

To be consumed for God, to have no goods nor power except for the purpose of expanding them for God. That is what our Saviour did himself, he who was consumed for love of this Father
(Documents, vol.13, p.179)

Do not worry yourself overmuch...
Grace has its moments.
Let us abandon ourselves to the providence of God and be very careful not to run ahead of it.
(Documents, vol.2, p.453)

Love is inventive, even to infinity...

(Documents, vol.11, p146)

The Confraternity of Charity of the servants of the parochial sick poor... O Mon Dieu! What a lovely title and what a beautiful description!... Servants of the poor, that is just the same as to say Servants of Jesus Christ, for he regards as done to himself what is done to them, and they are his members. And what did he do whilst on earth to serve the poor?
(Documents, vol.1, p.355)

Give me a man of prayer
and he will be capable of
anything. He may say with
the apostle,
“I can do all things in him
who strengthens me.”
(Documents, vol.11, p.83)

I should not judge poor peasants, men or women,
by their exterior nor by their apparent mental
capacities.

All the more is this so since very frequently they
scarcely seem to have the appearance of or
intelligence of reasonable beings, so gross and
offensive are they. But turn the medal, and you
will see by the light of faith that the Son of God,
whose will it was to be poor, is represented to us
by these people.
(Documents, vol.11, p.32)

Aren't the poor the suffering members of our
Lord? Aren't they our brothers and sisters?
If priests abandon them, who do you want to
look after them?...

We should assist the poor in every way and do
it by ourselves and by enlisting the help of
others...

To do this is to preach the gospel by words
and by work.
(Documents, vol.12, p.87)

**“If we are really called to carry the
love of God far and wide, if we are
to enflame the nations with this fire,
if we have the vocation of setting
the whole world on fire, if it is so, I
say, if it is so, then how much I must
myself burn with the divine fire!”**

St Vincent de Paul

For the Vincentian Family ... “Let us ask God to give this Spirit to the little Company, the heart of the Son of God that motivates us to go out as he would - He sends us out as his apostles, to carry this fire everywhere, his divine fire, the fire of his love.”

St Vincent de Paul

What stands out for you about the world in which Vincent lived?

What qualities of St Vincent de Paul have made an impact on you?

How is St Vincent's world different to our world today ... or is it different at all? How does it 'fit' into our world today?

“...shouldn't we, respond on the basis of our shared humanity in the same way as St Vincent did to what we can see?”

What is the message that St Vincent has for you?

With relation to the World Youth Day 2008 theme, “*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses.*” (Acts 1:8) - how does St Vincent's example reflect this passage?

What challenges has this reflection on the life of St Vincent de Paul presented for me?

“What calls us today to actions of love and justice to transform our world?”

What does it mean to be Vincentian?

