

# Sister's Spin

September 27, 2021

This week is packed with great saints. Today the Church celebrates Vincent de Paul, who, when ordained to the priesthood, expected to live a life of leisure and comfort. But all that changed when he found himself facing the poor of the city of Paris. He began to organize the wealthy women of France to meet their needs, but he is not the one who founded the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Two hundred years later, this group was started by Blessed Frederic Ozanam who admired Vincent's work with the poor and organized the laity on this mission to assist the poor. One aspect of Vincent's life that is not stressed very much was his work to educate the clergy of his time. He started a Congregation of men who gave retreats and worked to educate the young seminarians so they could have a greater impact on the people they serve. The society of Vincentians continues this work today as they give retreats not only for the clergy, but also for others who work in the Church. Vincent is also noted for organizing the Daughters of Charity, a group of religious women who were not cloistered at all, but instead, went out into the areas of Paris and rural communities to serve the needs of the poor. Today is a good day to pray for all those who work to eliminate the causes of poverty in this country as well as all over the world. While Jesus said the poor you shall always have with you, He certainly did not mean that we should sit idly by and not do all in our power to eliminate the causes of poverty and its effects on our society.

-Sister Marcianne

