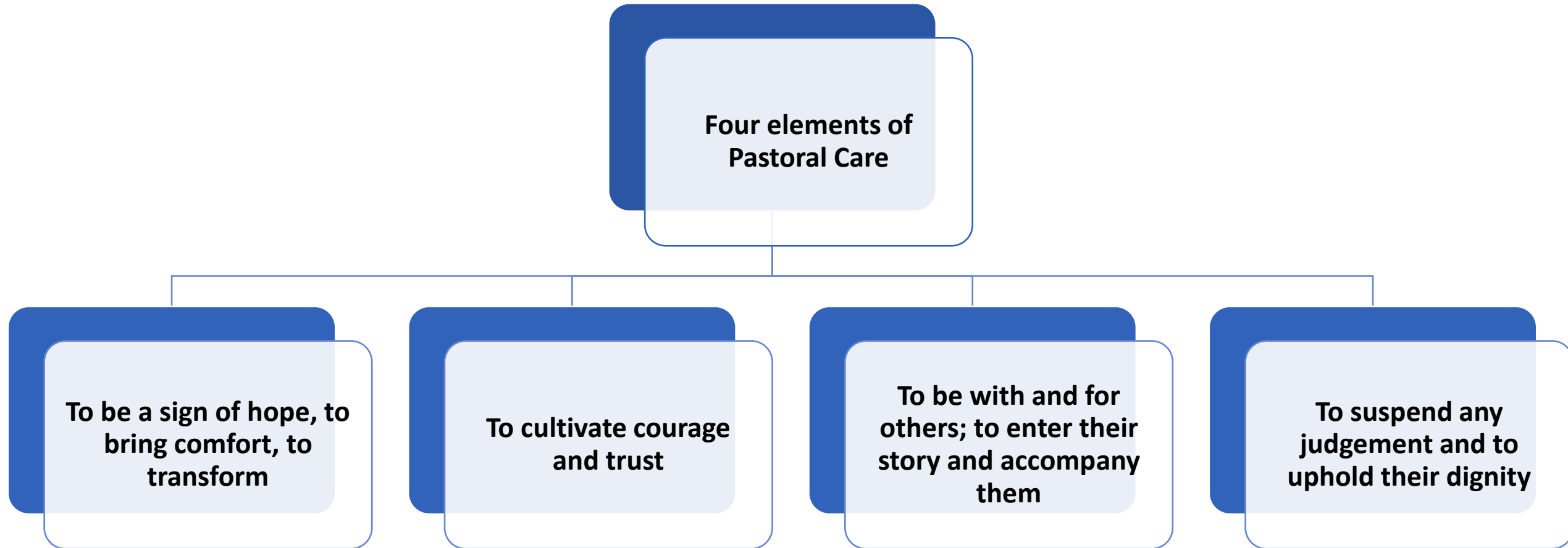
It is this call to inclusivity which is at the heart of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

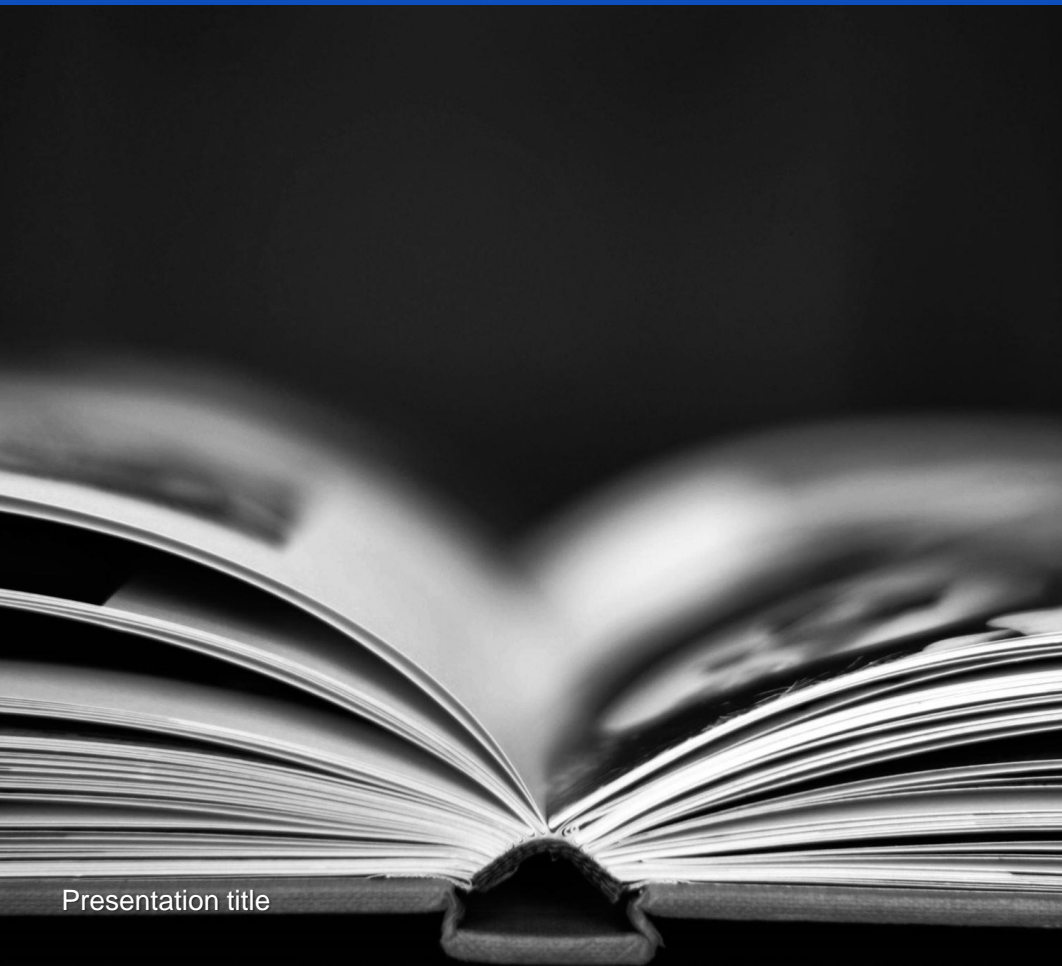
Every day our members, volunteers and staff are reaching out to people in need and including them, letting them know that they are loved.”

Sr Therese Haywood DC, National Spiritual Advisor SVDP

The Record, 2023

The ***Vincentian pastoral approach*** is to be people in care and service for those who are most rejected by Society by offering our support in the Gospel imperatives of ***inclusion, accompaniment and restoration***





“Knowledge of the poor and needy is not gained by pouring over books or in discussions with politicians, but by visiting the slums where they live, sitting by the bedside of the dying, feeling the cold they feel and learning from their lips the causes of their woes”

Frederic Ozanam

Video

Mission & Legacy



“No work of charity is foreign to the Society. It includes any form of help that alleviates suffering or deprivation, and promotes human dignity and personal integrity in all their dimensions.”

- The Rule – 1.3

“Faithful to the spirit of its founders, the Society constantly strives for renewal, adapting to changing world conditions. It seeks to be ever aware of the changes that occur in human society and the new types of poverty that may be identified or anticipated. It gives priority to the poorest of the poor and to those who are most rejected by society.”

- The Rule – 1.6

Charity – Charis, Caritas

Charis is a Latin word meaning grace and kindness and Caritas meaning love and compassion

“In my life I want to become better and do a little good. I would like to embrace the whole world in a network of charity. Yours must be a work of love, of kindness, you must give your time, your talents, yourselves.”

Frederic Ozanam



**The hand of Christ
blesses the cup**



**The hand of love
offers the cup**



**The hand of suffering
receives the cup**

CASE STUDY

JOHNNY

Young boy - family
struggles
financially

His father died
when Johnny was
2yrs old

He has to work to
help with income

often school work
is put on hold
because he has to
work

and do a lot
around the house...
pseudo parent -
but only a child

He is a bright kid
but often cannot
apply himself at
school - too tired

It's hard living at
home without his
dad and with those
stressors



St. John Bosco

Patron Saint of:

Young people

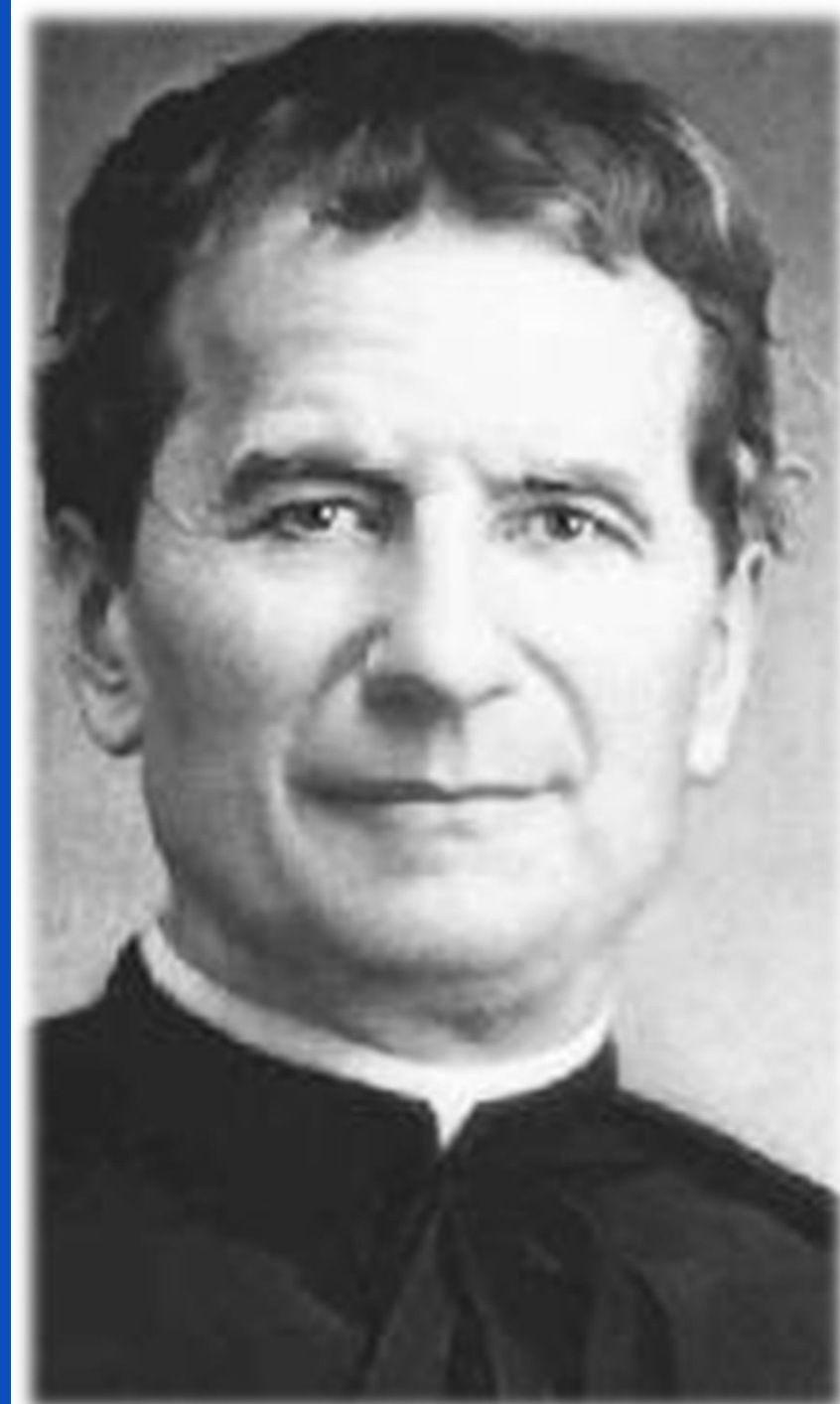
Disadvantaged / Disengaged Youth

Education to Young People

Young Apprentices

Youth in crisis

We never know who we will be supporting in their disadvantage, we offer hope to people like young Johny and support the transformation of lives for a better future





THANK YOU



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Morning Tea



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Workshops

- 3 workshop rotations
- 30 minutes per workshop
- Workshop descriptions are on the last page of your agenda

Rotation ONE 11:30am-12pm	Rotation TWO 12pm-12:30pm	Rotation THREE 12:30-1pm
Christmas Hamper Packing (Room 1)	Christmas Hamper Packing (Room 1)	Christmas Hamper Packing (Room 1)
Story Telling (Room 2)	Membership Promotion and Recruitment Tips (Room 2)	Story Telling (Room 2)
Living out the Gospel message (Room 3)	Advocacy and Engaging with MPs (Room 3)	Cultivating local networks to advocate for a more just and compassionate society (Room 3)



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Lunch



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Group Discussion and Reflection

1. In what ways can the key values of the Rule provide guidelines for how youth and young adult members, and adult members collaborate with each other to live out the Society's mission in action in local communities?
2. How can a biblical understanding of the strategic goals of **Excel**, **Grow** and **Cultivate** support youth and young adult members, and adult members to align how they live out the Society's mission in action with the assistance model set out in the Theory of Change:
 - Immediate emergency relief,
 - Intermediate stabilization,
 - Long-term thriving?
3. Where, in the 3 levels of assistance of the Theory of Change, does the charitable work and social justice action of your Conference sit, and how might understanding this enable your Conference to align its activities with other Society outlets, e.g., Vinnies Retail Shops, Emergency Relief Fund, Amelie Housing/SAFH, Vinnies Services?
4. Do any of the new or different models of how we can live out the Society's mission in action, showcased on Day 1, provide you with ideas about how you can do things differently or try new things in your local communities? Why/why not? If not, what solutions could you develop to change this?

Group Discussion and Reflection

- **Excel:** Amplify the impact of our charitable works
- **Grow:** Extend the reach of the Society's charitable works
- **Cultivate:** Enable member and business capabilities to deliver more and better outcomes.



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Panel: Towards Reconciliation

Paul Burton – NSW President

Maddie Sirris – Vice President, Youth

Jacinta McGrath – Social Justice Adviser, Youth Committee

Jodi Denehy – Senior Policy and Advocacy Adviser



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Entertainment

The OLC Collective



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Entertainment

The OLC Music Collective





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Final Thoughts

Paul Burton

NSW President



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