

It is also important that messages received are shared with all members of the Conference so that every member is involved and feels part of the world-wide Vincentian family.

- There will be a need to offer financial support

This may be by some regular commitment to send financial support to help the regular activities of the Twin and is most likely if the Twin is in an area suffering from financial hardship or in a developing country.

More specific support, often over a defined period, to support a particular work or project being proposed by the Twin.

How long does a Twin last?

There is no defined period for such a link. Local needs will always take precedence over support for the Twin.

There will be times when the link has to be changed or broken, for example:

When the Twin Conference overseas has financial self-sufficiency; When the Twin Conference or the Donor Conference goes into abeyance;

When the supporting Twin is no longer able to offer financial support for the its Twin;

By the mutual agreement of both Conferences or the National or Central Councils of the Conferences.

Even when the formal Twinning link has to be broken it is likely that the friendship and spiritual bonds will not be lost and Conferences and members are encouraged to maintain contact with and prayer for the Twin.

How do I get involved?

Make contact with the Central Council Twinning Representative. They will have information and application forms. An individual or family can also adopt a Twin but this must be done through the Central Council.

For more information contact:

April 2013



Twinning Information for Conferences & Members

Registered Office: 9 Larcom Street, Walworth, London SE17 1RX

A Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England & Wales No: 3174679

Charity Reg. No: 1053992

Application to be Twinned with an Overseas Conference

(Block Capitals & Dark Ink only, please)

Conference Name:

Town:

District Council:

Central Council:

Correspondent's Name:

Correspondent's Address:

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Post Code (essential):

We, the members of this Conference, hereby promise to:

- Pray for our Twinned Conference at each meeting
- Write letters to them at least twice a year
- Send £ every year to our Twin in via the
Central Council Twinnage Representative

Conference President: Date:

What is Twinnage?

Twinnage means a link between one Conference and another.

At present this involves a link between Conferences in different countries, bringing to life the fact that we are all Brothers & Sisters as members of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Why Twin?

The St Vincent de Paul Society was established to help Christians act on their need to serve and help their neighbour. Jesus told us how we would be judged:

“I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink; was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me.”

(Mt 25: 35-36)

Every Conference member follows this when they make a visit or carry out other tasks in the name of The Society.

Twinnage enables each member to extend this service beyond the confines of their own Paris Community.

What does it involve?

There are always THREE parts to a successful Twinning:

- The need for a prayerful and spiritually based link:
It is important that the members of the Twin Conference and those they work to support are prayed for regularly. This will include prayers at every Conference meeting, but can include other prayer and most especially having a Mass offered for the Twin Conference. There may also be times when specific events at the Twin Conference call for some form of extra or special prayer.
- The need for real contact:
Meaningful prayer and sharing cannot take place without personal knowledge of the Twin. So it is vital to send letters (or e-mails if available) regularly (and at least twice a year) to make contact, share information, learn