

## **SVP - Together, we can make a difference.**

The St Vincent de Paul Society, the SVP, is an international Christian voluntary network dedicated to befriending and providing practical assistance to people of ***all faiths or none***. Offering friendship and spending time with people is our greatest gift. There are over 10,000 members in Wales and England who visit vulnerable or isolated people offering friendship and practical support. We are proud that our Parish conference was one of the first formed in Wales and we will be celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024.

During the recent pandemic lockdowns all of us realised how lonely we could feel when forced to spend so much time at home. Thank God most of us have been released, but some housebound people still experience this loneliness all the time. Our main work is visiting these housebound or ill parishioners and we can also help them with hospital visits or shopping etc.

Members of our conference currently support the Parish Coffee Morning on Thursdays, local food banks, the Neath Saturday Breakfast Club for the homeless and also ran a “warm hub” last winter in the Parish Hall. We have recently helped settle a Ukrainian family and provided financial support to our “twinned” SVP conferences in South Sudan and India.

We are always looking for new members to join us in our work and if you could spare a few hours each month, we would love to hear from you. During the lockdowns many of our contacts were by phone calls, so if your mobility or time is restricted perhaps you could help us simply by phoning fellow parishioners.

We know that we are not fully aware of all the people in our Parish in need of our help and would be grateful if you would inform us if you know of anybody that we could be helping (but please ask for their permission first before contacting us) then please phone and leave a message with your contact details for Anne Guest on 07741 283098.