

SHREWSBURY DIOCESE News

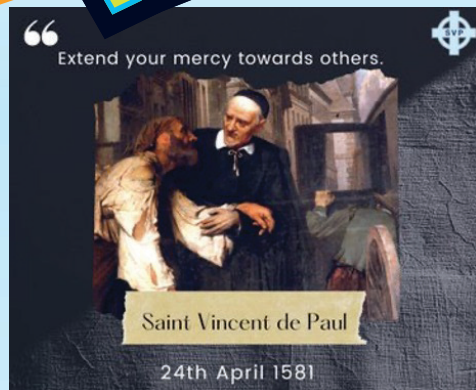
Turning Concern into Action

Issue 15 | Spring 2022



St John Fisher & St Thomas More
Catholic Primary Wythenshawe

A busy time of year!



Thinking Big

It is always amazing and humbling to receive news reports and photographs that illustrate the dedication to and love of those in need of our help. **THANK YOU!**

The imagination and creativity of our young people is incredible, and nothing is impossible! "Thinking big," always wanting to do the best for those we help and looking for different ways to be charitable is evident in these reports. With the support of our Vincentian Coordinators in schools our young people are truly making a difference!

Our Mini Vinnie programme is continuing to grow in our Diocese and more of our High Schools and colleges are introducing the Youth SVP programme, so allowing our Mini Vinnies to continue their Vincentian journey. Thank you for your million acts of kindness!

Your Shrewsbury Young Vincentian Development Officers,

**Janet, Marjorie, Colette,
Bernadette & Mike**



Keeping it green!

The Mini Vinnies were concerned about the litter in their neighbourhood. They decided to go around the local area during their lunch break picking up litter and tidying woodland areas to try and make a difference. They also displayed posters around the areas they tidied to encourage members of the public to use bins for their litter and rescue, reuse and recycle. The children have decided to make this a monthly event.



Support for Ukraine

The Mini Vinnies planned and organised a week of collection in support of the crisis in Ukraine. They made posters to advertise to the wider public and collected over fifty bags of clothes, toys, and medical essentials (first aid kits etc). They then took all the donations to the local Ukrainian cultural centre so that all items could be shipped over to those in need.

Caner research fundraising

The Mini Vinnies held a special fundraising day to raise funds for bone cancer research. They raised a whopping £375!





St Mary's Catholic Primary Crewe Lent fundraising

During Lent St Mary's Mini Vinnies have been extremely busy. They have organised a number of fundraising events to support The Good Shepherd and raised over £300.

'Guess the name of the Bunny,' proved so successful in Key Stage 1 that the Mini Vinnies arranged a whole school Easter Raffle too.



Holy Week Assemblies: These wonderful Mini Vinnies led an assembly each day during Holy Week. They shared the events that happened throughout Holy Week and brought their school community together in prayer.



St Mary's Mini Vinnies recently helped to organise a Whole School Peace Day and led assemblies across the school. They highlighted the need to support families in crisis around the world due to conflict and war. The Mini Vinnies collected £579.00 in donations for The British Red Cross.

St Vincent's Catholic Primary Knutsford Thank you to everyone!

Our Mini Vinnies would like to say a massive thank you to everyone for supporting them in their fundraising - a massive £110.85 was raised and this will be split between CAFOD and the Good Shepherd charities.

Our prize winners were absolutely delighted with their cuddly sheep and chocolate!



Please support our Mini Vinnies!

St Vincent's Appeal to Parents: Fundraising for Cafod and the Good Shepherd

Our Mini Vinnies would like to raise funds during Lent to support two very important charities:

CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development): The official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. They reach out to people living in hard-to-reach places, in war zones and those who are discriminated against.

Good Shepherd Appeal: Funds go to Caritas Family Support Service works with children, families and those in our local communities who are experiencing difficulties or disadvantage. Through home school and community visits, they work with clients to identify and address needs. This may result in working in targeted groups, on a one-to-one basis

or in partnership with other agencies to ensure the client gets the best help possible at a time when their self-esteem is very low or non-existent.

Both of these charities are also supporting the **Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal**.

Our Mini Vinnies have had meetings to decide what to do and how to raise the money, and have come up with two fantastic fundraisers:

Name the Sheep: Guess the name and win a cuddly sheep.

Find the Lost Sheep: Locate the lost sheep on a giant grid and win a cuddly sheep or an Easter egg. Tickets will be 50p each and will be on sale at break time and after school from 3rd March until 25th March.



St Peter & St Paul's Catholic Primary Newport Generous Mini Vinnies

Generous Mini Vinnies at SS Peter & Paul's have raised £207 for the Sudan Baby Feeding Station project, and nearly £1000 to help the people in Ukraine.

Their Vincentian Coordinator Deacon David Hill describes his Mini Vinnies as, "so full of love and life that they want to do all they can to help those less fortunate than themselves." He goes on to say, "We are all very proud of them and what they have achieved."

St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary Northwich

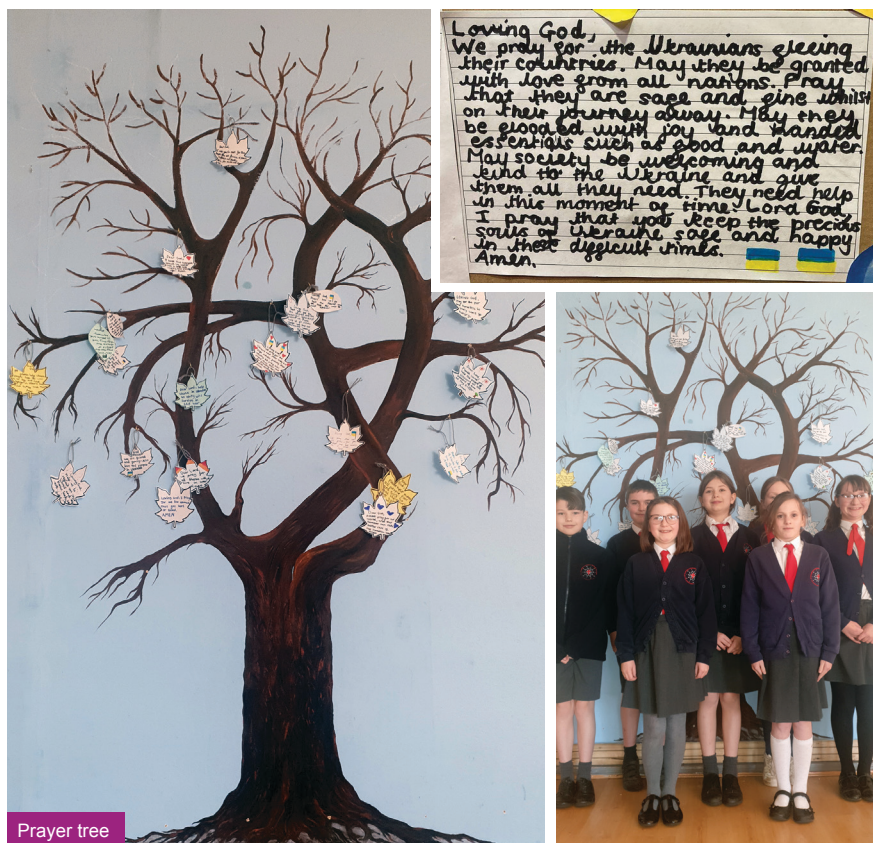
Prayers for Lent



During Lent St Wilfrid's Mini Vinnies decided to focus on prayer.

They painted a beautiful tree on a wall in the school hall. The Mini Vinnies then cut out enough paper leaves for every pupil and adult in the school. These were used for prayers to be written on or to draw a picture of what was being prayed for and pinned to the tree throughout Lent.

They also created a wonderful prayer focus board full of prayers for Ukraine.



St Benedict's Catholic Primary Handforth

Spreading joy with Easter cards

Mini Vinnies at St Benedict's organised a contribution of 100 beautiful Easter cards to their local SVP conference.

These were distributed with chocolate goodies to SVP beneficiaries and one of the care homes in their area.



Easter card designs

The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary Runcorn

Prayers for Alder Hey

Thoughtful Mini Vinnies at The Holy Spirit school have written prayers for the sick children in Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool.

They have also collected food for local refugee families and sorted the large donations to support the Ukrainian families in crisis through The Studio, a registered charity in Widnes.

Their Vincentian Coordinator says that the children are looking forward to carrying out more acts of kindness and joining locally organised initiatives.

St Edward's Catholic Primary Runcorn Cakes for Ukraine!

The Mini Vinnies at St Edward's Catholic Primary School have been very busy preparing for their cake sale in aid of the Ukrainian people.



They also decided to raise money for the Ukrainian people by designing and putting collection pots in all the classrooms in their school. Well done Mini Vinnies!



St Vincent's Catholic Primary Altrincham Dedicated to their community

The Mini Vinnies at St Vincent's Catholic Primary School have been very busy and continue to dedicate their spare time to help the local community, fundraise for charity and spread kindness.



Tackling loneliness

With social isolation and loneliness an ever-present problem in our society, the Mini Vinnies understand the importance of reaching out to the elderly and lonely in our community. So the children set about making Easter cards for the Cyril Flint Befriender charity which is an invaluable service providing support and friendship to those who need it most.

Crisp Packet Project

The Mini Vinnies decided to support the *Crisp Packet Project*, which involves collecting and re-using clean, flat crisp packets to create much needed blankets for homeless people. The Mini Vinnies were keen to spread awareness of the benefits of recycling one-use plastics to help our less fortunate communities.



Raising vital funds for Francis House

As Easter is such an important time in our calendar, we ordered hundreds of knitted Easter chicks and crème eggs to raise vital funds for Francis House Children's Hospice. As always, our school community was delighted to buy chicks for friends and family and all proceeds are much appreciated and provide appropriate respite and end-of-life care for children with life-limiting illnesses.



St Alban's Catholic Primary Macclesfield Fundraising for Ukraine

Our Year 5 Mini Vinnies from St Alban's Primary School, organised a cake sale and other activities to help raise funds for Ukraine, turning concern into action!

Well done you raised the great sum of £300. Many thanks to all who donated cakes and teddies, especially the unicorn. Thank you to all who supported, by coming along, to buy the lovely goodies.

