

TAKING ACTION

'FAITH WITHOUT DEEDS IS DEAD'
JAMES 2:14-26

SEE

Identify a social justice issue and seek to explore why it is happening.

QUESTIONS

- What social justice issue have you identified?
- Who is being affected and what impact is it having?
- Why is this issue happening (what's the cause?)

THINK

Evaluate your thoughts on the social justice issue and reflect on your own values and beliefs.

QUESTIONS

- What has been your experience with this issue?
- What do your own personal beliefs/values say about this issue?

DO

Identify short term goals, the ideal change, the steps needed, who is involved and the action to be taken.

QUESTIONS

- What are some of the things already being done to address this issue?
- How are you going to bring awareness to this issue?
- What is your message and call to action?

OPENING PRAYER

*In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and enkindle in them the fire of Your love.
Send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, by the light of the Holy Spirit, teach the hearts of
the faithful and grant that by the same Spirit we may be
truly wise and ever enjoy His consolation.*

Through Christ Our Lord.

CLOSING PRAYER

*Lord Jesus, in service you washed the feet of your
disciples, offering us a model of humility, love, and respect.
Open our hearts to your presence in those we assist.*

*May we, through our actions of service and generosity,
lighten their burdens by providing for their immediate
necessities and offering them hope, peace and justice.*

*In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.*



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Vinnies youth

PRAYER CARD



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REFLECTION

In 1833 when Frederic Ozanam gathered in Paris with his friends in an attempt to show the relevance of the Catholic faith, he was inspired to simply 'do a little good'.

Who would have thought that the small gesture of collecting remaining firewood and delivering it to a widow would have been the birth of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Who would have thought that the criticism of the irrelevance of the Catholic faith would have led to nearly 200 years of tangible witnessing to the compassionate and liberating love of Christ. Who would have thought that a 22 year old man could ignite a fire in so many others who found meaning in reaching out to those less fortunate. Whilst the appearance of the firewood has changed, that same passion to help others, that same passion to live our faith in action, that same passion to love God with the sweat of our brow and the strength of our arms, continues in us who carry on this same mission.

Today there are still great needs in our local communities. Today we still carry firewood in the footsteps of Frederic Ozanam. As we carry firewood into the future, we are not sure of the emerging poverties that await us. Yet what we do know, is that to ensure our vibrant future there will always be a need for men and women, young and old, to share the mission of Frederic Ozanam. The need to live our Catholic faith through tangible gestures of love in action will always be necessary.

Sister Mel Dwyer
St Vincent de Paul Society
Queensland Spiritual Advisor



TAKE SOME TIME TO REFLECT

- What does the firewood you're carrying look like?
- What needs do you see within your community?
- How are you sharing in the mission and spirit of Blessed Frederic Ozanam?
- What tangible gestures of love in action are seen through the work you do in the Society?
- What thoughts come to mind when you think about Frederic's words 'do a little good'?
- Who can you gather to share in this journey?

PRAYER OF SERVICE

Let us pray for renewed energy in our spirit of service.

Let us pray for the same passion of Frederic Ozanam who was tireless in his self-sacrifice.

Let us pray for listening hearts to truly discern those who are in greatest need in our local communities.

And let us pray for all those who help us to carry firewood, for as we carry on the mission of Ozanam, we stand on the shoulders of all of those who have gone before us in their humble quest to become better, and do a little good.

Amen

SOCIETY VALUES

Our values we hold underpin the good works we do and are shown through our faith in action. ***It is important to continually reflect on our values and how we uphold these through our work with the Society and day to day.***

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

EMPATHY

- Why is empathy important?
- Describe how empathy helps to build relationships.

INTEGRITY

- What does integrity mean to you as a young person?
- Give an example of when you have shown integrity.

COMMITMENT

- What are the benefits of being committed?
- Identify how you show commitment.

COMPASSION

- Think about a time when you showed compassion, what did it feel like for you and the other person?
- Describe what compassion for others looks like.

RESPECT

- I feel respected when ...
- Think of a time you were challenged by something you didn't agree with, how did you show respect?

COURAGE

- Being courageous means I can ...
- Write down all the ways you demonstrate courage.

ADVOCACY

- What can I do to advocate for the needs of others?
- I believe ... is unfair, and I am going to ...