



## •What is our History?

# Our Patron, St. Vincent de Paul



1581-1660

1581

Born in Pouy, France on April 24

1600

Educated at Toulouse; ordained at age 19

1608

Held captive by pirates

1612

Became Pastor at Clichy near Paris

1617

Founded Ladies of Charity

1625

Established Congregation of the Mission

1633

Co-Founded Daughters of Charity

1660

Died on September 27



Canonized by Pope Clement XII In 1737

“It Is Not Enough For Me To Love God, If My Neighbor Does Not Also Love God”

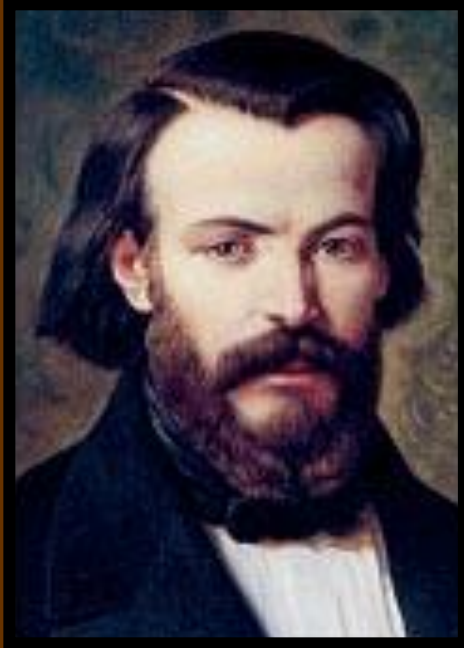
# Our Patron, St. Vincent de Paul



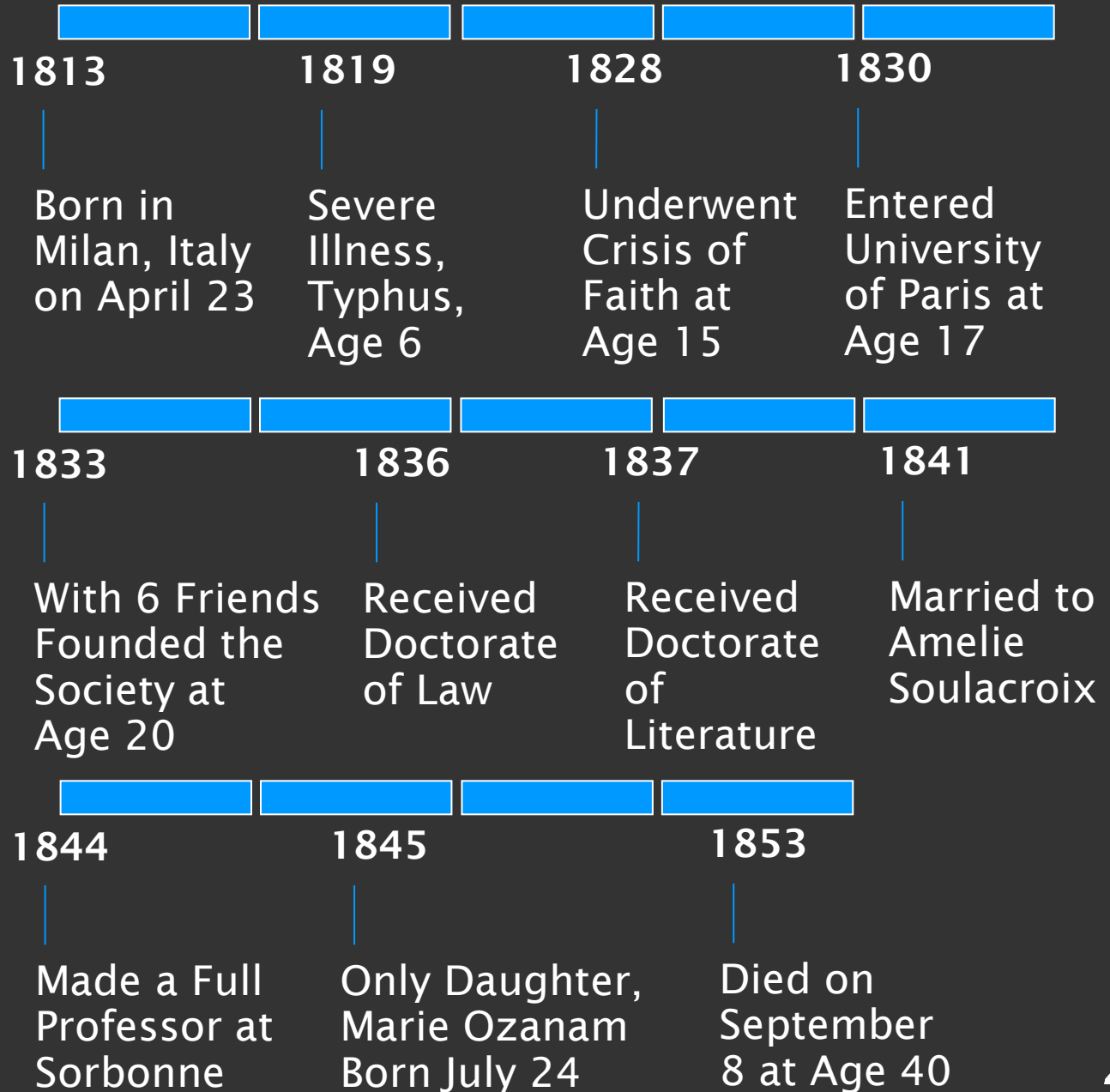
1581-1660

- Chose priesthood to acquire ecclesiastical benefice
  - Large yearly income
  - Support him and assist his family
- Tutor and chaplain to aristocrat Philip De Gondi family
- Chaplain to galley slaves of France
- Underwent several conversion experiences and dedicated himself to the poor
- Established the Vincentian Family

# Our Founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam



1813-1853



† **Beatified in 1997**

# Our Founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam



1813-1853

- A person like us
- A Family Man
- Worked as a Teacher
- Lived through “Crisis of Faith”
- Steadfastness in Times of Trial
  - 11 of 14 of Frederic’s siblings died very young
  - Father and Mother both died by the time Frederic was 26
- City of Paris in the early 1800s: tenements, disease, “Melting Pot of Poverty”, plight of the urban poor similar to our contemporary culture
- A courageous commitment

# Blessed Frederic and His Companions



- Blessed Frederic Ozanam & Companions were students at the Sorbonne
- They participated in the “Conference Of History” to discuss the historical role of the Church
- They were challenged by Anti-Catholics to “Show Us Your Works”
- Their response – “Let Us Go To The Poor”



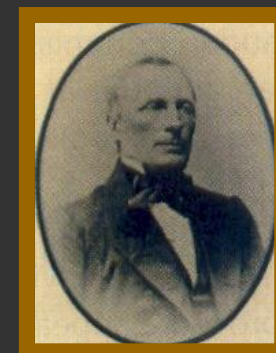
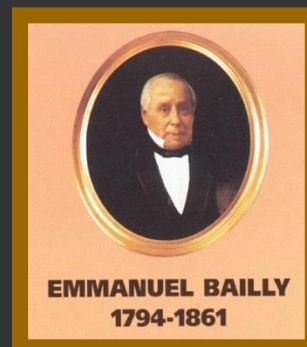
“No Work of Charity Is Foreign To The Society”

# Birth of the Society: The First Conference

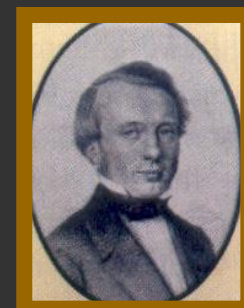


- The first meeting took place at 38 Rue de Saint Sulpice on 23 April 1833, the Feast of St. George, at eight o'clock in the evening, including by order of age:

- Emmanuel Bailly, 42
- Paul Lamache, 23, second year law student, doctor's son.
- Félix Clavé, 22, student, teacher's son.
- Auguste le Taillandier, 22, second year law student, merchant's son.
- Jules Davaux, 22, second year law student, doctor's son.
- François Lallier, 20, second year law student, doctor's son.
- Frédéric Ozanam, 20, second year law student, doctor's son.



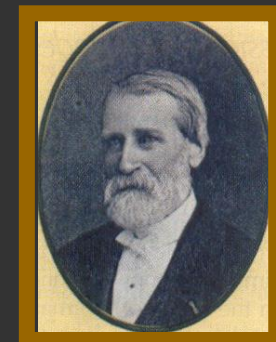
Jules Devaux



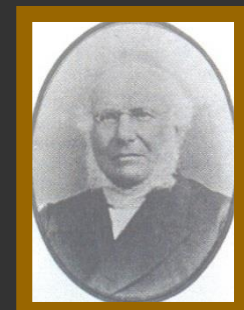
Paul Lamache



Frederic Ozanam



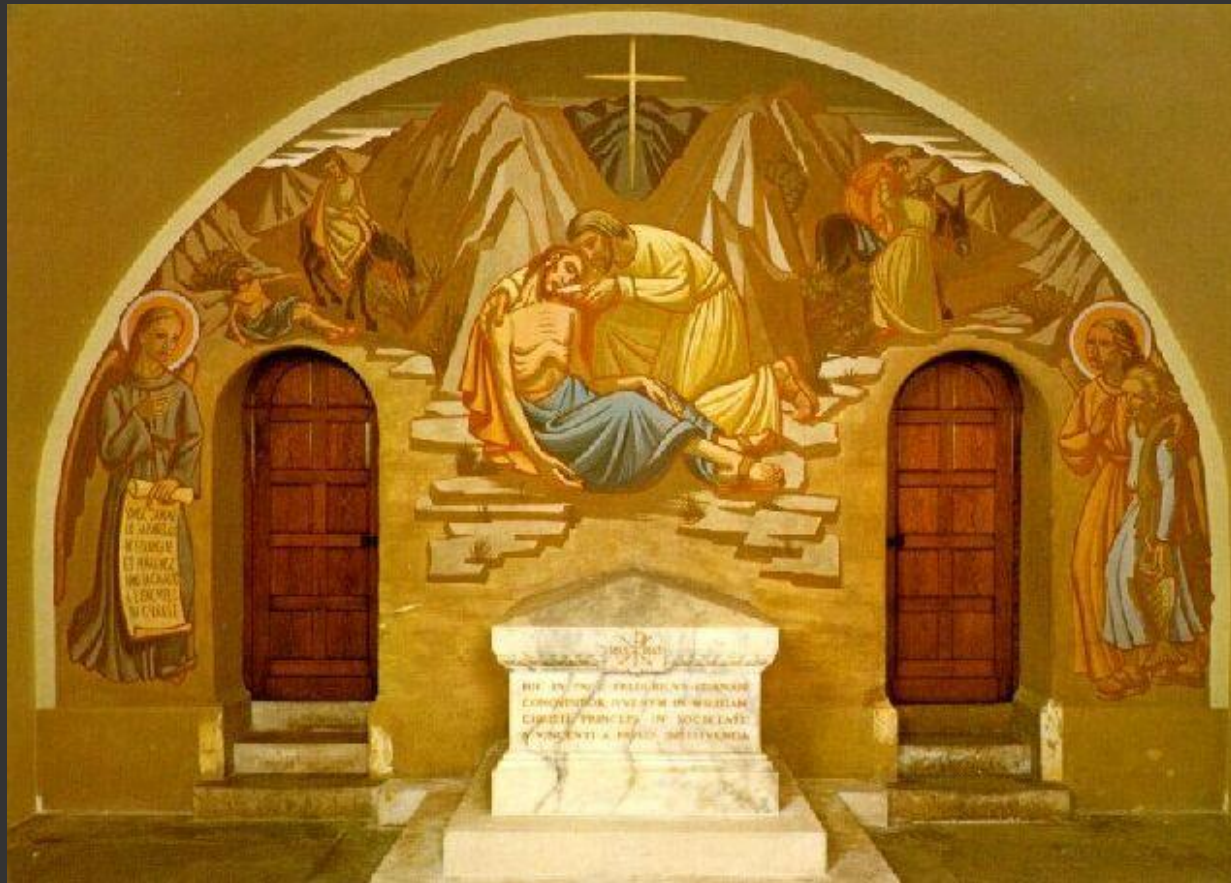
Auguste  
LeTaillandier



Francois Lallier

- Emmanuel Bailly, a married layman, was chosen by the six students as their first President, with Jules Devaux as treasurer.
- The principle of a weekly meeting was laid down and the fundamental activity of visiting the poor in their abodes was agreed.

# Tomb of Frederic Ozanam



Burial Chapel of Frederic Ozanam, in Paris,  
with fresco of the Good Samaritan

“No Work of Charity Is Foreign To The Society”



# Our Inspirations



**St. Louise de Marillac**



**St. Catherine Labouré**



**Blessed Rosalie Rendú**

**“No Work of Charity Is Foreign To The Society”**



- A contemporary of St. Vincent
- Born in 1591 in France
- Niece of Louis XIII's Minister of Justice
- Married Queen's Attendant Antoine Le Gras in 1613, Prematurely Widowed in 1625
- Vincent Asked Louise to Visit the Confraternities of Charity
  - Supervise Their Leaders
  - Spur on the Teams
  - Strengthen Their Ties with Parish Priests
- In 1633 Co-founded the Daughters of Charity: a Community Without Cloister or Monastery Traveling the Streets to Attend To Those in Need
- Honored As Patroness of All Christian Social Workers by Pope John XXIII

† Canonized by Pope Pius XI In 1934

# Blessed Rosalie Rendú



- Born 1786 in Confort, France
- A Daughter of Charity, served for 54 years in the Mouffetard area-- the most impoverished district of Paris
- Emmanuel Bailly sent the members of the First SVDP Conference to Sister Rosalie for guidance and mentoring
- Sending them on home visits, she formed them in the spirit of St. Vincent, teaching them how to serve the poor with respect and compassion

# Blessed Rosalie Rendú (continued)



- Her works were prodigious including:
  - Teaching and Running Primary School
  - Organized Courses in Sewing and Embroidering for Young Girls
  - Founded Day Care Center and Nursery for Working Mothers
  - Ran an Orphanage
  - Established a Home for the Elderly
- The Secret of Rosalie’s Energy and Numerous Works - She Saw the Face of Christ in the Person of the Poor

# St. Catherine Labouré

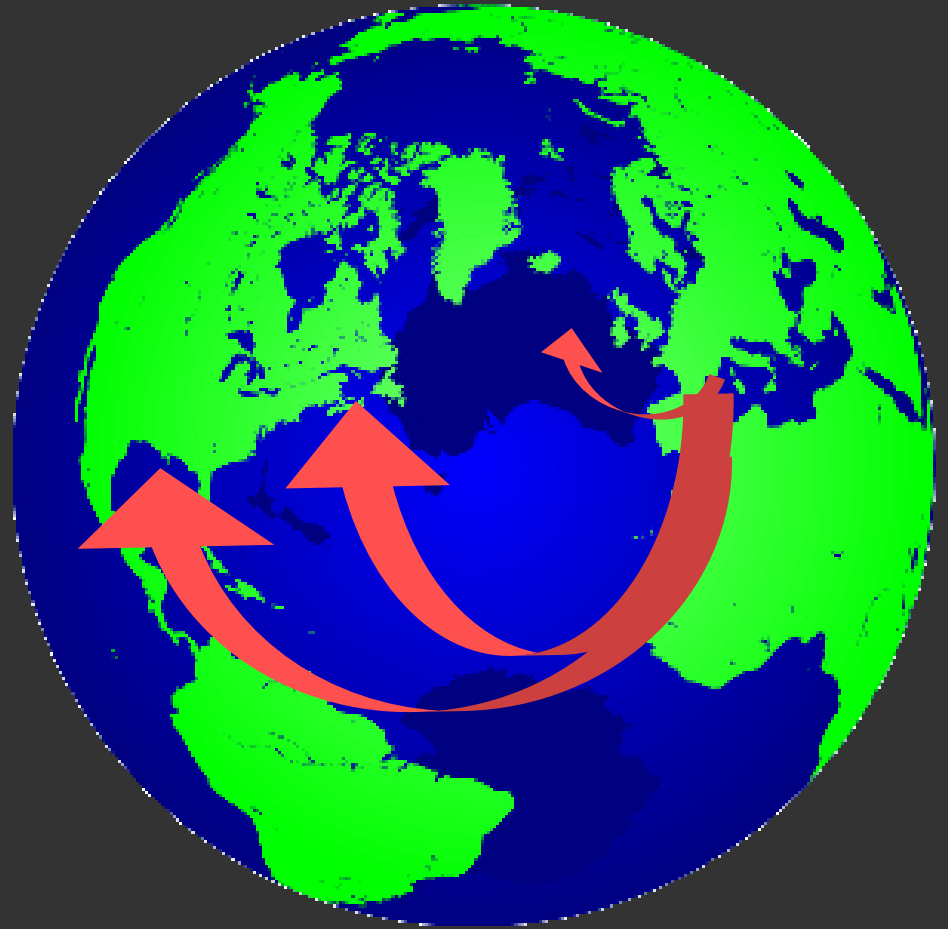


- Born May 2, 1806, ninth of eleven children
- In 1830 joined the Daughters of Charity
- Blessed Virgin appeared to her in July, 1830 and again in November, 1830; requested she have a medal struck (“Miraculous Medal”)
- It is believed that Frederic Ozanam, who lived within blocks of the site of the apparitions, was strongly influenced by the events; he insisted that the Blessed Virgin Mary be named Patroness of the Society
- For over 40 years she spent every effort caring for the aged and infirmed
- Died on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1876

# Rapid Growth of the Society Worldwide



- Began in France in 1833
- Spread To Italy In 1842
- England In 1844
- Belgium, Scotland, Ireland, and **United States by 1845**
- Holland And Mexico by 1846
- Switzerland And Canada by 1847
- **India by 1862**
- **18 Countries by Blessed Frederic's Death**
- By 1913– 8000 Conferences, 133,000 members
- Today – Over 600,000 active members in 132 countries



“No Work of Charity Is Foreign To The Society”

# Beginning Of The Society In The U.S.



- First meeting of a conference in the U.S. held on November 20, 1845 at “The Old Cathedral” – The Church Of St. Louis Of France
- First conference aggregated on February 2, 1846
- Dr. Moses Linton, a prominent physician, elected President



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# Rapid Growth In The United States



At first, the U.S.  
reported to Paris



- 
- 1847 -- Buffalo and New York City
  - 1849 -- Milwaukee
  - 1851 -- Philadelphia
  - 1852 -- Pittsburgh
  - 1853 -- Louisville
  - 1855 -- Brooklyn
  - 1856 -- St. Paul
  - 1857 -- Chicago and Washington D.C.
  - 1858 -- New Orleans
  - 1859 -- Dubuque
  - 1860 -- San Francisco
  - 1861 -- Boston
  - 1864 -- Baltimore
  - 1865 -- Cleveland
  - 1869 -- Cincinnati and Portland OR
  - 1871 -- San Antonio

**In 1915, the seven Major Jurisdictions (New York, St. Louis, New Orleans, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, and Brooklyn) agreed to form a single national body.**

**“No Work of Charity Is Foreign To The Society”**



# Presence of SSVP society in St. Thomas Syormalabar Diocese, Chicago



**According to the Procedure Rules of our diocese**

**APPENDIX A,**

**Society of St. Vincent De Paul (SSVP) is one of the**

**APPROVED ASSOCIATIONS / ORGANIZATIONS IN THE**

**EPARCHY**

- **Our Patron, St. Vincent de Paul (1581-1660)**
  - Established the Vincentian Family (Ladies of Charity, Congregation of the Mission, Daughters of Charity)
  - Dedicated himself to the poor
- **Our Founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam (1813-1853)**
  - With 6 friends founded the Society at age 20
  - Family man, teacher
- **Our Inspirations and Examples**
  - **St. Louise de Merillac**
    - Contemporary of St. Vincent, founded Daughters of Charity
  - **Blessed Rosalie Rendu**
    - Daughter of Charity, Contemporary of B. Frederic, mentored the first SVDP Conference, served the poor of Paris
  - **St. Catherine Laboure**
    - Daughter of Charity, Our Lady appeared to her, inspired Bl. Frederic
- **Amazingly Rapid Growth of the Society**
  - 18 countries already by the time of Blessed Frederic's death



- Take a Moment of Silent Reflection.
- Break into Groups of 3 or 4 to Discuss the Following:
  - What in the Life of St. Vincent de Paul Touched You?
  - What in the Life of Frederic Ozanam Touched You?

