

# SVP Bulletin

St Thomas More, Towcester  
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## Welcome

This latest issue of the SVP Towcester Bulletin includes details of the recent SVP mass, an update on Polokong and a profile of one of our newest SVP members.

### **SVP MASS FOR THE FEAST OF SACRED HEART (16<sup>th</sup> June 2023)**

The latest mass organised by the SVP celebrated the Solemn Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Charles Fox describes the event: "Over 30 people were in attendance and it commenced with a lusty rendition of the Lord of the Dance and



comprised two readings, a Gloria and Credo. Every word of the readings came across clearly and they were chosen to illustrate how God loves each one of us and that if we approach Him as children, He will give us comfort. Fr James wove his homily around Earl Grey tea, his cats, Sheba and Moses and his parents, defining different types of love and that love involves sacrifice and should be a part of our lives.

Following mass we all managed to squeeze into the Lombard Room and the serving team brought tea or coffee with scones, cakes, strawberries and cream, on order. Noise levels rose as people started chatting and each one of us was glad to be there, meeting again with old friends. Sheba and Moses made an appearance and somehow all the amazing food was either eaten or went home in doggie bags. It felt as if the Holy Spirit had been with us to create a community of love."



### **POLOKONG CHILDREN'S VILLAGE IN SOUTH AFRICA**



The SVP has now received the long-awaited report from the SVP in South Africa about the sad demise of the children's village, which Towcester and Hunsbury parishes have been supporting for 20 years. This report is being digested as we go to press, and a full report will appear in the next SVP Bulletin. We are also actively debating where the funds originally donated for Polokong should now go. We will also put this in the next Bulletin.

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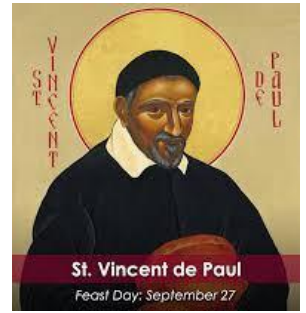
**\*\* DATE FOR YOUR DIARY \*\***

The SVP invites you to celebrate  
The Feast of St Vincent de Paul with

**Mass at 2pm on Wednesday 27th September 2023**

Followed by refreshments in Lombard Room

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**WHY I JOINED THE SVP**



Elma Tulley, who recently joined the Towcester SVP Conference, gives an insight into why she joined:

“All my life I have been aware of the Society of St Vincent de Paul but it was when I met my husband I discovered that it played a large part in generations of his family. About twenty years ago when we moved house and parish, I was invited to join the Conference at St. Patrick's in Strathaven. Their work was a revelation as I thought the town was in a rather affluent farming area but soon realised that there is poverty and need everywhere. I was pleased to find that we helped those of all faiths or none, sometimes referred by a kindly neighbour or concerned family members. Perhaps they might not want to approach a conference member directly but they could leave an anonymous note in the collection box which is available for donations in every Catholic church in Scotland.

Two of us visited a small hospital in nearby Stonehouse, every Friday evening. It has forty single rooms occupied mainly by geriatric patients. This was a daunting prospect at first but soon I came to look forward to seeing some long-term patients, some of whom never had other visitors, and they seemed to enjoy seeing us every week until, of course, the Covid lock-down.

I look back fondly on my varied experiences and hope to be an active and useful member in Towcester”

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Remember if the SVP can help you or someone you know, call us in confidence on 07517 613487.

Alternatively, pass on one of our cards which can be found in both porches of the church.



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**PARISH CONTACT**

<http://www.stthomasmorerc.org>

**Fr James Evans - Tel: 01327 359151 Email: [frjames.evans@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frjames.evans@northamptondiocese.org)**