

Blessed Frederic Ozanam Feast Day

9th September

Spiritual Reflection



Psalm 41

Who among us hears the cry of the poor?

How many open their hearts and heed the call?

The plight of the world is a wound of to the very Heart of Love, a scar on our own souls.

Blessed are those who lovingly respond!

The Friend who knows all hearts, will remember their kindness.

They will know joy, peace, and deep fulfilment working in harmony with all who serve towards healing the needs of the troubled in this world.

Reading from Ozanam

I would further wish that all young people might unite in head and heart in some charitable work and that there be formed through the whole country a vast generous association for the relief of common people.

Reading Lk 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.* 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii,* gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Who do you see as Good Samaritans?

Do you see your own work as part of the mission of the Society for the "relief of the common people"

Intercessions

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, you blest Frederic Ozanam with gifts of grace as a husband and father, educator and defender of the faith, and founder of the St Vincent de Paul Society. In this way he spent his life in loving service. Through his example and prayers, may we faithfully follow the path to which you have called us. Amen.

