

information and learn about the differing needs in other places.

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 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?

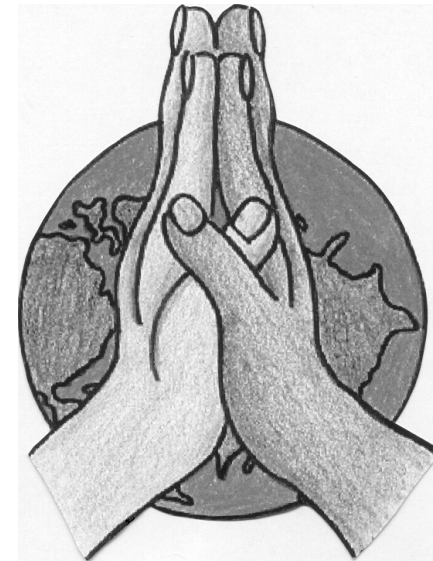
Make contact with the Central Council Twinnage Representative. They will have information and application forms.

An individual or family can also adopt a Twin, but this must be done through the Conference.

For more information contact:

March 2008

Twinnage Information



for Conferences and Members

Registered Office: 5th Floor, 291-299 Borough High Street, London SE1 1JG
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 and dark Ink only, please)

Conference Name: _____

Town: _____

District Council: _____

Central Council: _____

Correspondent's Name: _____

Correspondent's Address: _____

Post Code (essential): _____

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

Pray for our Twinned Conference each week

Write letters to them at least three times each year

Send £ _____ * every year to our Twin in _____ via

the Central Council Twinnage Representative

Conference President: _____ Date: _____

** For and Indian Sudanese or Guyanese Conference this is currently £100*

And for Romanian Conference this is currently £200

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 and 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 a 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 any other tasks in the name of The Society.

Twinnage enables each member to extend this service beyond the confines of their own Parish 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 circumstances of the Twin. So it is vital to send letters (or e-mails if available) regularly (and at least three times every year) to make contact, share