

The Life of St Vincent de Paul



“Let us live together
in great charity and
friendliness.”

– St Vincent de Paul

24 April 1581 – 27 September 1660

Timeline

St Vincent de Paul

1581

St Vincent de Paul was born on 24th April 1581 in France in a place called Pouy. Vincent's family wasn't very rich and they made their living by farming.



1595

A highly intelligent youth, he was sent to study for the priesthood.



1600

He was ordained on Sept 23 aged 19.

1605

Soon after being ordained he was allegedly captured by pirates and sold into slavery. He eventually managed to get free and, after a period in Rome, found himself in Paris. These next years are where Vincent starts to feel a deep conversion to service and love.

1612

Vincent takes charge of a parish in Clinchy near Paris.

1613

Vincent enters the service of a rich family called the de Gondis. He becomes tutor to their children and Chaplain of the Gondi Estates.



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Timeline

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1617

He founded the 'Ladies of Charity' from a group of wealthy ladies within his parish. They collected funds for missionary projects, founded several hospitals and gathered relief funds for the victims of war.

1625

Many more Ladies of Charities were set up and it was during this time that Vincent founded the order of priests, known as the Congregation of the Mission or the Vincentian Fathers. Their goal was to help and evangelize the poor in the countryside.

1633

With the help of Louise de Marillac they co-founded 'Daughters of Charity' to care for young girls.

Vincent's mission continues to spread to other countries such as Poland and Algeria.



1660

Eventually after many years of service, he utters the name of Jesus and passes away in Paris on 27th September 1660 aged 79.

We celebrate his feast day on 27th September.

1737

He was canonized by Pope Clement XII on June 16.



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