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Chapter Four: Lay Associations

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Chapter 4.

LAY ASSOCIATIONS

1.1 Institutes founded by Vincent de Paul.

FRANCE

L-1.1-FRA.617.22

Confraternity of Charity

The first foundation by Vincent de Paul. It was a model of social ministry based on the experience of the first Confraternity of Charity (for women) founded 1617 at Châtillon-les-Dombes (Châtillon-sur-Chalaronne) in France. Louise de Marillac worked with parish based Confraternities of Charity for women whose members became known as the Ladies of Charity. The Company of the Daughters of Charity had its genesis in the Confraternities of Charity and the experience of Saint Vincent and Saint Louise in forming their first servants of the poor, including Marguerite Naseau, the first Daughter of Charity. In 1620 a Confraternity of Charity for men was established at Folleville in the diocese of Amiens. The Confraternities of Charity for men seem not to have survived the French Revolution, but Frederic Ozanam later revived the concept (see L-1.1-FRA.634.22 and L-3.2-FRA.833.22). The Teams of Saint Vincent (Equipes Saint Vincent) which are active in France trace their origin to this institute.¹

L-1.1-FRA.634.22

Ladies of Charity

(International Association of Charities of Saint Vincent de Paul, AIC)

Established 1634 at the Hôtel-Dieu of Paris in France by Vincent de Paul as a development of his pattern of establishing Confraternities of Charity to meet local needs. It was the first special association by the name Ladies of Charity, and was directed by Vincent de Paul.² Their

¹DIP, s.v. "S. Vincenzo de' Paoli" 8: 953-54; Rapley, *Dévotés*, 84-90; Jean-Pierre Renouard, C.M., "Châtillon: les Charités," *Vincentina*, nos. 4, 5, 6 (1987): 629. See also Coste, *LW*, 95-114, and *La Tradition Vivante*, 24-25. Rybolt, "From Life to Rules" 174-75.

²Rapley, *Dévotés*, 84-90.

mission is to imitate the Divine Savior in visiting the poor, particularly the sick poor, and in bringing them corporal and spiritual nourishment. Since 1971, as a result of Vatican II, a movement to renew this lay organization began in order to align Vincent's spirit of service with contemporary needs. Approximately 250,000 members are organized in forty-two national associations.³ (Headquarters: rue Joseph Brand, 188; 1030 Brussels, Belgium)

1.2 Institutes which adopted the Common Rules of Vincent de Paul or substantially incorporated major principles into their rule.

SPAIN

L-1.2-SPA.911.0

Instituto Teresianas

(Institute of Saint Theresa or Teresians)

Founded 1911 at Oviedo in Spain by Saint Pedro Poveda Castroverde (1874-1936, canonized 1993). The mission of the institute is Christian education and teaching at all age levels, regardless of class or nationality. The aim is to blend action with contemplation under the patronage of Theresa of Avila. This lay secular institute follows the *Common Rules* of Saint Vincent de Paul, makes vows on 25 March and wears a large Miraculous Medal. The founder quotes Vincent de Paul regarding the secularity of his group, emphasizing that they are not religious. The founder had collaborated with a Reverend Tarín and a Reverend Manjón. This secular institute came to the United States in 1961.⁴ (Generalate: Via Monte Pramaggiore 8; 00141 Rome, Italy.)

³DIP, s.v. "San Vincenzo de' Paoli" 8: 953-54; "Luisa de Marillac, santa" 5: 764-68; Christine Crump, Vincentian Association of England, 27 September 1993, Survey S-89, VSI Family Tree Project; *La Tradition Vivante*, 5: 22-25; Michel Lloret, C.M., "The Vincentian Laity," *Echo*, no. 7 (July-August 1988), 306-16; Dodin, *Vincent de Paul and Charity*, 70-71; "Life of the Company, Official Action," *Echo*, no. 10 (October 1991): 375; Cándida Quiñones, D.C., to Betty Ann McNeil, D.C., 29 August 1993, Santurce, Puerto Rico; "Purpose and Spirit," *Manual of the Ladies of Charity of the United States* (Saint Louis: ALCUIS, 1985), 5.

⁴Gueisa Dorado, Teresian Institute, 10 December 1993, Survey S-96, VSI Family Tree Project; DIP, s.v. "Poveda Castroverde, Pedro" 7: 196-98; "Istituzione teresiana" 5: 152-56.

2.1 Institutes established by members of the Congregation of the Mission.

BRAZIL

L-2.1-BRA.919.0

Company of Charity

Founded 1919 at Recife in Brazil by José Venancio de Melo, C.M., (1938-1866), as a hub of pastoral ministry, especially training in job skills, in order to provide opportunities to exit from poverty. This lay group (of men and women) was the forerunner of a community of women, the Daughters of Mary, Servants of Charity. (See 2.1-BRA.924.0.)⁵

FRANCE

L-2.1-FRA.862.0

Archconfraternity of the Holy Agony of Our Lord

Founded 1862 by Antoine Hippolyte Nicolle, C.M., (1817-1890), at Valfleury, France, in the archdiocese of Lyons to live out the message of the Red Scapular.⁶ Its direction belongs to the superior general of the Congregation of the Mission with responsibilities delegated to a subdirector. The Archconfraternity has a special devotion to the sufferings of Christ in the Garden of Olives, expressed especially by prayer for the Church, for peace, for the dying, and by works of mercy for the most needy.⁷ (Headquarters: 95, rue de Sèvres; Paris, France.)

⁵DIP, s.v. "Melo, José Venancio de" 5: 1157; "Familia," *Informativo* 15 (November-December, 1981): 77-78; Francia to McNeil, 10 November 1993, Trinidad. Domingos Oliver de Faria, C.M., *Otras Familias Vicentinas* (n.p.): 145-47.

⁶In 1846 Apolline Andriveau, D.C., received the Red Scapular and its message from Our Lady: "The World is lost because it does not think of the Passion of Jesus Christ; do all you can to help them think of it; do all you can so it may be saved."

⁷DIP, s.v. "Nicolle, Antoine-Hippolyte" 6: 292; "From the Miraculous Medal," *Echo*, no. 7-8 (July-August 1990): 306-07; "Monsieur Nicolle, prêtre de la Mission et l'Archiconfrérie de la Sainte-Agonie de Notre Seigneur Jésus Christ," *ACMFC* 56 (1891): 307-35; "Centième Anniversaire de la mort de Serviteur de Dieu Antoine Nicolle, C.M.," *Archiconfrérie de la Sainte Agonie de Notre Seigneur Jésus-Christ* (July-September 1990): 356.

SPAIN

L-2.1-SPA.979.0

Marian Vincentian Youth

(Juventudes Marianas Vicencianas or JMV)

Founded 1979 at Madrid in Spain by Reverend Jesús María Lusarreta, C.M., (b.1937), as an ecclesial youth movement of young men and women to give their lives in service to others through evangelization and catechesis. This youth movement (for males and females) participates in popular missions in Spain and Latin America in collaboration with the Congregation of the Mission and the Daughters of Charity.⁸ (Headquarters: Secretariado Nacional; C/. José Abascal 30; 28003 Madrid, Spain.)

TURKEY

L-2.1-TUR.846.2

Conferences of Saint Vincent de Paul

Established 1846 at Istanbul in Turkey by Reverend Eugène Boré, C.M., (1809-1878; superior general 1874-1878), as a lay association to assist the poor, especially by visiting the elderly. When Boré began this group, he was the French consul in Istanbul. This group later combined with the International Society of Saint Vincent de Paul founded by Frederick Ozanam (see L-3.2-FRA.833.22).⁹

UNITED STATES

L-2.1-USA.909.11

Missionary Cenacle Apostolate

Founded 1909 by Reverend Thomas Augustine Judge, C.M., (1868-1933), at Brooklyn in New York, United States, as a lay apostolate in order to provide a missionary presence of faith to the poor and abandoned. This was the original entity from which two religious

⁸Quiñones to McNeil, 29 August 1993, Santurce. See also Miguel García, C.M., "España: Juventudes Marianas Vicentinas en España (JMV)--Historia y Esperanza," *ACMFC* 3 (1989): 289-301; Jesús M. Lusarreta, C.M., "Juventudes Marianas Vicentinas de España," *Vicentiana*, nos. 4-5 (1992): 457-66.

⁹Sister Lemauf, D.C., to Betty Ann McNeil, D.C., 6 August 1993, Istanbul, Turkey.

congregations and a lay group developed. (See 2.1-USA.912.1; 2.1-USA.929.1; L-6.1-USA.964.1.)¹⁰ (Generalate: 223 W. 28th Street; Lorain, Ohio 44052, USA.)

2.2 Institutes founded by Daughters of Charity.

AUSTRIA

L-2.2-AUS.878.11

Association of Visiting Nurses

Founded 1878 at Ljubljana in Slovenia by Sister Leopoldine de Brandis, D.C., (1815-1900), to render charitable services in the homes of the sick poor at night.¹¹ Members were trained in home health care by the Daughters of Charity and became known as Krankenjungfrauen. This foundation developed into the Nursing Sisters of Mary of the Miraculous Medal in Slovenia (1878), the Marienschwestern in Austria (1880), and the Sisters of the Visitation of Mary in Hungary (1905). (See 2.2-SLO.878.1.11; 2.2-AUS.880.11.2 and 2.2-HUN.883.1)¹²

FRANCE

L-2.2-FRA.909.2

Association of Louise de Marillac

Founded 1909 at Paris in France by Reverend Chanoine Lenert (b.1860), who became pastor of Saint Nicolas-du-Chardonnet in 1907, and Sister Marie Henriette Dutilleul, D.C., (1860-1939), to involve the young laity in visiting and assisting the poor. The group was based on the philosophy of service of the poor taught by Saint Louise de Marillac, cofounder of the Daughters of Charity, and Rosalie Rendu, D.C. At first it was considered to be the "young branch" of the Ladies of Charity, and they devoted themselves especially to the service of the elderly. Very quickly, the association spread to different countries. In France, this group united with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in 1969 in order to place in common their spiritual, human, and material

¹⁰Dennis Berry, S.T., *Missionary Cenacle Apostolate*, 4 June 1993, S-55, VSI Family Tree Project; DIP, s.v. "Judge, Thomas Augustine" 5: 324.

¹¹There was an earlier unsuccessful attempt at Graz to establish a similar institute.

¹²Golicnik to McNeil, S-94, VSI Family Tree Project; DIP, s.v. "Brandis, Josefine" 1: 1561; "Infermiere di Maria della Medaglia miracolosa, suore" 4: 1696-97.

means in the struggle against suffering, misery, loneliness, and injustice (see L-3.2-FRA.833.22). In other countries members aligned themselves in various ways under different names.¹³

3.1 Institutes for whom Daughters of Charity or Vincentian priests (Lazarists) were mentors during their establishment.

CHILE

L-3.1-CHL.980.0

Conference of Frederic Ozanam for Youth

Founded 1980 at Santiago in Chile as a branch for youth of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in order for members to continue the Vincentian tradition of serving the poor, especially needy youth. The organization receives guidance from the priests of the Congregation of the Mission and participates in all types of pastoral and recreational activities in order to motivate youth to live Christian ideals.¹⁴

L-3.1-CHL.977.0

Health Promoters

Established 1977 at Copiapo in Chile and in 1981 at Santiago by the Daughters of Charity in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to promote good public health for the whole person after the manner of Christ who carried his teaching to others.¹⁵

3.2 Institutes that have had ongoing influence from members of the Congregation of the Mission or the Daughters of Charity.

FRANCE

L-3.2-FRA.833.22

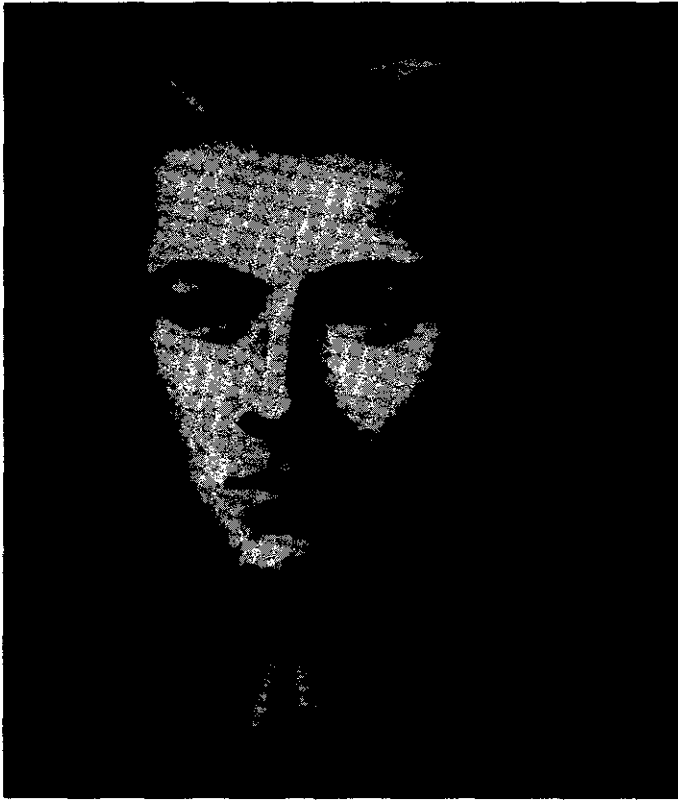
International Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Founded 1833 at Paris, France, by Frederic Ozanam (1813-1853, venerable 1993) with the collaboration and support of Sister Rosalie

¹³Lloret, "The Vincentian Laity," *Echo*, no. 7 (July-August 1988): 306-16; "Familia," *Informativo* 15, (November-December, 1981): 93-94; René Cantais, C.M., "Louise de Marillac, servant des pauvres 1591-1991," *La Médaille Miraculeuse--Message & Messagers*, Supplement to 202 (March 1991): 18-19; "The Louise de Marillac Association," *Echo* (May 1951): 184. See also Antonio Elduayen, C.M., "Los Movimientos Laicos Vicentinos," *Vincentina*, nos., 4-5 (1985): 323-42.

¹⁴Masó to McNeil, 24 June 1993, Santiago.

¹⁵*Ibid.*

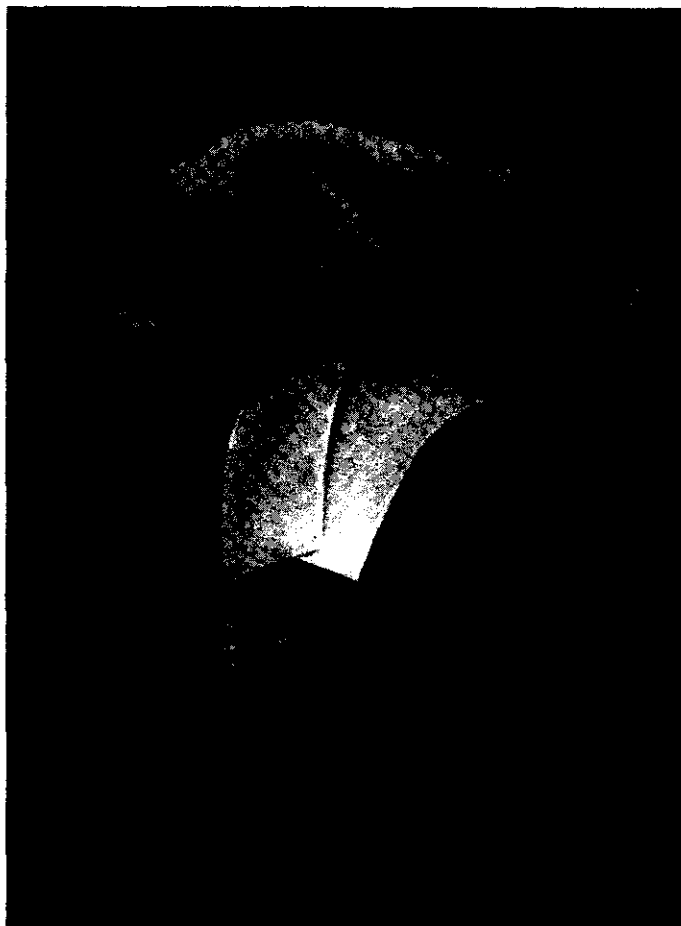


Venerable Anthony Frederic Ozanam

Rendu, D.C., (1786-1856). Members, men and women, are united by spiritual bonds.¹⁶ Their aim is to serve corporally and spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering. Activities include members witnessing to God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. "The Society collaborates with other people of good will in relieving need and addresses its causes, making no distinction in those served, because in them Vincentians see the face

¹⁶Ozanam's cause for beatification was officially introduced in Rome in 1956 and in 1993 he was given the title Servant of God.

of Christ." Approximately 870,000 members serve in 130 countries. (See L-2.2-FRA.909.2 and L-2.1-TUR.846.2.)¹⁷ (Headquarters: National Council; 5, rue du Pré-aux-Clercs; 75007 Paris, France.)



Saint Catherine Labouré, D.C.

¹⁷"Monsieur Vincent—un coeur à la mesure du monde," 100; Lloret, "Vincentian Laity," *Echo*, no. 7 (July-August 1988): 306-16; Dodin, *Vincent de Paul and Charity*, 71-72; Poole to McNeil, 31 January 1994, Los Angeles; Quiñones to McNeil, 29 August 1993, Santurce. See also "150 Anniversaire de la Société de la Saint Vincent de Paul," *ACMFC*, no. 3 (1983): 310-16, and Teodoro Barquín, C.M., "Saint Vincent de Paul and Frederick Ozanam, A Common Commitment of Solidarity with Poor," *Vincentiana*, no. 1 (1987): 30-36. See also *Canonizationis Servae Dei Rosaliae Rendu, Societatis Puellarum a Caritate (1786-1856). Positio Super Virtutibus et Fama Sanctitatis* (Rome: 1993); *DIP*, "Le Prevost, Jean-Léon" 5: 602-04; "SVDP Long Range Plan Approved," *The Ozanam News* (SVDP Council of USA, June 1994): 6.

L-3.2-FRA.847.0

Marian Youth Movement

(Children of Mary)

The first Parisian association was founded in 1845 at Saint-Louis-en-l'Isle in Paris, France, with Reverend Jean-Marie Aladel, C.M., (1800-1865) as director, following the request made by the Blessed Virgin to Saint Catherine Labouré, D.C., during the night of 18-19 July 1830 for an association of youth to "honor her Immaculate Conception."¹⁸ Its prototype had been established at Beaune (Côte-d'Or), France, on 8 December 1838 by Bénigne Hairon, considered to be the first member of this international Marian movement. Members witness Christ in today's world by serving Christ in the neighbor and by participating in the life of the Church with Mary, Mother of the Church, as model. The insignia is the Miraculous Medal. Originally known as the Children of Mary. On 20 June 1847 the Holy See granted to this association all the indulgences enjoyed by the Prima Primaria (1584). Pius X established the Association of the Miraculous Medal in 1905 and granted it the indulgences and privileges of the Confraternity of the Blue Scapular. All invested in the medal are members.¹⁹ (Headquarters: 67, rue de Sèvres, 75006, Paris, 07 Cedex, France.)

L-3.2-FRA.851.2

Work of Saint Geneviève

Founded 1851 at Paris in France by two Ladies of Charity, Madame la Marquise Le Boutheillier and Mademoiselle de Montal, to do corporal and spiritual works of mercy among the poor of the suburbs. Formally united with the Ladies of Charity (1.1-FRA.617.22) in 1892.²⁰

¹⁸In 1830 Catherine Labouré, D.C., then a seminary sister (novice), was favored with a series of apparitions from the Mother of God during which the Miraculous Medal was commissioned by Our Lady. See René Laurentin, *The Life of Catherine Labouré*, trans. Paul Inwood (Paris: Collins, 1983), 145-147; [Genevieve Ryan, D.C.], "The Children of Mary Immaculate" (unpublished notes, n.d.); *National Guidebook for the Marian Associations in the United States* (Emmitsburg: Marian Center, 1984), 4; NCE, s.v. "Miraculous Medal," 9: 894-95.

¹⁹*La Tradition Vivante*, 36-37; Lloret, "The Vincentian Laity," *Echo*, no. 7 (July-August 1988): 306-16.

²⁰Edward R. Udovic, C.M., "What about the Poor?" *Nineteenth Century Paris and the Revival of Vincentian Charity*, *VH* 14, no. 1 (November 1993): 91-93.

L-3.2-FRA.929.0

Fraternity of Vincent de Paul

(La Fraternité Saint Vincent or Le Petit Groupe)

Founded 1929 at Paris, France, by Martha Ferditie, Yvonne Perrot, Blanche Paviot, and several other women who desired to become Daughters of Charity but who had certain impediments (such as poor health, illegitimacy, or family responsibilities). Sister Marie Maurin, D.C., and Reverend Theodore Bogaert, C.M. (1877-1942), were instrumental in first accompanying the group. This institute was composed of women with individual family and professional responsibilities who lived in the world but desired to follow Christ in the school of Louise de Marillac and Vincent de Paul by serving Jesus Christ in the poor. The group adopted a rule and made private vows (including a fourth vow of service to the poor). They saw themselves as an auxiliary of the Company of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul which supported the group by providing a sister to assist in formation and leadership. After Vatican II this association became autonomous (1977). It had begun in the house of charity at 8, rue Championnet in Paris and spread to Marseilles before its demise in 1989 because of aging and death of its members.²¹

4.1 Institutes having Vincent de Paul as one of their patrons.**ITALY**

L-4.1-ITA.942.0

Hospital Auxiliary of Saint Vincent de Paul

Founded 1942 at Rome in Italy to provide free medical care to the indigent.²² (Generalate: Via XX Settembre, 65/b; 00185 Roma, Italy.)

²¹André Poyer, C.M., "Fraternité Vincent de Paul," *Vincentiana*, no. 6 (1989): 595-610.

²²Sacchi to McNeil, 23 August 1993, Rome.

5.1 Institutes that profess the same spirit as the Daughters of Charity.

ENGLAND

L-5.1-ENG.993.0

Vincentian Volunteers

Established 1993 at London in England by the province of Mill Hill of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul as a program for lay men and women to share in their mission of service to the poor in England, Scotland, and Wales.²³ (Headquarters: Christopher Grange; Youens Way, East Prescott Road; Liverpool L14 2EW, UK.)

SLOVENIA

L-5.1-SLO.988.0

The Vincentian Family

Founded 1988 by Marta Silvester at Ljubljana in Slovenia as a lay institute to pray and do charitable work while living in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul under the spiritual direction of the Congregation of the Mission.²⁴ (Headquarters: Maistrova 2; 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenia)

6.1 Institutes which are related but in another manner.

UNITED STATES

L-6.1-USA.964.1

Blessed Trinity Missionary Institute

Established 1964 at New York City, New York, United States, by Margaret Healy, a member of the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate, founded by Reverend Thomas Judge, C.M. Its purpose is to serve as missionaries, consecrated by vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience in the midst of the world. It is seeking approbation as a secular

²³Judith Greville, D.C., to Betty Ann McNeil, D.C., 15 July 1993, London, England. Joan Moriarty, D.C., Vincentian Volunteers, 26 August 1993, Survey S-87, VSI Family Tree Project;

²⁴Jost to McNeil, 2 August 1993, Ljubljana.

institute. There are two related congregations and a lay group. (See 2.1-USA.912.1; 2.1-USA.929.1; L-2.1-USA.909.11).²⁵ (Headquarters: 1190 Long Hill Road; Stirling, New Jersey 07980, USA.)

L-6.1-USA.983.0

Vincentian Service Corps

Founded in 1983 at New York City in New York, United States, by the Eastern province of the Congregation of the Mission in order to provide lay young adults the opportunity to live in community and experience a simple lifestyle while serving the poor. The project is now cosponsored by several provinces of the Vincentian family in the United States.²⁶ (Headquarters: Saint John's University-SJH 116; Jamaica, New York 11439, USA.)

²⁵Ahern, Survey S-13, VSI Family Tree Project; DIP, s.v. "Judge, Thomas Augustine" 5: 324.
²⁶"Vincentian Service Corps," *The Response--1993* (Washington, DC: International Liaison of Lay Volunteers in Mission, 1993); John E. Rybolt, C.M., ed., *The American Vincentians: A Popular History of the Congregation of the Mission in the United States 1815-1987* (New York: New City Press, 1988), 431.